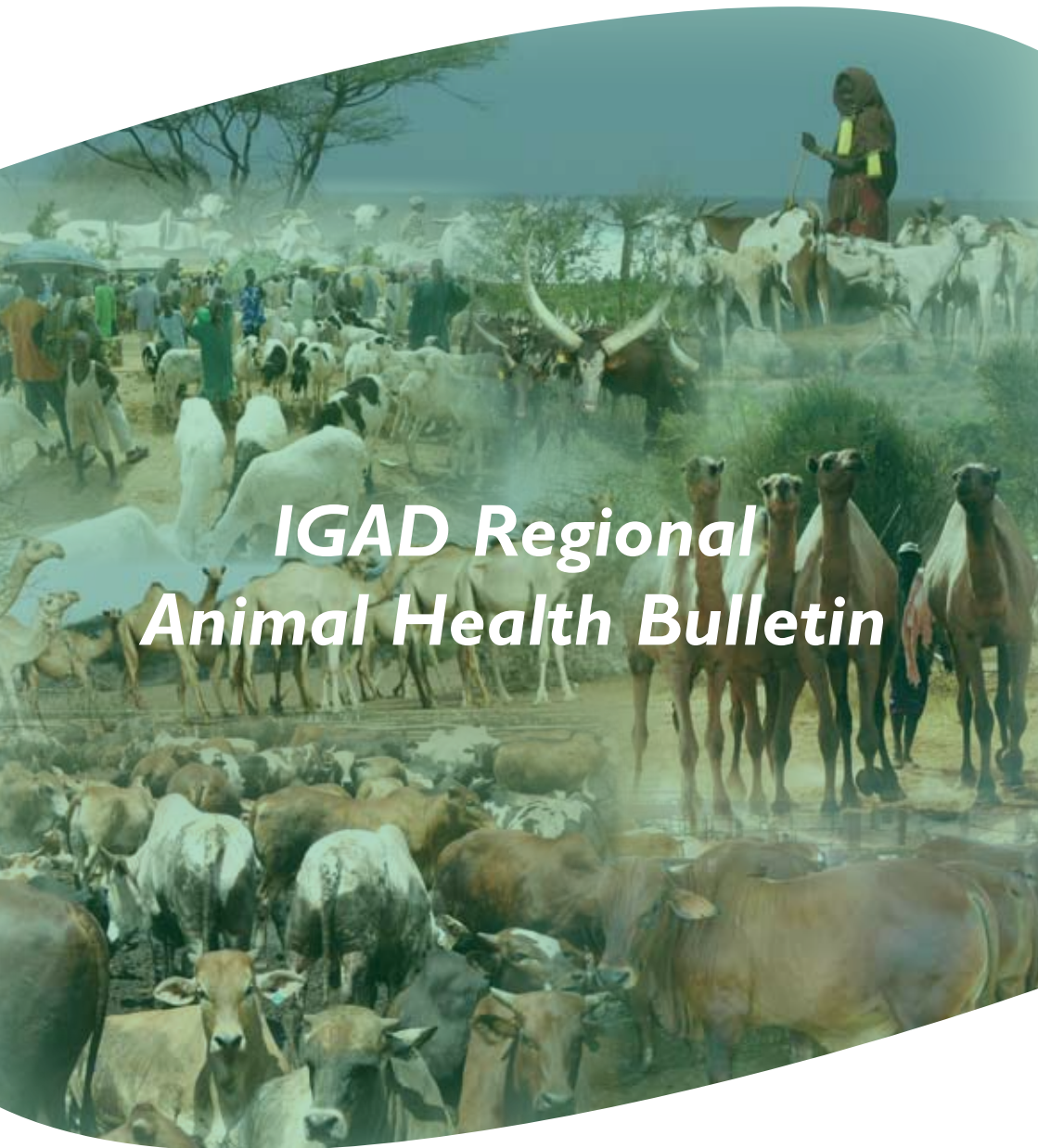




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IGAD Regional Animal Health Bulletin



AFRICAN UNION
**INTERAFRICAN BUREAU
FOR ANIMAL RESOURCES**



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

FOURTH EDITION, DECEMBER 2015

IGAD Regional Animal Health Bulletin

Fourth Edition, December 2015

An initiative of the Standard Methods and Procedures in Animal Health (SMP-AH) Project, a collaborative project spearheaded by African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) in partnership with IGAD/IGAD Centre for Pastoral Areas and Livestock Development (ICPALD)

