



AFRICAN UNION
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FOR ANIMAL RESOURCES



THE LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR AFRICA (LiDeSA)

2015 - 2035

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Transforming Africa's Livestock Sector for Accelerated Equitable Growth

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AFRICA (LiDeSA)
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The Roadmap to a Successful Livestock Sector

**Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture
African Union Commission**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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JANUARY 2015

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FORWARD

Livestock is central to the livelihoods of rural Africa and is strategically important to the continent's food and nutritional security, intra-African and global trade opportunities. The African livestock sector contributes between 30 and 50% of the agricultural GDP, and has the potential to deliver both the agricultural-led growth and the socio-economic transformation envisioned in the June 2014 AU Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Africa Agriculture Growth and Transformation for shared prosperity and improved livelihoods, which is part of the framework of the African Union (AU) Agenda 2063. This is reflected in the wide recognition by African policy makers of the need for enhancing livestock production in order to meet the increasing demand for animal source foods (ASF) by the increasingly urbanized African consumers.

It is becoming widely recognised that the alternative to increased livestock production would be the increased livestock import bills for many African countries. Moreover, the failure to transform the African livestock industry would adversely impact on the growth of the local industries, deny employment opportunities to the youth who dominate Africa's growing human population, reduce income for African livestock producers and other actors along the value chain, and result in loss in revenues, taxes and import income.

Recognizing the challenges and the opportunities, the African Union Commission (AUC) was mandated, through the decision of the Twenty Fourth Ordinary Session of the Executive Council (Addis Ababa in January 2014), to lead and coordinate the formulation of a Livestock Development Strategy for Africa (LiDeSA) that will transform the livestock sector by harnessing its under-utilized potential. This decision was based on the recommendation of the AU's Ninth Ministerial Conference on Animal Resources which was held in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire in April 2013.

Through a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the LiDeSA was developed through a truly African inclusive consultation process that reached out to experts from all African regions and stakeholders at the regional and national levels. It is a 20 years (2015-2035) strategy geared for addressing Africa's development needs and challenges. The LiDeSA is aligned to the ongoing regional strategies, policy frameworks and guidelines; and is coherent with Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) Frameworks and Agenda at the continental, RECs and Member States' levels. It is truly an African initiative, initiated and formulated in Africa, that embraces the "business

unusual” approaches and focuses on increased investments from both public and private sources for the transformation of the livestock sector for enhanced contribution to socio-economic development and equitable growth.

The challenge ahead is the implementation of LiDeSA. To that effect the AUC and its lead specialized technical entity, the Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR), are seeking for potential development partners from within and outside Africa, in developing programmes capable of putting the strategy into action to deliver the desired results and impacts. If implemented as anticipated, the LiDeSA will aid decisively in transforming the African livestock sector as a major contributor to socio-economic development, equitable growth and poverty reduction.

H.E. Mrs. Tumusiime Rhoda Peace
**Commissioner for Rural Economy
and Agriculture**

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The formulation of any strategy, later on a continent-wide strategy for the livestock sector aimed at embracing fifty-four African Member States, eight Regional Economic Communities and a variety of partners with varying mandates, is never a mean task. Above all, its accomplishment within a period of one year is a miraculous achievement to say the least. Thanks to the support, cooperation and commitment from various participants in the process, we now have a strategy for the development of the livestock sector on the African continent.

Utmost gratitude should go to the representatives of the Member States, the Regional Economic Communities and all other stakeholders who tirelessly provided their energies and expertise in debating and identifying the issues and solutions for the livestock sector in Africa. Special thanks go to the 10 experts, who under trying circumstances of time and resources, managed to conduct a quick and precise stock-taking exercise aimed at providing an overview of the livestock sector on the continent.

The commitment of the African Ministers responsible for livestock development to the formulation process in particular and the sector in general, amidst competing and equally important national interests, deserves the highest honor and accolades. Similarly, the commitment of the Members of the LiDeSA Formulation Guiding Group, ably led by H.E. Madam Rhoda Peace Tumusiime, Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture of the AUC, calls for utmost appreciation. The support of the AUC, through H.E. the Commissioner was impeccable and many thanks are due to them.

