

REINFORCING VETERINARY GOVERNANCE IN AFRICA PROGRAMME

LIVESTOCK POLICY HUBS IN THE IGAD REGION

Overview of Activities and Lessons Drawn



**Proceedings of a Regional Workshop, 26-27 April
2017
Entebbe, Uganda**

Introduction

The IGAD region, with its estimated population of 230 million people, stretches over an area of 5.2 million square kilometers that comprises the countries of Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda. Some 70 percent of the IGAD region is made up of Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs), which receive less than 600 mm of rainfall annually. The rest of the region has a great variety of climates and landscapes including cool highlands, swamp areas, tropical rain forests and other features typical of an equatorial region. Furthermore, the region possesses diverse ecosystems and agro-ecological zones at different altitudes ranging from 150 meters below sea level (Daluol) to about 4600 meters above the sea level (Mount Kenya).

The region has a wide range of agro-ecological zones with rich biodiversity and diverse economic potential, which if effectively managed could provide opportunities for poverty reduction and ensure food and livelihood security to the people in the region. About 46 percent of land mass in the IGAD region is a less productive marginal land characterized by high degree of variability in rainfall patterns in terms of both space and time. In addition the region is prone to recurrent droughts, making it one of the most vulnerable regions on the African continent for climatic variations, which accentuates the need for policies and programs suitable for the sustainable development of the natural resources of the region. The economic mainstay of region is agriculture, both livestock and crop production, which provides the basis for food supplies and export earnings, as well as employment for over 80 percent of the population.

Several macroeconomic challenges in the IGAD region still require continuation and deepening of institutional reforms and creation of an enabling policy environment for private-sector development as well as public sector capacity development. Mobilizing the necessary resources for the implementation of development programs at the national and regional levels is yet a huge challenge for both IGAD and its Member States. Civil Society and non-state actors are not playing their role and should have much bigger role to play in the IGAD's development initiatives such as project preparation and implementation. The IGAD civil society and non-governmental organizations Forum which was established pursuant to the decision of the IGAD Council of Ministers should serve as the mechanism to involve civil society appropriately in the policy formulation and strategic planning discussions, and the planning, designing and implementation of IGAD programs and processes¹.

Considering the policy gaps and the policy development process required, IGAD has also established national and regional livestock policy hubs (LPH) to facilitate the engagement of stakeholders in policy advocacy. These policy hubs have been first established by IGAD/LPI and then further strengthened through the VET-GOV project of AU-IBAR and are tasked with tackling several challenges in their respective countries. The context of livestock in different countries is different and so does the roles of the LPH. This proceeding has been compiled to document activities, challenges and opportunities of the livestock policy hubs in the region to enable exchange of knowledge and experience. They have been established in all IGAD countries to instigate conducive policies and their implementation.

Livestock Policy Hubs in the IGAD Region

Concerning the livestock sector, IGAD is aiming at the promotion of joint development strategies and the harmonization of national policies that affect livestock development. Livestock production systems in IGAD MS comprise mainly of three production systems based on the way livestock husbandry and animal management systems are managed: pastoral and agro-pastoral livestock production system, settled mixed crop-livestock production system and small and large scale fattening and dairy production systems. Pastoral livestock production is the most dominant production system in the IGAD region, and is characterized by a large (over 50%) contribution of livestock or livestock related activities to household gross revenue.

Despite the fact that livestock play a life line for majority of the population in the IGAD region and regardless of its development potential, livestock production in most of IGAD region is faced with many challenges. Some of these include widespread animal diseases coupled with weak veterinary services, low production and productivity of the indigenous livestock breeds, critical shortage in feed, inadequate public resource allocation and private investment in

¹ <https://igad.int/index.php/about-us/the-igad-region>

the livestock sector. Furthermore, poor marketing and trade infrastructure and lack of marketing opportunities, inadequate development policies and lack of tools for enforcement of policies, regulations and laws are major problems. The sector is not guided by adequate research and reliable statistical information due to which most decisions are taken without adequate evidence of impact and benefits.