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ACRONYMS

ASF	African swine fever
AU-IBAR	African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources
CCPP	Contagious Caprine Pleuropneumonia
CBPP	Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia
CVO	Chief Veterinary Officer
EAC	East African Community
ESOLT	Enhancing Somali Livestock Trade
EU	European Union
FMD	Foot and Mouth Disease
GCC	Gulf Countries Cooperation
GHoA	Greater Horn of Africa
ICPALD	IGAD Centre for Pastoral Areas and Livestock Development
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
JSC	Joint Steering Committee
KVB	Kenya Veterinary Board.
LSD	Lumpyskin Disease
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
OIE	Office Internationale D'Epizooties
PAP	Personal Appraisal Plan
PPR	Peste des Petits Ruminants
RVF	Rift Valley Fever
SGP	Sheep and Goat Pox
SMP-AH	Standard Methods and Procedures in Animal Health
TADs	Trans-boundary animal diseases
ToT	Trainer of Trainers
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VCT	Veterinary Council of Tanzania

PREFACE

Welcome to the Fourth Edition of the IGAD Regional Animal Health Bulletin, a regional bulletin for animal health reports and related issues. This is an initiative of the Standard Methods and Procedures in Animal Health (SMP-AH) Project, a collaborative project spearheaded by African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) in partnership with IGAD/IGAD Centre for Pastoral Areas and Livestock Development. This edition of the regional bulletin focuses mainly Vaccinations Campaigns in cross-borders, Training of Veterinary Staff from the region on management skill development, Training of Veterinary staff from the region on Surveillance and Epidemiology, and the meeting between trading partners from the Greater Horn of Africa and their counterparts from Middle East and North Africa.

SMP-AH SUPPORTS A VACCINATION CAMPAIGN AGAINST FMD IN UGANDA

Joseph W. Magona
ICPALD



A vaccination site in Nakasongola district in Uganda, December 2015

Background

During 2015 Uganda reported frequent outbreaks of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) in several districts in the north eastern, southern and in the central region around Lake Victoria crest posing a high risk of spread to the entire country with possible spill-over to neighboring countries. FMD outbreaks were registered in the Uganda-Tanzania border districts of; Isingiro (May 2015) and Rakai (February and July 2015). In addition, FMD re-emerged in central Uganda in June and was reported in Nakaseke district in July 2015 and then rapidly spread to neighbouring districts of Luwero (July 2015), Kyankwanzi (July 2015), Mukono (July 2015) and Mpigi (July 2015). The animals at high risk and some risk factors in this region are shown in Table I below. In addition, Figure I describes the FMD hotspots along the Uganda-Tanzania border and its spread along the South-North Uganda Cattle Corridor and major livestock trade routes.

Table 1: Livestock population at risk in FMD hot spots along the South-North highway from the southern border Uganda-Tanzania border

No.	District	Cattle	Shoats	Pigs	Livestock Markets	Abattoirs, Slaughter Houses	Slaughter Slabs	Milk collect centres
1	Isingiro	180,000	221,495	7,499	6	0	3	9
2	Rakai	203,550	153,756	23,180	4	4	3	14
3	Masaka	62,446	26,281	95,257	0	5	4	2
4	Mpigi	51,900	17,000	70,012	0	4	5	4
5	Vakiso	45,105	30,479	44,435	1	23	12	8
6	Mukono	53,600	32,000	8,623	0	1	8	4
7	Luwero	85,000	165,000	48,000	1	1	8	5
8	Kasese	75,706	13,740	12,505	0	2	12	45
9	Nakaseke	86,567	56,760	7,544	2	1	1	8
10	Nakasongola	112,782	87,900	8,908	2	1	2	13
11	Kiruhura	180,000	78,540	5,606	2	1	2	17
Totals	1,136,656	882,951	331,569	18	43	60	129	



Vaccination of cattle against FMD in Nakasongola district, December 2015

Furthermore, the affected area is of major socio-economic activities feeding into all countries in Eastern and Central Africa. In addition, it has a large human population with many road networks, animal related business like butchers, supermarkets, veterinary institutions and concentration of exotic and improved animals especially cattle that are valuable but highly susceptible to FMD. The area also harbors an international Airport and several lake landing sites serving major marine trade routes across Eastern countries. Besides the above factors, the area is the south most part of the cattle corridor where in Uganda most animals under pastoralist can cross into Northern Tanzania. The cattle corridor in the opposite direction extends from this point right through central to end in North Eastern Uganda where it connects with the Kenyan far North Western pastoral lands. Consequently, livestock owners and their animals and animal products move through the area to neighboring countries notably Tanzania, Kenya, Sudan, DRC Congo and Rwanda. Considering rapid spread of FMD, this poses a great risk to the livestock in the region.