The timely and unconditional financial support of the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation to the formulation of the LiDeSA was a gesture never to be taken lightly. We wish to express our utmost gratitude to the founders and staff of the foundation for the great assistance they render to the process.

Lastly, I am deeply indebted to all staff of AU-IBAR for their tremendous commitment and efforts in coordinating and providing technical guidance to the process and ensuring that the desired results were attained.

To all, words do not sufficiently express the feeling of gratitude we harbour on behalf of the African Continent.

Prof. Ahmed El-sawalhy
Director AU-IBAR

I. INTRODUCTION

As a follow up on the decision of the Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held from 21 to 28 January 2014 in Addis Ababa (EX. CL/Dec.792(XXIV)), which among other items, requested the African Union Commission to lead and coordinate the formulation of a Livestock Development Strategy for the continent that will fast track reforms in the sector for the realization of its full potential, and to report to the Executive Council in January 2015. This decision was based on the recommendation of the Ninth Ministerial Conference on Animal Resources held in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, from 18 to 19 April 2013, on increasing and sustaining investment in the livestock sector.

The recommendation of the Ninth Ministerial Conference on Animal Resources was based on trends in the demand for livestock and livestock products in Africa, which indicate that by 2030 to 2050 the demand will increase two to eight fold due to various factors, particularly the increase in the human population in urban areas and increased incomes. Projections indicate that if the current scenario in the livestock sector (low levels of public and private investments and low sector growth) is maintained, the increase in demand will not be matched by a corresponding increase in production, leading to a critical shortfall in the supply of quality proteins of animal origin, with negative impacts on the food and nutritional security of many households in Africa. The alternative for meeting the increased demand will be to import the huge deficits expected. Consequently, this would increase livestock import bills for African countries, increase prices of livestock products, pose a potential crisis in food security, food safety and nutrition, affect the growth of local industries, deny employment opportunities to millions of youth, reduce income for African livestock producers, and other livestock value chains actors and lead to the loss of revenues from levies and taxes.

The livestock sector in Africa has the potential to deliver both the agricultural-led growth, and the socio- economic transformation envisioned in

the Malabo Declaration. Africa is endowed with enormous land, water and pasture resources, most of which are under-utilized and under-developed. Furthermore, most African livestock is raised on natural pasture and has the potential to attract niche markets if well promoted. However, the sector faces a various challenges that hinder it from meeting the rising demand for livestock and livestock products and from making a significant contribution to economic growth. Assessments carried out in the five geographical regions of Africa indicate that the sector is affected by various issues including deficiencies in breeds, production capacities, productivity, availability of quality land, feed and water resources, animal health systems and disease control measures, input supply and service delivery, value addition, market information and market infrastructure, competitiveness of African livestock products and in the application of and compliance with sanitary and phytosanitary standards. These are coupled with deficiencies in policy, legislative and institutional frameworks as well as the inadequate application of available technologies, knowledge and skills.

Most of Africa's livestock are kept by herders in extensive systems in the arid and semi-arid lands and smallholders in subsistence-oriented mixed crop-livestock systems. The majority of the livestock owners are poor and not commercially oriented. Furthermore, past investments, both from the private and public sectors, in the development of the livestock sector have been largely project-based and disjointed, with little regard to long-term institutional development. Moreover, private sector investments in the sector, which should drive accelerated and equitable growth, stimulate growth in other sectors and galvanize widespread socio-economic transformation, have been subdued by the lack of supportive policy environments, the lack of appropriate infrastructure and the non-availability of reliable supplies of essential inputs and services, thereby making the sector uncompetitive and thus unattractive to investors. With appropriate investment, the livestock sector stands to not only contribute significantly to accelerated economic growth but also to be a key driver for stimulating growth in other sectors, and for attaining the development goals of food and nutrition security, eliminating hunger, improving livelihoods and engendering resilience.