In order to address these problems the contribution of all stakeholders including the public, private institutions, civil society organizations, professional associations livestock associations, research and academia need to be involved in the policy process. 'Policy process' is usually considered to include the following main components: agenda setting, policy formulation, decision-making, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. 'Policy influence' refers to how external actors are able to interact with the policy process and affect the policy positions, approaches and behaviors in each of these areas. In reality, policymaking does not work through these components in a linear manner.

In developing countries in particular, the processes are often more informal. Nevertheless, the depiction is useful since it identifies the different components that are critical to policy processes. A key point is that each policy component involves a range of actors, institutions and processes. Some actors are important across the policy process, while others only play a key role at certain points.

For livestock policy hubs seeking to influence policy it is vital to understand the institutions and actors involved in policy processes – both on a formal and informal level. Doing so helps to recognize the incentives and pressures on those involved, as well as and the type of evidence and communication approach needed to maximize the chances of policy influence.

Lessons Learned through Livestock Policy Hub

The VET-GOV Program contributed to the overall strategic objective of AU-IBAR, which is to improve contribution of livestock to food security and safety, economic growth and wealth creation in Africa. The focus of the program is to create conducive and participatory environment for change through evidence-based advocacy and knowledge creation; it also aims to build institutional capacity in the areas of policy analysis, and implementation. To this effect, the program, following the success stories of the previous IGAD-Livestock Policy Initiative, has further scaled up and strengthened the functioning of the policy hubs and established them in 51 African countries as well as in 4 RECs;

Policy hubs are established to enable the full engagement of stakeholders in the livestock policy development process fully owned by Members States and RECs. The hubs serve inclusive policy development involving government, private and civil society and international partners. The tasks of these multi-disciplinary groups is to ensure broad stakeholder participation in policy formulation, review and analysis. They are coordinated by the National Technical Focal Points (focal persons). In the previous IGAL-LPI, the focal points were also assisted by Communication Officers, although this arrangement was not there in the VET-GOV program.

MAJOR IMPORTANCE OF THE LIVESTOCK POLICY HUBS

- Representation (aggregated stakeholder's voices)**
- Advocacy (lobbied on particular issues)**
- Technical inputs (provided information and advice)**
- Capacity building (provided support to value chain actors)**
- Service delivery (implemented development projects or provide services)**
- Networking functions (fostered interaction between public and private sectors)**

National Livestock Policy Hub of Uganda

1. Establishment and Organization

- The Ugandan national Livestock Policy Hub (LPH) has a secretariat composed of the national focal person, public relations and communications expert of the Ministry of Agriculture, the head of policy analysis unit of the Ministry and a representative of the agricultural planning department;
- The Head Policy Analysis Unit of the Ministry doubles as the Secretary to the Top Policy and Management Organ of the Ministry to strategically ensure NLPH issues are incorporated in the various programs
- The PS-MAAIF is the Secretary of the Country CAADP process

2. Main Activities Conducted

- Capacity building training provided to the policy hub members on PAC by AU-IBAR VETGOV and FAO
- Validation of the East African Livestock Policy Framework
- Validation of the IGAD Livestock Compact of CAADP
- Review of sections of Uganda's veterinary legislation, policies, guidelines and standards through its technical working groups (TWGs)
- Participation in the formulation of the Agricultural Sector Strategy Plan 2016-2020, and Frameworks Implementation Plans for the Ministry for the period 2016- 2020

- Review of the Veterinary Surgeon's Act, veterinary services policy and review on sections of the Animal Health Secondary Legislations of the country
- Preparation of Inspection and Certification guidelines for quarantine, export and import into the country and also in quarantine centers
- Baseline studies on stakeholder awareness of legislations, policies, strategies and guidelines in the veterinary domain
- Validation of National Livestock Policy document and the study of the contribution of livestock to the national economy in Uganda

3. Challenges

- Frequent replacement of the representatives of the members of the policy hub;
- Inconsistency of the participation of the private sector representatives;
- Limited funding available from the Ministry;