In light of the above-mentioned FMD outbreaks in Uganda, Uganda Government made a request to the African Union –Interafrican Bureau

for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) through the SMP-AH project for support towards implementation of a vaccination campaign against FMD in selected districts in cross-border areas and those at high risk. The SMP-AH project immediately considered the proposal under the framework for implementation of vaccination campaigns against priority diseases in cross-border areas and adjoining areas with emphasis on CBPP, FMD and LSD along the Uganda-Tanzania border discussed earlier during a regional cross-border harmonization meeting for Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda held from 25th to 27th August 2014 at Mwanza in Tanzania. Accordingly, Uganda went ahead to mobilized over 300,000 doses of FMD vaccines while AU-IBAR provided over USD 67,000 towards facilitating logistics and personnel allowance.



Vaccination of cattle against FMD in Kasese district in Uganda, December 2015

Objectives of the vaccination campaign

- To reduce the relative risk of the livestock population in close proximity of the border against FMD by creating a buffer zone that limit diseases agents spreading into districts in cross-border areas
- To improved livestock health and productivity in FMD-stricken districts in cross-border areas in Uganda
- To reduce the negative impact of frequent quarantines on livestock trade and livelihoods of livestock-dependent communities in FMD-stricken districts

Activities implemented

Vaccination campaign in selected districts

The vaccination campaign against FMD took place during December 2015 in 14 districts of Kiboga, Kasese, Mpigi, Wakiso, Kyankwanzi, Kiruhura, Luwero, Nakasongola, Rakai, Isingiro, Nakaseke, Masaka, Ntungamo and Mukono with the main aim of establishing a buffer zone. The vaccination campaign was coordinated by district vaccination teams together with teams from the Headquarters of the Veterinary Department in Entebbe under supervision of a Team from AU-IBAR, Nairobi. A total of 392,175 cattle, 9,719 sheep and goats and 2,258 pigs belonging to 14,201 households were vaccinated in 14 districts in Uganda (see details in Table 2).



Vaccination of cattle against FMD in Kyankwanzi district in Uganda, December 2015

Table 2: Details of vaccinated livestock and beneficiary households across 14 districts in Uganda, December 2015

District	Subcounty	Livestock numbers vaccinated			
		No. of beneficiary households	Cattle	Sheep and goats	Pigs
Kiboga					
	Lwamata	16	2390	0	0
	Kapeke	110	7823	295	0
	Dwaniro	130	9770	0	0

District	Subcounty	Livestock numbers vaccinated			
		No. of beneficiary households	Cattle	Sheep and goats	Pigs
	Sub-total	256	19983	295	0
Kasese					
	Nyakiyumba	12	102	0	0
	Mukunyu	17	181	0	0
	Nyakatonzi	42	21200	0	0
	Katwe-Kabatooro Town Council	26	1200	0	0
	Lake Katwe	22	720	0	0
	Karusandara	20	842	0	0
	Karusandara-Karambi	24	641	0	0
	Karusandara-Kibuga	32	520	0	0
	Hima Town Council	35	841	0	0
	Kistwambi	34	734	0	0
	Kayanja-Kistwambi	28	745	0	0
	Bugoye	18	120	0	0
	Ibanda-Bugoye	12	72	0	0
	Karusandara-Kyaranga	8	56	0	0
	Hamayungu-lake Katwe	36	410	0	0
	Kahandero-Muhocha	14	210	0	0
	Muhoncha	8	76	0	0
	Kasese Municipality	28	182	0	0
	Sub-total	416	28852	0	0
Mpigi					
	Buwama	837	2922	0	0
	Kintuta	540	2919	0	0
	Nkozi	282	1977	0	0
	Kamengo	180	986	0	0
	Kibingente	160	1335	0	0
	Muduma	320	4409	0	0