Notwithstanding, there are numerous examples of successful performance of the sector on the continent. These include the thriving beef sector in countries such as Botswana, Namibia and Swaziland, the growth and development of the smallholder dairy sub-sector in Kenya, the export of live animals from the Greater Horn of Africa to the Middle East (Djibouti, Ethiopia, Somalia and Sudan), the cross-border mobility and pastoral resilience in the ECOWAS region, the water use and conservation in North Africa and the successful eradication of rinderpest from the continent. These cases provide encouragement that the transformation of the sector on the continent is feasible.

In response to the decision of the Executive Council, the AUC, through AU-IBAR, led a joint multi-stakeholder process of comprehensive sector assessments, consultations and an in-depth situation analyses in the five regions of Africa. This culminated in the identification of the issues affecting the sector throughout the continent. These issues were crystalized in an Issues Paper that informed the formulation of this strategy.

As an integral part of the broader agricultural sector, the livestock agenda is guided by the vision and aspirations of the Accelerated African Agricultural Growth and Transformation Goals of the Malabo Declaration. This strategy is also informed by the CAADP results framework and will guide and assist countries and RECs in formulating livestock investment priorities within their agricultural investment plans. It is also in line with the Agenda 2063, a 50 year strategy for the African Continent in all spheres of social and economic development. It will position the livestock sector as the key driver for delivering the desired 6% annual growth in agriculture in the AU Member States thus contributing significantly to national economic growth. It will also guide and mainstream stakeholders' efforts in addressing major development challenges facing the sector.

The strategy will also ensure coordinated actions at continental, regional and national levels, promote synergy in addressing critical issues facing livestock development and bring about tangible actions that will lead to the realization

of the full potential of the livestock sector to contribute significantly to food and nutrition security and sustainable economic development.

2. VISION, GOAL, STRATEGIC APPROACH AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

2.1 Vision and Goal

The vision and goal both resonate with issues of transformation, competitiveness and the sustainability of the livestock sector while contributing significantly to economic development, food and nutrition security and human well-being. The Vision Statement and Goal are as follows:

2.1.1 Vision

A competitive and sustainable livestock sector that significantly contributes to a prosperous Africa.

2.1.2 Goal

To transform the African livestock sector for enhanced contribution to socio-economic development and equitable growth.

2.2 The Strategic Approach and Broad Strategies

The transformation of the sector through significant investments to enable the effective resolution of the key issues that affect the sector underpins the strategic approach adopted. The envisaged goal of the strategy will be achieved if the prevailing subsistence livestock production systems are transformed into vibrant market-oriented systems by addressing the structural and functional challenges affecting the sector. This transformation agenda will be realized through increased investments by both the private and public sectors, to levels that will catalyze annual sectoral growth to 5-6% in order to reduce dependency on imports and maintain the trade deficits at the lowest possible levels.

The transformation of the sector will address the improvement of breeds, production capacities, productivity, availability and use of quality land, feed and water resources, health status, animal health systems, disease control measures, input supply and service delivery, value addition, market information and market infrastructure, competitiveness of African livestock products and

the application of and compliance with sanitary and phytosanitary standards. It will also address improvement in policy, legislation and institutional frameworks as well as the application of available technologies, knowledge and skills. It should bring about the gradual commercialisation of Africa's largely extensive livestock production systems in the arid and semi-arid lands and smallholders in mixed crop-livestock systems.

The CAADP Framework and Agenda call for a radical shift in the political economy of agricultural investment to make it more evidence-based, inclusive, participatory and results-oriented, rather than the “business as usual” practice of making technical investment decisions without necessarily linking the investments to the desired quality of economic and development outcomes. This approach ensures that investments are matched with the real needs of the sector and therefore, are designed to harness the sector's potential for equitable economic growth and sustained socio-economic development. It is thus crucial to ensure that this Strategy makes a clear paradigm shift in the approach to investment for the development of the livestock sector in order to ensure meaningful change.

