Minutes of the Somalia Livestock Technical Working Group meeting  

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| 1), Best Livestock Emergency practices | **a). Animal health interventions:** Successful approaches used by working group members include:-  
  - Implementation of Animal health interventions through the line Ministry eg. Ministry of Livestock, Agriculture and Environment (MOLAE) and local livestock professional associations such as SOWELPA or PULPA: *The approach has successfully worked for FAO and VSF-Suisse.*  
  - Direct implementation of Animal health interventions using technical veterinary teams (personnel) from the project: *The approach has successfully worked for VSF-Germany and WARDI.*  

| | **b). Water trucking:** The working group members agreed that:-  
  - It is good to separate water for humans and livestock (e.g. provide watering troughs for the animals).  
  - Should have proper water storage facilities e.g. water tanks, bladders etc to maximize on the storage capacity.  
  - Agencies should use the Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards (LEGS) during implementation.  
  The group members also discussed the challenges of water trucking as heavy trucks normally damage the roads and its negative impact on environment. |
| | **C). Destocking:** The three main destocking methods recommended in LEGS are Commercial, Slaughter and Compassionate destocking. It was unanimously agreed that destocking is not a common practice in Somalia and if implemented, it is good to observe a high level of hygiene. The task force mentioned the challenges of destocking as: difficulty in effecting cash transfers and that it destabilizes livestock prices. However, successfully destocking projects have been implemented before in Kenya by VSF-Suisse (in Isiolo) and by VSF-Germany (in Marsabit & Turkana). |
| | **d). Fodder:** Some of the practices in Somalia discussed by the working group were:  
  - Fodder production using Irrigation farming  
  - Promotion of local fodder such as Maize, Sorghum and Cowpeas and improved fodder species e.g Sudan and Napier grass.  
  - There is a high demand for fodder that promotes fodder as a cash crop (*through income generation*).  
  - Urea blocks are good supplementary feeds: FAO has been instrumental in promoting the product (urea blocks) formulated by Egerton University. |
Some of the traditional coping mechanisms discussed that are used to sustain livestock during critical times include: Acassia pods that are rich in proteins and tree backs (that act as both a supplementary feed and dewormer).

### 2). Planned and on-going activities in Somalia

**FAO:**
- FAO reported that they had already implemented livestock treatments targeting 2 Million animals in 50,000 HHs. More livestock treatments are on-going in Somalia regions targeting 8 Million animals. Plans are underway to implement a second Phase (II) of the project that will commence in May 2017. This phase will target 12.5 Million animals using 130 teams in all the regions of Somalia. Other activities normally carried out by FAO in Somalia include vaccination campaigns and disease surveillance.
- FAO is currently implementing water trucking in collaboration with Puntland State of Somalia, targeting 50,000 HHs in 90 sites. Distribution of bladder tanks for water storage had already been done and water was being delivered three times daily.

**WARDI:**
- WARDI is working in South Central Somalia e.g Benadir, Bakool, Hiran, Galgadud, Lower Shabelle etc. The main activities are in WASH, Food security, Livestock, Nutrition and Health.

**VSF-Suisse:**
- VSF-Suisse is implementing a USAID/OFDA funded project in Gedo region. The main activities include mass livestock treatments (for 30 days) using veterinary teams in 6 districts of Gedo, CAHWs trainings and practice; Fodder production in Bullahawa and Luuq; Rehabilitation of Irrigation canals and water supply infrastructure using CFW. Veterinary pharmaceuticals and equipment are purchased locally. Additionally, VSF-Suisse plan to respond to the current drought emergency through water trucking (for human & livestock) and distribution of fodder to the core breeding stock. A project modification request has been made to the donor.

**VSF-Germany:**
- VSF-Germany is implementing projects in Gedo region (in Dollow and Luuq districts) and Somaliland. The main areas of intervention in Gedo are on Food security, Livestock, CFW and Fisheries. In Somaliland, VSF-Germany is implementing a project on milk and meat value chain as well as Animal health care services.

### 3). Terms of Reference

**I.** Collecting and collating information on livestock issues from Somalia media, translate it in English and disseminate.

**Action point:**
- WARDI to investigate and present the current scenario in Somalia (including the cause of mass death of livestock in Central Puntland and Bay region).
II. Intensify disease surveillance, reporting as well as collect information on livestock population (census) and tracking of livestock movement in Somalia.  
**Action point:**  
- FAO to modify their disease surveillance tools in order to capture this (additional) information and share the format with partners for data collection.

III. Strengthen coordination of livestock interventions both at the local and Nairobi levels.  
**Action point:**  
- FAO will initiate coordination meetings in the selected focal points at the field level (*Hargessa, Garowe, Mogadishu, Gedo, Jubba, Baidoa and Hirr Shabelle*).

IV. Implement projects using common standards on Emergency livestock responses.  
**Action point:**  
- FAO will circulate suitable documents previously worked on by the task force to enhance the use of common standards (e.g. on training of CAHWs, use of a standard CAHWs kits and on destocking projects).

### 4). AOB

**What activities can be done during the Recovery Phase?** The technical working group members proposed the following activities for the recovery phase:  
- Restocking: *Use the developed standards as a guide in LEGS.*  
- Rangeland rehabilitation: *Planned seasonal grazing as well as reseeding program.*  
- Scale up fodder production and conservation.  
- Genetic improvement of livestock (*to minimize inbreeding*).

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday (19th April 2017), at 10 am. Venue: FAO Somalia Office

### Attendance list

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Joan Muchai</td>
<td>FAO</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maow Gedi</td>
<td>FOAID</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abdullahi Ali</td>
<td>WARDI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lilian Akinyi Ooko</td>
<td>VSF-Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kennedy Agoi Lumadede</td>
<td>VSF - Suisse</td>
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<td>Justus O. Namatsi</td>
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