

## Press Release

### Live2Africa Stakeholders Define Intervention Areas along Selected Regional Priority Livestock Value Chains

**1<sup>st</sup> August 2019, Nairobi, Kenya** - The critical role of Livestock Value Chains (LVCs) in achieving the agricultural transformation agenda is being demonstrated through the Live2Africa – an initiative of the African Union’s InterAfrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR), with funding from the European Union.

Under this initiative, a Stocktaking workshop will be held in Cairo, Egypt from 5-8 August 2019. Under the theme *‘Catalytic Actions to Boost Equitable Growth’*, the workshop aims to define intervention areas along six regional selected priority livestock value chains in relation to past, on-going and planned initiatives to deliver a comprehensive and coordinated programme.

A cross-section of over 200 participants comprising representatives from the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), the European Union and other donors, and several livestock sector actors will gather at the Safir Hotel, Dokki, Cairo, Egypt from 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> August 2019 to learn and exchange knowledge on LVCs. The Minister of Livestock Egypt, is expected to open the Stocktaking workshop. The Stocktaking meeting will be preceded by an Experts meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2019. The Experts meeting will aim to review the Six Desk Reviews of the Regional Value Chain Strategies and the Consolidated Stocktaking Conceptual Framework that will guide the Stocktaking process.

The process to defining the various intervention areas in the 6 selected value chains will consider several key factors. Firstly, the process will aim to build a holistic understanding of the chain to enable optimal performance within each value chain. Secondly, specific steps to establishing priorities for action will include preparing strategic options and identifying problems that should be solved by each regional value chain. It is through the stocktaking exercise that a clearer picture indicating positive points, points requiring strengthening and improvements, including chances of growth and opportunities for each value chain will be discovered. At the end of the workshop the agreed recommendations to enhance the integration of results, programming and operations for a more cohesive approach to implementing the LVC interventions and actions will be communicated to all stakeholders.

In addition, another expected outcome of the Stocktaking Exercise will be to provide a structured opportunity to conduct a stakeholder and partnership analysis, and to identify opportunities for synergy, complementarity, enhanced strategic collaboration and stakeholder engagement.

The Stocktaking exercise is a follow-up from a consensus building Livestock Value Chain Prioritization Workshop that brought together a diversity of livestock sector actors from five regions. The meeting, which was held in Nairobi, Kenya from 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> February 2019, resulted in the selection of the five regional livestock value chains as the entry point for Live2Africa value chain work. A value added SWOT analysis conducted at the same Workshop provided an initial review of possible broad areas for intervention, which will form the baseline of the stocktaking exercise.

Using a value chain approach in the livestock sector, is no exception in contributing to livelihoods and food security of over 1 billion people around Africa, particularly the rural poor. The Stocktaking exercise comes at a critical point in the sectors performance due to the demand, especially for edible livestock products, that has increased (and is predicted to increase further in coming years) as a result of growth in domestic consumption and exports. Given the importance of paying attention to livestock

development challenges, a necessary action is the need for the right interventions. Supplying this growing demand as a pathway out of poverty entails that small-scale livestock keepers at the upper and middle levels of the pyramid are organised and have access to the necessary inputs, services and finance. Additionally, livestock keepers at the bottom of the pyramid, and even landless people, women and youth can also participate in livestock value chains as service providers, feed suppliers or simply workers with the sector.

The entire exercise will take into account the broader continental frameworks including the Malabo Declaration/ the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program, Agenda 2063 and the recently ratified Africa Continental Free Trade Area. The exercise will support the development of new activities and build on existing ones in the context of each selected livestock value chain.

The selected AU-IBAR LVC projects are designed to be inclusive and pro-poor. The Live2Africa intervention seeks to upgrade and improve the efficiency of LVCs primarily to benefit AU-IBARs target groups – particularly small-scale livestock keepers and the rural poor, women and youth. Through successful value chain projects, it is expected that the various target groups will become more dynamic actors in the value chain and benefit from: higher income levels, more stable income streams, and greater resilience to shocks induced by weather, disease or market fluctuations.

### **About Live2Africa**

Live2Africa, is a current programme being implemented by the African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR). AU-IBAR is a specialized technical office of the African Union. It was established in 1951 and was initially known as the Inter-African Bureau of Epizootic Diseases. Initially it was mainly concerned with rinderpest control, but its mandate was expanded to other major animal diseases in 1956 and finally to all aspects of animal resource development in 1970. The current 2018-2023 AU/IBAR strategic programme is focused on Animal Health and production as well as trade and markets. Live2Africa is funded by the European Union.

Read more: [www.au-ibar.org](http://www.au-ibar.org)

Find attached: Workshop Concept Note & Stocktaking Workshop Agenda

### **For more information, please contact:**

Prof. Ahmed A. El-Sawalhy, Director/Head of Mission,  
AU-IBAR; Email: [ahmed.elsawalhy@au-ibar.org](mailto:ahmed.elsawalhy@au-ibar.org)

Dr. Baboucarr Jaw, Chief Animal Health Officer,  
AU-IBAR; Email: [Baboucarr.jaw@au-ibar.org](mailto:Baboucarr.jaw@au-ibar.org)