The expected change will only take place if sufficient incentives are provided to the private sector to significantly increase investments in the livestock industry. The dramatic changes that have taken place in the livestock sector in some developing and emerging middle income countries highlight the crucial role of the private sector in driving the changes that have generated livestock revolutions in these economies. These encompassed the big enterprises, smallholders and the largely informal Small and medium enterprises (SMEs) that have a pivotal role to play in generating the needed change.

The primary role of the public sector, in addition to ensuring that public goods and services are guaranteed, will be to create the conditions for stimulating private sector investments in a sustainable manner.

This strategic approach is aligned to the Malabo Declaration on accelerated agricultural growth and transformation for shared prosperity and improved

livelihoods. This means that as commercialization efforts are supported for accelerated growth, fragile livelihoods in extensive production systems will also be protected and supported.

2.3 Guiding Principles

The implementation of the strategy will be based on the principles of subsidiarity, complementarity and comparative advantage taking into account the mandates and relationships of the different institutions involved. Transparency and mutual accountability will also be critical and mechanisms will be put in place to ensure adherence to these principles. Emphasis will be placed on establishing solid mutually beneficial partnerships among the various stakeholders at national, regional and international levels based on the experiences and lessons learned from the successful implementation of previous continent-wide programmes in the livestock sector.

3. STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED RESULTS

The Strategic Objectives that will lead to the realization of the Goal are as follows:

- i. To attract public and private investments along the different livestock value chains
- ii. To enhance animal health and increase the production, productivity and resilience of livestock production systems
- iii. To enhance innovation, generation and utilization of technologies, capacities and entrepreneurship skills of livestock value chain actors
- iv. To enhance access to markets, services and value addition

3.1 Strategic Objective 1: To attract public and private investments along the different livestock values chains

	Expected Results		The strategies to be employed
1.1	Priority value chains with comparative advantage at the national and regional levels identified, mapped and promoted	1.1.1	Mapping, analysis and comparison of value chains
		1.1.2	Selection of and targeting value chains with comparative advantages
1.2	The asset values, socio-economic benefits and potential of the livestock sector recognized	1.2.1	Re-assessment and documentation of socio-economic benefits
		1.2.2	Promote evidence based advocacy on the value and benefits of livestock
1.3	Public and private sector investment policies, incentives and regulatory frameworks to enhance performance of priority livestock value chains developed and implemented	1.3.1	Create enabling conditions and incentives to support private investments
		1.3.2	Develop specific investment frameworks for priority value chains
		1.3.3	Promote and establish innovative funding mechanism in support of the values chains
		1.3.4	Improve intersectoral linkages and collaboration to enhance public funding and ensure infrastructural development to support livestock value chains
1.4	Safeguard mechanisms to minimize the impact of negative externalities on public goods are in place	1.4.1	Develop and implement policies that safeguard public goods against negative externalities

3.2 Strategic Objective 2: To enhance animal health and increase production, productivity and resilience of livestock production systems

	Expected Results		The strategies to be employed
2.1	Improved animal health systems and reduced impact of animal diseases	2.1.1	Strengthen veterinary governance, animal health systems and service delivery
		2.1.2	Strengthen and harmonize veterinary curricula and training
		2.1.3	Harmonize and apply veterinary and drug legislations, animal health and welfare standards
2.2	The impacts of animal diseases on livestock production and productivity, and public health minimized	2.2.1	Control and progressively eradicate priority animal diseases and zoonoses
		2.2.2	Support One Health and cross-border/regional coordination mechanisms for harmonization of disease prevention and control approaches aligned to the AU integration agenda
2.3	Genetic potential and performance of animals improved	2.3.1	Accelerate genetic improvement and access to appropriate, productive and resilient breeds that best match the production systems/environments mediated by innovative research and development, business, PPP and ICT
		2.3.2	Formulate and promote supportive, inclusive and integrated institutional and policy frameworks for the sustainable management of animal genetic resources
		2.3.3	Conduct inventory, characterization and innovatively utilize indigenous bio-resources (e.g. rumen and milk microbes, genes) with potential industrial and business application in African production systems
		2.3.4	Design and implement innovative and sustainable breeding and conservation programmes at national and regional level
		2.3.5	Develop appropriate and more effective delivery systems of appropriate and superior genetic material