4. Way Forward

- The Ministry has recently promised to domesticate the policy hub and be given a vote for sustainability
- The permanent secretary (PS) has expressed commitment to funding the policy Hub
- Continuous sensitization and enrichment of the policy hub by various stakeholders
- Continued advocacy for funding of the livestock policy hub by concerned private, public and civil society actors



National Livestock Policy Hub of Ethiopia

1. Establishment of Organization

- The LPH has been established under the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries;
- Facilitated by the national focal person;
- LPHs Established according to TOR

2. Activities

- Participated in the OIE legislation missions requested and conducted
- Capacity building training facilitated by VET-GOV project;
- Eight proclamations and regulations including veterinary statutory body proclamation drafted and submitted to the parliament for official endorsement;
- Facilitated capacity building training on policy tools;
- Participated in the development of the national animal health strategy;
- Linkage and technical networking of relevant stakeholders was established;
- Advocated for policy and institutional change in the livestock sector;
- Linkages with relevant policy affiliated bodies established;

- Instigated the revision of the national statistics on the contribution of the livestock sector to GDP and
- Contributed to enhanced visibility and recognition of the livestock sector for sustainable food security and poverty reduction objectives in the country;
- Hugely supported for the establishment of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries;

3. Lessons learnt

- The major lesson learned is the importance of building evidence-base for policy advocacy;
- The need for multi-agency, multi-sectoral collaborative efforts for policy advocacy;

4. Way forward

- Conduct Policy Hub monthly meeting
- Initial technical Working Group meetings
- Working Groups quarterly meeting
- Stakeholder engagement
- Organization of Tech Training
- Annual review and action plan development
- Two studies Evidence and advocacy



National Livestock Policy Hub of Djibouti

1. Establishment and Organization

- The LPH in Djibouti is hosted under the ministry of Agriculture;
- The hub was not active for over a year and has been recently re-established by the VET-GOV project;

2. Activities

- Facilitated the study on the establishment of a livestock development fund for Djibouti;
- Facilitated the study on the contribution of livestock to the GDP contribution of livestock in Djibouti;
- Participated in the review and updating of the national veterinary legislation;
- The development of the project, "Drought Resilience and Sustainable Livelihoods" was also recommendation of the LPH;
- Contributed to the drafting of MoUs between Djibouti and Ethiopia and between Djibouti and Somalia Land on cross-border TAD control and livestock trade;
- Contributed to the process of the OIE evaluation of the national veterinary legislation;
- Contributed to the development of the regional animal welfare strategy;

3. Lessons Learnt

- The need for the involvement and support of high level political decision makers in availing and enforcing suitable livestock policies;
- Rigorous advocacy is central to achieve sound livestock policies and sustainability of the national LPH
- Despite the huge contribution of livestock to the national economy, the sector remained underfunded. This warrants for increased awareness activities targeting both technical and political authorities

4. Way forward

- Draft a decree for the establishment of a national committee in order to legalize and institutionalize the functions of the LPH;
- Advocate and support the official adoption of the draft decree;
- Engage key national stakeholders and partners in resource mobilization to support sustainable operation of the national LPH;
- Advocate and support the official adoption of the national veterinary legislation;
- Undertake continuous advocacy for the establishments of national livestock development fund;



National Livestock Policy Hub of South Sudan

1. Establishment and Organization

- The South Sudan LPH is the youngest hub in the region established in 2016 and have so far conducted three workshops;
- But its members are engaged in the project financed by AU-IBAR through VET-GOV program;
- It operates through three working groups on technical livestock policy working groups on Communication and Advocacy; Policy and Legislation and Infrastructure.