District	Subcounty	Livestock numbers vaccinated			
		No. of beneficiary households	Cattle	Sheep and goats	Pigs
	Mpigi Town Council	110	1027	0	0
	Sub-total	2429	15575	0	0
Wakiso					
	Masulita	182	824	102	138
	Kira	85	405	391	365
	Entebbe	202	915	1337	1015
	Nangabo	274	1005	225	49
	Mende	373	2306	406	269
	Sisaa	189	1142	147	103
	Katabi	98	589	112	83
	Nsangi	95	576	93	22
	Kasangi	43	258	44	27
	Gombe	473	2856	525	138
	Busukuma	58	612	75	49
	Sub-total	2072	11488	3457	2258
Kyankwanzi					
	Kyankwanzi	504	45709	1250	0
	Butemba	259	10193	429	0
	Butemba TC	24	2030	0	0
	Nsambya	135	5384	20	0
	Wattuba	141	6759	0	0
	Mulagi	17	547	4	0
	Ntwentwe	5	151	0	0
	Gayaza	18	466	0	0
	Nkandwa	18	463	0	0
	Sub-total	1121	71702	1703	0
Kiruhura					
	Kashongi	20	175	0	0
	Keshunga	18	145	0	0
	Nyakashashara	24	225	0	0

District	Subcounty	Livestock numbers vaccinated			
		No. of beneficiary households	Cattle	Sheep and goats	Pigs
	Nsanga	15	150	0	0
	Kanyarweru	18	165	0	0
	Kikatsi	20	140	0	0
	Sub-total	115	1000	0	0
Luwero					
	Butuntumula	112	8093	181	0
	Kikyusa	134	3266	743	0
	Kamira	56	5206	1016	0
	Luwero Sc/TC	171	1390	583	0
	Sub-total	473	17955	2523	0
Nakasongola					
	Wabinyonyi	18	3856	0	0
	Kalongo	21	4220	0	0
	Nabiswera	36	10071	0	0
	Nakitooma	39	10239	0	0
	Sub-total	114	28386	0	0
Rakai					
	Kibanda	822	13250	0	0
	Kakuuto	1250	17560	0	0
	Kyebe	347	5742	0	0
	Kifamba	212	2730	0	0
	Kasasa	396	6740	0	0
	Kyalulangira	359	8950	0	0
	Kiziba	416	6550	0	0
	Lwamagwa	478	6950	0	0
	Sub-total	4280	68472	0	0
Isingiro					
	Endizzi	156	14845	0	0
	Mbare	212	27550	0	0
	Kasumba	174	15437	0	0

District	Subcounty	Livestock numbers vaccinated			
		No. of beneficiary households	Cattle	Sheep and goats	Pigs
	Ngarama	196	17469	0	0
	Sub-total	738	75301	0	0
Nakaseke					
	Ngoma	624	28893	853	0
	Wakyato	107	5186	313	0
	Kinyogoga	204	2304	460	0
	Ngoma TC	96	4094	215	0
	Sub-total	1031	40477	1841	0
Masaka					
	Bukakata	38	1512	0	0
	Buwunga	23	239	0	0
	Mukungwe	93	3449	0	0
	Bukaka	5	340	0	0
	Sub-total	159	5540	0	0
Ntungamo					
	Rwemiriro	5	533	0	0
	Kakango	5	303	0	0
	Akatojo	7	617	0	0
	Sub-total	17	1453	0	0
Mukono					
	Goma	329	2127	0	0
	Kyampisi	98	508	0	0
	Kimenyede	67	947	0	0
	Nabale	122	268	0	0
	Nakisunga	230	891	0	0
	Kasawu-Namuganga	26	412	0	0
	Nama	108	838	0	0
	Sub-total	980	5991	0	0
Grand-Total		14,201	392,175	9,819	2,258



Vaccination of cattle against FMD in Kyankwanzi district in Uganda, December 2015

IMPARTING VETERINARY STAFF FROM THE GREATER HORN OF AFRICA WITH MANAGEMENT SKILLS TO UPDATE AND UPGRADE THEIR COMPETENCIES

Joseph Magona
ICPALD



First batch of course participants together with organizers at Kenya School of Government (KSG) during Pass-out on 8th May 2014

Introduction

Upon the need to develop leadership skills and competencies among veterinary officers in the greater horn of Africa, in order to improve staff productivity, responsiveness and adaptability in providing services to citizens in the ever-changing and complex environment in Greater Horn of Africa, the SMP-AH Project in collaboration with Kenya School of Government organized training in management skills development.

