FAO’s Emergency Feed Support: Good Practice Case for Somalia

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Livestock plays a major role in Somalia

- Predominant agric. activity in Somalia (53 million animals by 2014)
- 67% of the population obtain their subsistence
- Contributes about 65% of Somalia’s job opportunities
- Generates about 40% of the country’s GDP and 80% of foreign currency earnings from trade
  - In 2016, livestock exports generated more than USD 330 m mainly to the Gulf States
SOMALIA LIVESTOCK EXPORTS 2016

The Somali livestock sector supplies a thriving export.

At an average cost of $70 per animal, Somali livestock is exported all year round, generating more than $330M for the Somali economy.

Sale of cattle from Somalia dominates many markets in the Horn of Africa.

Animals exported to the Gulf States:
- Bossaso and Berbera ports exported $1.6M and $3.6M live animals.

Leading importers of Somalia livestock:
- UAE
- Qatar
- Saudi Arabia
- Kuwait
- Oman
- Bahrain

Livestock contributes to GDP: 40%

Livestock exports: 1994 - 2016

53 M animals in Somalia according to 2014 population estimates

- GOATS: 28.7 M
- SHEEP: 13.6 M
- CAMEL: 6.6 M
- CATTLE: 3.9 M
Somalia faced one of the worst droughts in recent times in 2017

Drought triggered by total Deyr rain failure (Oct–Dec ‘16) and poor Gu rains performance (Apr–Jun’16)

Out of 12.3 million Somalis, over half (6.2 million) acutely food insecure

Nearly 3 million faced food security IPC Phases 3 & 4 -- life-saving assistance urgently needed

Estimated 40% to 60% of livestock decimated (Feb-June 2017)

Total loss of livelihoods assets → Destitution → migration to IDP camps → Renewed famine

4,100 people have crossed into Ethiopia in January and February 2017 (UNHCR)
Planning for the feed support response

- Fund-raising (multi-donor approach) to meet funding needs
- Series of country/regional offices’ planning meetings (FAO HQs, Regional offices) to rapidly appraise feed situation
- Potential feed availability/access in the region (hay, concentrates, crop residues, fresh fodder, quality & safety risks)
- Magnitude of support required Vs potential funding levels
- Logistics (coordination, delivery mechanisms, security- in-country/cross-borders, administration)
What FAO did

**Final decision:** Outsource feed through international tenders facilitated by FAO HQs

- **Identification of appropriate feed supplements/quantities/target HHs & animals:**
  - 3,000 MT of Range cubes targeting xxx animals from xxx HHs
  - 109.1 MT of molasses-urea-mineral blocks (MUM) targeting xxxxx animals from xxx HHs

- **Feed procurement contracts**
  - Contracted reputable suppliers (due diligence done/feed manufacturers’ letters)
  - Feed quality & safety assurance compliance assessed during:
    - Procurement (Technical specs; delivery timelines)
    - Production (Pre-loading inspection & chemical analysis)
What FAO did......

- **Identification of partners to distribute**
  - Assessed capacities to deliver, experience/expertise in related services
  - Implementation/contracting modalities:
    - Thro LoUs - Ministry of Livestock
    - Thro LoAs - NGOs and Professional Veterinary Associations (directly selected)

- **Management of the LoUs and LoAs**
  - Villages/Beneficiaries selection (Participatory & ensure equal opportunity to women)
  - Stakeholders mobilization and sensitization (National, District & community levels)
  - Monitoring and reporting progress
  - Ensuring compliance by the partners
  - Feed quality assurance (Good post-delivery ware house management)
  - Proper feed utilization at farm-level (Training to partners/beneficiaries on feed handling)
### Molasses-Urea-Mineral Blocks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ingredient</th>
<th>Parts per 100 kg mixture</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Molasses</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urea (46 % N)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheat bran (or Maize germ, Rice bran)</td>
<td>36.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cement</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lime (Calcium carbonate)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common salt (NaCl)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tri-calcium phosphate</td>
<td>0.5</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mineral premix</strong>: Zinc sulphate-75g; Potassium iodide-50 g; Copper sulphate-75g</td>
<td>0.2</td>
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### Range cubes

#### Chemical composition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crude Protein</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crude fibre (max)</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcium (min)</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcium (max)</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phosphorus (min)</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potassium (min)</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vitamin A (min)</td>
<td>8000 IU/kg (3200 IU/lb)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy (minimum)</td>
<td>11 MJ/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aflatoxin B1</td>
<td>&lt; 20 ppb</td>
</tr>
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The Impacts….

- Increased survival of the animals, thus sustaining future herds and livelihoods
- Nuclear productive herds saved (mature goats and sheep/young animals) to most vulnerable livestock keeping households
- Ensured lactating goats provided milk for households providing vital nutrition (children, lactating mothers, sick & elderly)
The impacts as told by beneficiaries:

- **Siraad Muxumed Mohamed**, 65 yrs old mother from Ina Qowle village, Burao and grandmother and head of family of 14 members
- Before the droughts I had more than 150 sheep and goats but now I only have 23 animals surviving
- This drought taught me a lot and left me more vulnerable than ever, I wonder why I didn’t sell some of my animals before drought and keep the money after drought to buy livestock,
- I wonder why I didn’t store at least some hay during the rainy season.
- Now, I will use this feed to feed my breeding females and lactating animals.
- I am grateful to receive it because only rich families could afford such feed during the past drought.
- Now that I was using this feed my animals are already craving to eat this feed and are producing more milk and looking good body condition
Challenges

- Available feeds scanty/grossly inadequate
- Country needs in the region equally high as drought cut across HoA countries (no surpluses)
- Quality assurance concerns (quality, safety not guaranteed)
- Coordination (difficult between government, donor community, communities affected)
- Cross-border restrictions/regulations, low government support/political will
- Logistical support among UN humanitarian agencies
- Insecurity/conflict (potent due to inputs support in selected areas)
- High cost of deliveries
- Accessibility by FAO teams to affected areas
Lessons learnt

- Early planning and coordination among partners for timely and rapid response
- Create prior awareness amongst targeted beneficiaries (lot of sceptics on “new” feeds, Close coordination with partners for smooth distribution
- Engage adequately with local administration/government to “buy-in” and not antagonize the action
- Build adequate capacity and realistic time lines for delivery
- Need to establish capacity to counter political interferences and potent disputes with implementing partners
The future..

❖ Emergency responses
- Bring to scale/replicate current **best practice** (2018 drought also eminent)
- **Provide** complementary interventions (water trucking for both human and livestock, animal health supportive treatments, and provision of food to humans)

❖ **Strengthen programmatic interventions (long-term drought prevention, recovery and resilience building)**
- Promote longer-term multi-stakeholder innovative fodder production systems in traditional grazing areas (irrigation infrastructure, buy-in of fodder)
- Innovative feed production- efficient use of local range resources (e.g. Prosopis), preparation of feed blocks locally
- Improve of feed storage capacity (bulk fodder storage)
- Capacity building & training (government, fodder value chain actors)
- Facilitate development of community-level drought monitoring & preparedness plans
THE END

Yes it worked well ...more feed during drought brought hope and saved vulnerable livestock and people, especially protecting the future generations....