2. Activities

- Establishment of a Livestock Policy Hub (LPH) with broad membership based;
- It supported the development of various regulatory and policy frameworks including Draft National Veterinary Policy, Animal Production Policy, Animal Disease and Pest control Bill, Veterinary Drugs Control Board Bill, Meat and Slaughterhouse facilities Bill, Draft interim South Sudan Veterinary Association Constitution, Good practice paper on policy formulation process in South Sudan;
- Participated in policy framework and strategic plans 2012-2016 of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries
- Participated in the National agriculture and livestock extension policy formulation 2012-2016 (NALEP)
- Contributed to the Comprehensive Agricultural Master Plan (CAMP)
- Contributed to the Draft CAADP Compact document

3. Lessons learnt

- Despite the fact that there were many challenges faced during the implementation of the tasks given to the LPH, commitment and determination have proved to be fruitful;
- Despite inconsistency and fatigue in attendance of all stakeholders of the LPH yet the involvement and participation of the private sector and civil society was paramount for the success of the National Livestock Policy Hub functions

4. Way forward

- Review of the draft veterinary policy
- Review of the draft animal production policy
- Review of the veterinary bills
- Support to establishment of National Veterinary Professional Association and Veterinary council
- Advocacy at the level of the parliamentary committee responsible for livestock sector
- Preparation and submission of Cabinet Memorandum for Cabinet approval of veterinary and animal production policy legislation;
- Develop project document and lobby for funding to sustain LPH activities;
- Incorporate LPH activities in the annual budget of the Veterinary Services department for sustainability
- Training on formulation of policy, guidelines and regulations
- Establish Veterinary Services website
- Printing, distribution and publishing of the policy and legislation documents



1. Establishment and Organization

- The livestock population in the country is estimated at 17,467,774 cattle, 17,129,606 sheep, 27,740,153 goats, 2,971,111 camels, 1,832,519 donkeys, 334,689 pigs, 25,756,487 poultry and 500,000 rabbits (KNBS 2009).
- Livestock is the most dynamic parts of the agricultural sector contributing about 12% of Kenya's GDP and 40% of value of agricultural economy; and employs 50% of the agricultural labor force.
- About 60% of Kenya's livestock herd is found in the Arid and Semi-Arid land (ASALs) which constitutes 80% of the country;
- It is estimated that 10 million Kenyans living in the ASALs derive their livelihoods largely from livestock;
- The livestock policy hub is hosted under the Ministry of Agriculture which is responsible for livestock sector in the country

2. Activities

- Stake holder consultative workshop, nomination of members of the policy hub by their institutions and launch of the VET-GOV project;
- Concept notes developed for funding of activities;
- Capacity building of policy hub on policy development, review and analysis,
- Inputs to the Veterinary Policy and Surveillance Strategy;
- Training on evidence based communication and advocacy;
- Laboratory policy development, a zero draft produced facilitated by FAO;
- Review of veterinary legislation and OIE mission undertaken;
- CAADP orientation for policy hub
- Sensitization on linkage of CAADP and the SDGs
- Review of the livestock policy- Consultancy inputs fed to review of policy
- The workshop took place at the Kenya Agriculture Research Institute from 13-15 August, 2015 to identify policy hub members and institutions;
- Sensitization and awareness created on the VETGOV program;
- Mechanisms for strengthening the NLPH, structure, linkages and partnerships identified.
- Priority areas of intervention for policy and institutional change and strategies to address the same identified.
- Functional linkages with national and regional CAADP teams identified.
- Policy Hub Working Groups identified and 5 concept notes and 2 pilot project proposals developed on priority areas for funding

- Capacity building training on Policy, Advocacy and Communication Training (PACT) has been provided from 25-29 May 2015 at Naivasha
- Based on this training valuable inputs have been provided to the ongoing veterinary policy and surveillance strategy
- Workshop on Improving Policy for Veterinary Laboratories in Kenya was organized from 19-20 Jan 2015 19 – 20th January 2015, Nairobi, Kenya.
- The objective of the workshop was to sensitize participants on the VET GOV programme and the laboratory policy pilot activity;
- Desktop review of the national status on veterinary laboratory services and policy(ies) has been undertaken;
- Challenges and gaps to delivery of quality, efficient and accessible, laboratories services , underlying issues and possible solutions has been identified;
- Consultation meeting, between DVS staff, FAO Rome and FAO ECTAD via video conference on 4th November 2014;
- Desktop review workshop, 20th – 21st January 2015: Sensitization of laboratories service providers and few consumers on the proposed policy development process, situation analysis of the existing veterinary laboratory policies.
- Field mission, 26th- 28th January 2015 : Visits by government laboratory personnel, international and local policy and legal experts to policy makers and veterinary laboratories
- Stakeholder consultation workshop, 29th-30th January 2015: Discuss outcome of desktop review with wider stakeholders and include input from wider stakeholders and information obtained from the field missions, draw a roadmap of the laboratory policy process.
- Lab Policy Technical Working Group (TWG) Meeting has been convened from 16 to 18 February 2016 at Naivasha, Kenya with the objective of familiarizing participants with veterinary laboratory service delivery in Kenya and other countries; update the participants on work done; analyze challenges and propose solutions –policy, strategies, technical, administrative and finally to develop Zero Draft laboratory policy;
- Orientation Workshop on the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP), held in Naivasha from 25 to 27 May 2016 with the objective of enhancing the profile of livestock in the Kenyan CAADP Compact and raise awareness on the national agricultural investment frameworks and strengthen the capacity of the policy hub members to advocate for the development of national livestock programs