The course was justified by the fact that senior public officers guide their organizations in areas of policy development, strategic negotiations

and planning, change management and in improving productivity. Therefore for public sector leaders to remain relevant and adaptable to “Best Practices” in public administration and management, they have to continuously develop, update and upgrade their competencies through relevant training.

Target group

The Management Skills Development Programme was specially designed for senior veterinary officers from the Horn of Africa who are responsible for making policy related decisions and managing resources in their respective organization. The first course was conducted from 13th January to 8th May 2014 while the second course was conducted from 22nd September 2015 to 19th February 2016

Overall course Objective

The objective of the course was to enhance the participants’ managerial skills for improved performance of their respective organizations. This was informed by the fact that managerial, negotiation and performance management skills are essential ingredients for the success of many organizations.

Training curriculum

The course was organized and delivered under the following seven (7) modules:

- Module 1: Negotiations, Influencing and Persuasion skills
- Module 2: Performance Management Systems
- Module 3: Finalization and Standardization of PAP and Individual Work plans
- Module 4: Financial Management for Non-Finance Managers
- Module 6: Monitoring and Evaluation
- Module 7: Training of Trainers (ToT)



Second batch of participants attending lectures at Kenya school of Government, February 2016

Participants trained

Table 3: Number of participants trained

Course session	Period	Number by Gender disaggregation	Countries of origin
First course	13th January - 8th May 2014 (17 weeks)	Male: 19 Female: 2	Djibouti Ethiopia Kenya Somalia South Sudan Tanzania Uganda
Second course	22nd September 2015-22nd February 2016 (17 weeks)	Male: 14 Female: 5	Djibouti Ethiopia Kenya South Sudan Tanzania Uganda
Total		Male: 33 and Female: 7	7 countries

KENYA AND TANZANIA DEVELOP AN AGREEMENT TO SUPPORT HARMONIZATION AND COORDINATION OF VETERINARY ACTIVITIES FOR CONTROL OF TRADE RELATED TADS IN CROSS BORDER AREAS

Joseph Magona
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Participants at the bilateral cross-border meeting for Kenya and Tanzania held at Naivasha from 7th to 9th December 2015

Introduction

In a bid to further cement ties between the two countries and enhance collaboration and cooperation in the control of transboundary animal diseases in cross-borders, a bilateral cross-border meeting was held in Naivasha, Kenya from 7th -9th December 2015 at Naivasha, Kenya. Participants for the meeting consisted of senior members of the National Veterinary Departments, County governments and District Councils, Livestock keepers, representatives from Local NGO and State department of Foreign Affairs. A total of 53 participants from Kenya, Tanzania, EAC Secretariat, AU-IBAR and ICPALD attended the meeting.

Animal health information exchange between Kenya and Tanzania

During presentations from Tanzania and Kenya on ongoing activities on disease surveillance and disease control, the following key challenges facing the livestock sector were highlighted:

- Weak institutional capacity in terms of acute staff shortage, inadequate funding,
- Inadequate transport and frequent diseases outbreaks,
- Recurrent droughts or flooding,
- Uncoordinated disease control activities between counties and along international boundaries
- Poor market access of livestock and livestock products.
- Environment degradation issues were also raised due to poor animal husbandry methods

Cross-border challenges and issues justifying the development of the agreement

The two teams individually identified key cross-border issues that justified development of an agreement. The agreement would then seek to address key issues below:

For Kenya:

- Cross-border transboundary diseases – FMD, CBPP, PPR, CCPP, Blue tongue, ASF, SGP, RVF, Rabies, LSD, Brucellosis
- Illegal livestock and livestock products movement across the border
- Inadequate information sharing on livestock matters (vaccinations, disease surveillance)
- Disharmony of vaccination schedule
- Tanzanian livestock being vaccinated during Kenyan vaccination programme
- Recognition and acceptance of permits across borders (certificates, rubber stamps and brands)

For Tanzania:

- Communication structures and channels to facilitate the implementation of the agreement
- Inclusion of regulatory bodies as potential partners such as VCT and KVB.
- There was need to define clearly representation of the economic communities and at what level the JSC would involve them or co-opt them.
- Need to clearly describe number of members in the Technical Working Groups
- It was necessary to refer to EAC Article 108 for detail about corporation and collaboration in matters related to animal health
- The roles of civil societies in the implementation of MoU had to identified
- Three Cross-border clusters identified along the border stretch were:
 - » Kuria ecosystem: Migori and Tarime
 - » Maasai ecosystem: Narok Serengeti and Ngorongoro Kajiado, Longido
 - » Taita Taveta, Kwale and Rombo ecosystem

