



Livestock Working Group (LWG)

DRFAT TOR FOR DISCUSSION

1. RATIONAL /BACKGROUND:

The recurrent natural disasters triggered more households and communities heading towards famine and political instability as they fail to adapt quickly enough to changing environments. The impact of the recent shocks (i.e. drought, flood, desert locust etc.) on the livestock assets of Somalia appears to be significant though there was no conclusive estimate about mortalities figure and wealth losses.

Large number of organizations are active in livestock-related activities within the country by which some of focus on a specific issue while others are mandated to assist a specific type of beneficiaries. The uncoordinated response with little attention to existing standard/ guidelines believe to accelerate the losses of livestock assets in the face of such disasters and reduces the chances for the sector recovery and development. The integration of the livestock-based interventions to humanitarian responses to save and protect the vital livelihoods assets is generally limited and slow in pace in face of adversity. This challenge is not entirely new to Somalia and observed in several emergency and drought responses in the Horn of Africa (HoA). The working group is revitalized against this backdrop to facilitate coordinated, livestock emergency response in Somalia and to ensure that livelihoods protection initiatives are adequately integrated with lifesaving interventions.

The Livestock Emergency Working Group will serve as a platform to exchange information between the actors, keys stakeholders at the policy level as well as on technical issues related to the livestock in emergency context as well as in development context when appropriate. The WG will help to formulate common position on appropriate emergency livestock intervention in Somalia context in line with existing LEGS standards/ guidelines. This document defines the objectives, roles, and responsibilities of the Livestock Working Group (LWG).

2. ACCOUNTABILITY

The Livestock Working Group (LWG) is accountable to the Somalia Food Security Cluster.

3. PURPOSE

The Livestock Working Group's main purpose is to provide a platform for cooperation among humanitarian partners and Ministry of Livestock, Forestry and Range to improve the quality and timeliness of both emergency and development-oriented livestock interventions in Somalia. The working group will focus on providing a mechanism for coordination, technical guidance as well as monitoring of livestock projects in the country and facilitate the exchange of information among stakeholders.

4. OBJECTIVE

The Livestock Working Group under the FSC is a platform to coordinate livestock response in Somalia. In addition, the working group will pave the way for Ministry of Livestock and all stakeholders to have one platform that provides shared information on livestock responses and best practices informed by field-based evidence and. The LWG ultimately aims at protecting the livestock asset of the pastoral and agro-pastoralist, promote lessons learning and exchange on good livestock practices amongst the FSC membership. The group may constitute a technical sub working groups on need basis to formulate appropriate technical practices, or to find solutions to local livestock



issues encountered by the stakeholders in line with international livestock emergency standards such as LEGS and SPHERE.

5. KEY ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Share on-going and planned livestock-based responses by the actors to maximize impact, coverage, and avoid duplications of efforts.
- Facilitate discussion and build consensus on appropriate livestock activities and interventions.
- Identify issues and challenges that contribute to the limitations and slow pace of the livestock-based response and propose appropriate measure to address them.
- Discuss technical approaches and applications with the key livestock actors and document lessons learned to inform future responses.
- Develop a joint communication and advocacy messages that inform key stakeholders on strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities of the livestock-based responses.
- Advise FSC coordination unit on livestock matters, as need be (e,g, relevant studies on sector topics)
- The livestock working group platform shall serve as a “help desk” to disseminate technical knowledge/ best practices related to emergency livestock-based response by the actors in Somalia

The mechanisms for agreement on all decisions are quorum and consensus of members present. The LWG will meet every month and on need basis as agreed by the members, at least 6 times per calendar year

6. GOVERNANCE

Membership:

- Membership shall include representation from the Federal Ministry of Livestock, Forestry and Range; State Ministries responsible for livestock, Resource partners; Local and international NGOs implementing/ supporting livestock emergency interventions; Livestock professional Associations; veterinary universities; and chamber of commerce.
- The role of State Ministries responsible for livestock is to contribute to projects being implemented in their regions.
- Criteria of participants of the LWG will be staff or representatives of organizations and institutions that have programme experience in livestock and emergency livestock responses who are able to participate and contribute during the meetings.
- Membership to LWG is on voluntary basis and related cost to LWG participation will be taken up by the member’s organisation or institution.

Proposed members of the Livestock Working Group

- Membership of the Livestock Working Group will consist of representatives of organisations and institutions directly implementing or involved in livestock emergency response in the



country. These include current FSC members having livestock response activities in the country. The FGS MoLFR will keep the records of the LWG members and update them when necessary.

Chair:

- The Livestock Working Group will be led by the Chair, the Director General, Federal Ministry of Livestock, Forestry and Range, and co-chaired by the selected institution through rotation (quarter basis) and supported by a Secretariat comprising two individuals from the organisation or institution.
- The Secretariat will be identified or endorsed by the working group membership and will ideally comprise of a representative from a UN agency and an NGO.

Method of Work:

The work of the LWG will be implemented through:

- Work-plan development and follow up;
- Regular e-mail correspondence and virtual meetings to provide members with update on livestock emergency activities and events implemented by partners;
- Knowledge sharing and learning events on livestock interventions in Somalia;
- Meetings to develop technical guidelines and other technical documents based on identified needs;
- Webinars on specific thematic areas of interest.

The DG FGS MoLFR may appoint a livestock technical sub working group of not more than 5 persons from among the members of the LWG to guide the group on the application of livestock emergency technical standards and also advise on complex technical issues.

Meetings/frequency:

- The Livestock Working Group meetings will be held monthly preferably one week before the FSC partners meeting
- The chair can convene extra ad-hoc meetings if required

Documentation and Information Sharing:

- The Federal MoLFR with technical support of the members will have dedicated secretariat staff to (i) organize meetings in consultation with the FSC coordination unit; (ii) draft minutes, (iii) compile reports, plans, data, etc.
- Minutes will be made available to all members and stakeholders through the FSC website
- The common position of LWG in terms of decisions and recommendations made regarding livestock emergency matters will be disseminated through FSC platforms.