- LPH members were introduced to the Malabo declaration and CAADP Commitments, Results Framework, the CAADP implementation strategy, Road Map and CAADP Program of Work;
- The hub was also sensitized on the linkage between the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Malabo commitments.
- Workshop on development of support strategy and action plan for livestock farmers' associations and apex organizations from 23-25 April, 2014, Naura Springs Hotel, Arusha, Tanzania;
- Livestock Development Strategy for Africa (LiDeSA) regional stakeholders' consultative validation workshop, Arusha, Tanzania from 9-11 June 2014;
- Regional Seminar for IGAD Member States on Legislative Drafting for Regional Harmonization of Laws in the Veterinary Domain" Khartoum, Sudan, 23 – 27 November 2014;
- "Regional Seminar for EAC Member States on Regional Harmonization of Legislation on Regulation of Veterinary Medicines and Biologicals"-8-12th August 2016 Arusha, Tanzania
- Capacity building training on policy, advocacy and communication as well as decision making tools like Extrapolate and LSIPT; 29th September To 3rd October.
- Leadership Retreat for Permanent Secretaries/Head of Ministries on operationalizing the Malabo Declaration (Nairobi, Kenya – 29-30 June 2015)

3. Challenges

- Slow fund release is a key challenge;
- High turnover of policy makers;

- The nature of the project which focuses on software aspects which makes it less visible; it can only be felt but not seen;
- Inadequate quality of participation of some organizations in the policy hub;
- Lack of consistency of participation by some organizations;
- Inconsistency in activities made the hub loose the momentum.
- Duplication of similar initiatives by other organizations;

4. Way Forwards

- Coordination is key for continuous feedback and harmonization of policy and practice;
- Funding need to be consistent with clear exit mechanisms;
- Country ownership has to be ensured through regular consultation, joint design of activities which is key to ensure sustainability;
- Visibility of the project is paramount for sustainability
- Policy hub appreciated by all stakeholders as a platform for knowledge sharing and networking.
- Recognition of IGAD model of PH working modality and efficiency
- Requires more complementarity between FAO, OIE & AU-IBAR and the RECs and Member States;
- Continuous policy debate and sensitization program for newly appointed policy makers;
- Engagement with key stakeholders and development agencies be expanded and strengthened;
- Possible LSIPT -The tool facilitates social, economic and technical diagnoses of the livestock to improve the design and formulation of sector policies and strategies.



1. Establishment and organization

- In 2015 livestock population was estimated to be 30,376,000, 40,210,000, 31,227,000 and 4,809,000 heads of cattle, sheep, goats and camels respectively.
- Camel and sheep predominate in desert and semi desert zone while cattle and goat are mostly found in savannah region.
- Livestock play indispensable role in food security, income generation and creating employment opportunities.
- Traditionally livestock, particularly camels and sheep, are exported to Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and other Arab countries. However, Sudan remains one of important livestock exporters in IGAD region.

Policy on livestock development and trade:

- Increase productivity for food security & poverty alleviation.
- Secure and develop export of live animals and food of animal origin.