Agreed area of collaboration

The following were agreed as area of collaboration

- Control of trans-boundary animal diseases and vectors, i.e. FMD, CBPP, PPR, CCPP, Blue tongue, ASF, S&G pox, RVF, Rabies, LSD, Brucellosis and other emerging diseases through surveillance, detection, vaccination, reporting, information sharing, livestock movement control, and awareness creation for communities
- Mapping and control of stock routes, livestock markets, zoo-sanitary border posts and natural resources (water and pasture), including control of invasive weeds
- Enforcement of regulations on use of veterinary drugs and vaccine

- Control of Livestock movements and facilitate livestock trade through health inspection and certification
- Access to cross-border livestock related infrastructure including Diagnostic Laboratories, Cold-Chain, and Holding Grounds
- Joint promotion of Livestock Identification and Traceability
- Joint coordinated capacity building of stakeholders
- Promotion of Cross-border networking among stakeholders
- Commit resources (financial, infrastructure and personnel) to achieve the agreed animal health issues and sanitary measures

Scope of cooperation

Administrative areas that were identified were Districts and Counties along the Kenya and Tanzania borders: Narok, Kajiado, Kwale, Migori, Taita Taveta (in The Republic of Kenya), Rorya, Tarime, Serengeti, Ngorongoro, Longido, Rombo, Mwanga, Lushoto and Mkinga (in The United Republic of Tanzania)

Final status of the draft agreement

The task team composed of the SMP-AH focal persons for Kenya (Dr Harry Oyas) and Tanzania (Dr Joram Mghwira) eventually finalized the agreement and submitted to respective Legal Departments in the Ministries of Foreign Affairs for onward processing by end of February 2016.

EQUIPPING VETERINARY STAFF FROM THE GREATER HORN OF AFRICA WITH ADVANCED KNOWLEDGE ON SURVEILLANCE AND EPIDEMIOLOGY OF TRADE-RELATED TRANSBOUNDARY ANIMAL DISEASES

Joseph Magona
ICPALD



First batch of course participants together with organizers from University of Nairobi, College of Veterinary medicine and Agriculture during Pass-out on 22nd May 2014

Introduction

In a bid to address challenges that have remained due to inadequate capacity to manage the diseases as a result of lack of knowledge among veterinary staff and resources to support detection, prevention and response on the diseases in the GhoA, the Standard Methods and Procedures in Animal Health (SMP-AH) Project in collaboration with the College of Veterinary Medicine and Agriculture of University of Nairobi organized a training in Surveillance and Epidemiology.

The course was justified by the fact the region faces challenges of trade-related Trans-boundary Animal Diseases that impact negatively on livestock production and trade. Yet livestock production and trade play a key role in supporting livelihoods, food security and economic growth in the Greater Horn of Africa. Besides, the impact of TADs is aggravated by differing animal health regulations amongst the countries of the region, uncoordinated disease surveillance and control programs and recurrent livestock trade bans by importing countries for fear of introduction of TADS.

Target group

The Surveillance and Epidemiology training programme was specially designed for technical staff within National Departments of Veterinary Services comprising epidemiologists and disease control personnel from the Greater Horn of Africa. The first course was conducted from 24th February to 22nd May 2014 while the second course was conducted from 16th November 2015 to 26th February 2016.

Overall course Objective

The overall objective was to train veterinary staff in the IGAD region in functional use of surveillance and epidemiological approaches on TADs to enhance their proficiency in surveillance in the control and management of trade-related TADs in a harmonized and coordinated manner.

