



Sheep and goats at a quarantine station in Berbera, Somaliland

Standard Methods &
Procedures in Animal
Health Project

SMP ANIMAL HEALTH



AFRICAN UNION
**INTERAFRICAN BUREAU FOR
ANIMAL RESOURCES**

PROVIDING LEADERSHIP IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF ANIMAL RESOURCES FOR AFRICA

About AU-IBAR

The African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) is a specialized technical office of the Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture (DREA) of the African Union Commission (AUC). AU-IBAR's mandate is to support and coordinate the utilization of livestock, fisheries and wildlife as resources for both human wellbeing and economic development in the Member States of the African Union (AU). In support of livestock development in Africa, AU-IBAR supports Member States to coordinate and harmonize disease control policies, strategies and legal frameworks. The United States Agency for International Development East Africa Mission (USAID/EA), the development partner for the project, has the objective of Increased Regional Economic Growth and Integration and Increased Availability of and Access to African-grown Staple Foods in Regionally Integrated Markets.

Rationale

Livestock trade is currently constrained by differing animal health requirements amongst the Horn of Africa countries, uncoordinated disease surveillance and control programs, and unjustified livestock trade bans by importing countries. Clear, standardized procedures for disease control programming in exporting nations and for entry of livestock



Laboratory personnel going through quality assurance training



Traditional clan brand mark on camels

into importing nations removes barriers and obstacles, stabilizes and facilitates trade and builds confidence between exporters and importers.

The challenge is to design and execute disease surveillance and control programs that effectively address problems with a minimum of disruption and stress to the livestock, owners, and traders. Embedded within this challenge is the additional issue of animal identification for purposes of proof of ownership, documentation of veterinary interventions and tests, and management throughout the marketing system.

The Standard Methods and Procedures (SMP) project is an African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal resources (AU-IBAR) project

The application of coordinated and harmonized sanitary measures promotes free movement of livestock across national boundaries and enhances inter- and intra-regional livestock trade.

funded by the USAID with the overall objective of implementation of harmonized animal health regulations in the Greater Horn of Africa region. This will lead to an improvement in the ability of live animals and animal products to move within the region and also internationally.

SMP – Animal health will achieve the above objective through the following results:

1. Framework for surveillance and control of trade-related animal diseases established;
2. Laboratory testing procedures for the priority diseases harmonized in the Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD) region;
3. Standards for Regional quarantine stations established;
4. Technical and coordination capacity of MS and IGAD Secretariat enhanced.

Strategy of the SMP-Animal Health

- The SMP will build on the already existing disease surveillance, prevention, control, and laboratory testing programs, as well as protocols being used by national Departments of Veterinary Services programs;
- The intention of the program is to standardize procedures for detection of and response to specified trade-significant Transboundary Animal Diseases (TADs) such as: Rift Valley Fever; Foot and Mouth Disease; Lumpy Skin Disease; and Camel Pox, among others, so that the disease status of the importing nations is protected;
- Additionally, it will be designed to accept growth and revision as new technologies and/or improved disease control strategies become available;
- The SMP program will facilitate animal health certification programs by providing a foundation of disease control against which to certify.



Sheep and goats being loaded into a vessel at Berbera port, Somaliland for Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, November 2009

Objective Harmonized animal health regulations in the Greater Horn of Africa region developed and implemented

Geographical coverage: IGAD Member States.

March 2012 - September 2016 Project implementation period.

Stakeholders & beneficiaries: Livestock producers, traders, service providers (private and public), National governments, consumers.

USD 7,750,000
Budget

Implementing partner

Intergovernmental Authority for Development.

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