Technical priorities in Veterinary Public Health:

- Develop competence and activities related to food safety in order to improve compliance to international standards.
- Develop control of quality, distribution and prudent use of veterinary medicines and biological.

Technical priorities in Animal Health:

- Develop effective passive surveillance programs.
- Implement national control programs on 6 priority diseases.
- The VET-GOV program launched the activities in Sudan on 25th March 2013 by conducting national workshop;
- The workshop was attended by all the livestock stakeholders, Veterinary council, experts, Universities and the DGs from the Federal Ministry of Animal Resources with honorable guests including Dr. Ahmed Elsalwhi director of AU – IBAR;
- The most important outcome of this workshop is recommendation to formulate the NLPH which was accomplished by directions of the undersecretary for the Ministry of Animal Resource as of 3- July 2013;
- All the member of the NLPH agreed that the head of the LPH should be from Public sector and the deputy from the private sector;
- The LPH of the Republic of Sudan is organized under the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries with the aim of coordinating with VET-GOV Program (pilot activities in Sudan), to strengthen the veterinary

institutional capacities of the country and to help in review of livestock policies and veterinary legislations.

2. Activities

- Ten sessions of the LPH meeting has been organized and discussed on livestock policies, legislations and livestock communication and advocacy which led to the formation of three committees to address the livestock challenges and the committees are: Livestock Policies Committee, headed by the DG of planning and livestock economics; Livestock Legislation Committee, headed by the Veterinary Council representative and Livestock Communication and Advocacy, headed by the DG of Extension and Technology Transfer.
- The LPH has also contributed to the success of the PVS evaluation mission in 2013 by OIE;
- The Legislation Committee held 5 meetings and prepared the documents for the Legislations Analysis Mission which was conducted by OIE to complete Sudan PVS pathway; and also contributed to reviewing the Animal Welfare law of Sudan;
- The Policies Committee held 4 meetings with the objectives of harmonizing the livestock policies, enhancing awareness and advocacy for livestock priorities and assist in the PVS Gap Analysis;
- The LPH developed pilot project to strengthen the Public Private Partnership (PPP) to deliver veterinary service and submitted it to AU – IBAR (USD 195 000);
- The contract was signed in February 2015 and implementation of the activities started in May 2015;

The activities implemented through the pilot project include:

- Stakeholders analysis workshop in May 2015, Khartoum where stakeholders identification, situation analysis and stakeholders mapping have been conducted;
- Stakeholder's awareness meetings in 10 states have been conducted since March 2016 to raise awareness of professionals and para-professionals, establish efficient communication mechanism, and develop training manual for new graduates and other professionals;
- Trainings of professional and paraprofessionals:
 - Provide knowledge of animal health policies and the national strategies and action plans of the priority diseases.*
 - Capacity building of livestock staff.*

- iii. *Strengthening diseases diagnosis, investigation methods and surveillance.*
- iv. *To promote information sharing and reporting through existing network.*
- v. *To improve the skills in sampling techniques, samples reservation and sending.*
- vi. *Effective & efficient delivery of vaccination.*
- vii. *Animal diseases treatment.*
- viii. *Trainings were conducted in collaboration with Central Veterinary Research Laboratory and Animal Resource Department at the states level.*
- ix. *Ten participants were selected from each state, six from the private sector and four from the public sector, the total number of the trainees were 100 veterinarians, 60 private and 40 from the public sector, also (100) para professional veterinarians were trained in the same above percentage.*
- x. *The training conducted separately for each to serve the same objectives.*

3. Challenges

- No budget has been allocated for the functions of the LPH at the national level;
- Limited support from high political level;
- Money transfers and currency exchange issues for the pilot activities were difficult;
- The methodology of implantation of VET - GOV program was also challenging since most of the activities were managed at regional level;

4. Way forward for the LPH

1. At regional level:

- One regional ToR and views for LPH should be developed and endorsed by the countries at high level with proposed membership.
- Support at regional level (direct provision of funds, continued technical consultation and more training on dynamic policy issues)

2. At national level:

- It should be supported by relevant ministers and CVOs.
- The membership should include all relevant stakeholders and to be considered as national forum for formulation of different livestock, legislation, awareness and advocacy policies in country.
- There should be allocated budget for LPH to conduct different activities.