Training curriculum

The course was organized and delivered under the following seven (7) modules:

- Module 1; Review of the Transboundary Animal Diseases
- Module 2: Epidemiological approaches
- Module 3: Disease surveillance
- Module 4: Risk analysis and risk based surveillance
- Module 5: Diagnosis of Transboundary Animal Diseases

- Module 6: Livestock and Livestock products trade
- Module 7: Animal Health Information Systems
- Module 8: Epidemiologist as managers
- Module 9: Delivery of Animal Health Services
- Module 10: Project



Handing-over of Certificates to Participants during passing-out at University of Nairobi, 26th February 2016

Participants trained

Table 4: Number of participants trained

Course session	Period	Number by Gender disaggregation	Countries of origin
First course	24th February - 22nd May 2014 (13 weeks)	Male: 21 Female: 7	Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, South Sudan Tanzania, Uganda
Second course	16th November 2015 – 26th February 2016 (13 weeks)	Male: 14 Female: 4	Djibouti, Ethiopia Kenya, South Sudan Tanzania, Uganda
Total		Male: 35 and Female: 11	7 countries

TRADING PARTNERS AND PUBLIC OFFICIALS FROM THE GREATER HORN OF AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST DELIBERATE ON SAFE AND STABLE LIVESTOCK TRADE IN DUBAI, 22ND – 24TH NOVEMBER, 2015

Ameha Sebsibe and Joseph Magona
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Participants at the Inter-regional conference to promote safe and stable livestock trade between the Horn of Africa and the Middle East, 22nd – 24th November, 2015, Dubai

Introduction

Countries in the Greater Horn of Africa with support from AU-IBAR, ICPALD, USAID and EU have been undertaking measures to enhance prevention and control of animal diseases. The intention was to guarantee disease free livestock exports to the Middle East and North Africa.

Two previous forums, namely, (1) Livestock Stakeholders in Animal Health Certification and Trade held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates from 2 to 3 August 2010, and (2) Enhancing Safe Inter-Regional Livestock Trade: Risk-Based Approaches to Livestock Certification and Harmonized Control of Trade-Related Transboundary Animal Diseases held in Dubai from 13

to 16 June 201 were organized to reflect on enhancing safe trade in livestock and livestock products between GHoA and the MENA.

The third forum was jointly organized by AU-IBAR, ICPALD with financial support from USAID through the SMP-AH project and the EU through the ESOLT project. The overall purpose of the forum was to further strengthen modalities for sustaining and enhancing safe trade in livestock commodities between the two regions given the increasing recognition of the importance of market oriented livestock production. The modalities were intended to prevent livestock trade disruptions occasioned by import bans by Middle East Countries as previously experienced during outbreaks of transboundary animal diseases, especially Rift Valley Fever. Previous livestock import bans by Middle East countries resulted in informal live animal trade. This posed major health risks to human and animal populations in the importing countries. Hence, the modalities were intended to explore joint management approaches to counter factors that would lead to trade bans.

Conference Objective

The overall conference objective was to develop consensus on the measures for sustaining and enhancing safe trade in livestock commodities between the exporting countries in the Greater Horn of Africa and the importing countries in the Middle East and Northern Africa. The conference intended to achieve the following specific objectives:

- To track the progress of the recommendations of the previous consultative meeting;
- To enhance knowledge on the evolving status of livestock trade between the Greater Horn of Africa and MENA;
- To agree on modalities for implementation of measures to improve livestock and livestock products trade in GHoA and MENA; and
- To foster business linkages between private sector actors from GHoA and their counterparts from MENA

Recommendations

The following were key recommendation made between the trading partners and public officials from the Great Horn of Africa and their counterparts from MENA:

A. Communication

- i. Importing countries should immediately notify exporting countries of any rejections of livestock shipments with clearly documented justifications.
- ii. Communication should be channelled through CVOs for dissemination to other national actors to ensure that information received by the importer from public and private sectors is not contradictory, and for timely feedback.
- iii. Exporting countries should package information on market opportunities and trends to catalyse an increase in the market share to the GCC.

B. Export Facilities

- i. Importing countries should fast track the approval of export facilities.
- ii. Importing countries should undertake risk assessments to verify that animals conditioned in bio-secured feedlots are safe for export. This will eliminate the need to further hold the animals in international standard quarantine facilities as is currently the case.
- iii. Importing and exporting countries should explore mechanisms to safeguard the integrity of the consignments to ensure the consignments that reach the importing countries are the same as those that passed through the quarantines.
- iv. Importing countries should review the requirement for exporting countries to meet the costs of assessments of export facilities.

C. Animal Health and Welfare Standards

- i. Continued vigilance to animal welfare standards, particularly those relating to transportation, should be observed (Exporting countries, AU-IBAR and ICPALD)
- ii. Exporting countries should involve from the onset importing countries in the process of strengthening their capacities, and improving standards for livestock and livestock products exports.
- iii. Exporting and importing countries should base their trade requirements on OIE standards for safe international trade, including adherence to the principle of equivalence.



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