The main livestock issues requiring continued attention are:

- i. Increased support on control of trade-sensitive diseases such as FMD.
- ii. Complete and implementation of high standards of SPS.
- iii. Enhance livestock funding opportunities.

Livestock Policy Hub of Somalia

The LPH in Somalia was largely inactive and did not conduct its regular meetings every two months like most of the LPH in the region. But livestock production is a key function serving as a means of food security and major source of livelihood for Somalia and Somaliland. The country derives 60-65% of the GDP from the livestock sector. However, the livestock sector suffers from severe drought and frequent trade bans of the Middle East. Because of the above achievements. The livestock policy hub, has been participating directly and indirectly in the following activities:

- Implementation of specific disease control strategy (TADs)
- Surveillance and reporting early diseases in place
- Awareness creation and promote cooperation of pastoralists and livestock traders
- Central veterinary laboratory with various training
- EMDU and disease reporting
- Professional capacity development of veterinarians
- Livestock export certification
- Livestock inspection and quarantines system in place
- Policy document prepared by the ministries
- National vet code
- Meat and milk inspection Act
- National Animal welfare code
- The national livestock policy
- Disease emergency and contingency plan
- Human resources development plan
- Food and water hygiene and safety Act
- Drug administration Act

Way forward

The Livestock Policy Hub of Somaliland needs to be reinvigorated as soon as possible with possible anchorage under the Ministry of Livestock and have its own national budget as the VET-GOV project is ending. However, the hub needs to be further supported by ICPALD and AU-IBAR and other key stakeholders. Revitalizing stakeholder's forum for consultation through workshops and awareness creation is needed.

Resolution from the workshop

- We participants of the IGAD workshop on lessons learnt from livestock policy hubs in the region recognized that, the Livestock Policy Hubs have been instrumental in driving the livestock agenda in respective nations;
- We have recognized that a number of lessons can be drawn from this region and the national policy hubs as the region is host to the largest livestock resources in the continent where livestock plays a life line;
- We have reviewed and appreciated the important roles that the livestock policy hubs have been playing in the member states of IGAD; and the key achievements in each country have been summarized [Annexed];
- Despite the positive achievements of the LPH that directly and indirectly contributed to the development of the sector, livestock still suffers from a myriad of problems than can be addressed through policy re-orientation and institutional rearrangement;
- We have also realized that the Livestock Policy Hubs have not still worked to their full potential in instigating the livestock development process because of many challenges [Annexed];
- Concerted efforts to enhance the operational environment, legal frameworks and technical support are much needed for the transformation of the livestock sector in the face of intense climate related-challenges;
- We are therefore convinced that the LPH be maintained to support the effective implementation national, regional and continental livestock development plans;
- For these fundamental reasons, we delegates of the following countries (Ethiopia, Sudan, Somalia, Kenya, Djibouti, Uganda and South Sudan) have agreed that the livestock policy hubs in our respective countries should be maintained as a multi-stakeholder platforms meant to strengthen the policy process in our respective countries
- The main objectives of maintaining the LPH are to;
 - Undertake **evidence-based advocacy and provide analytical support** for better policies and institutional reforms on livestock sector;
 - To serve as **resource mobilization and stakeholder engagement** platforms for public, private, CBO, CSO, NGOs and International organizations;

To this effect:

- We have stipulated the likely **pathways of national anchorage for LPH** which will be refined and communicated in the upcoming meetings of the LPH;
- While we pledge to set up a sustainable LPH in our respective countries, we also request regional, continental and global organizations including AU-IBAR, FAO, OIE, IGAD, EAC and COMESA to make sure that the **LPH be used as an entry point for all livestock activities in all member states;**
- While we pledge to set up a sustainable LPH in our respective countries, we request all concerned organizations above to **provide a roadmap of actions with clear milestones expected from the LPH at regional level** that can guide each country's national LPH;

27th April 2017
Done in Uganda, Entebbe