	Expected Results		The strategies to be employed
		2.3.6	Develop and support inclusive community-public-private partnerships and business models for generation, implementation and delivery of appropriate genetic resources
2.4	Availability and access to quality feed and water enhanced	2.4.1	Re-characterization and assessment of the potential and comparative advantages of the different agro-ecological zones to best match production systems and environments at national and regional levels
		2.4.2	Securing access to natural resources (pasture and water) critical for livestock production at national and regional levels
		2.4.3	Formulate enabling and smart water subsidy, use and management policy frameworks and appropriate partnerships for water harvesting, storage, conservation, business models and reticulation of underground and surface water
		2.4.4	Feed resource inventory and development/revitalization of policies and systems for research and development of feeds
		2.4.5	Promote incentives, partnerships and delivery models for enhanced access to, multiplication and utilization of existing feed technologies
		2.4.6	Create an enabling environment, models and incentives for enhanced commercial feed production, processing, marketing and utilization
2.5	Intensification of livestock production systems Promoted	2.5.1	Mapping of high potential zones for intensification and development of appropriate models at national and regional level
		2.5.2	Develop an enabling environment to support, incentivize and build capacity for transition to more intensive production and for management of the external factors
		2.5.3	Innovative research and development in intensification systems, upscaling and improving dissemination of existing technologies

	Expected Results		The strategies to be employed
2.6	Climate change and variability risks managed	2.6.1	Promote mainstreaming of climate change and variability planning and development and adoption of appropriate technologies
		2.6.2	Promote early-warning disaster preparedness and response mechanisms for drought, floods and others
2.7	Measures for Social protection established and livelihoods diversified	2.7.1	Create an enabling environment for strengthening and harnessing social protection mechanisms and traditional social safety nets
		2.7.2	Create an enabling environment and incentives for diversification of livestock livelihoods and productive and sustainable exit/entry into alternative livelihoods
2.8	Environmental health and ecosystem services enhanced	2.8.1	Develop an enabling environment and promote innovation, incentives and partnerships to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, degradation and other negative impacts
		2.8.2	Create an enabling environment to institutionalize and generate incentives for enhancing livestock ecosystem services including biodiversity services, carbon credits, nutrient recycling and contribution to water recharge systems

3.3 Strategic Objective 3: To enhance innovation, generation and utilization of technologies, capacities and entrepreneurship skills of livestock value chain actors

	Expected Results		The strategies to be employed
3.1	Existing, relevant technologies adopted	3.1.1	Compilation of an inventory of existing technologies
		3.1.2	Disseminate and promote appropriate technologies through extension services
3.2	New technologies generated and utilized sustainably	3.2.1	Support and build capacity of research institutions
3.3	Traditional livestock Sub-sector commercialized	3.3.1	Mainstreaming entrepreneurship and livestock business and industry training into the education system.

	Expected Results		The strategies to be employed
		3.3.2	Formal training of livestock producers as farming professionals
		3.3.3	Creating awareness on market opportunities and providing incentives for market-oriented entrepreneurship.
		3.3.4	Promoting attitude/mindset change to catalyze commercialization of traditional livestock systems

3.4 Strategic Objective 4: To enhance access to markets, services and value addition

	Expected Results		The strategies to be employed
4.1	Marketing and value addition infrastructure improved	4.1.1	Promotion of innovative Private-Public Partnerships for infrastructure development Lobby for minimum public sector investment to stimulate public good services and open up marginalized areas Promote the Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) Concept
4.2	Value chain approach adopted by stakeholder/total value increased	4.2.1	Adoption and promotion of existing successful value chains development models Development, piloting and promotion of new evidence-based value chains Support and capacity building to enhance stakeholder organization (e.g. cooperatives,) and coordination Support and facilitate stakeholder participation in policy processes
4.3	Leverage on ICT to improve access markets, services and value addition enhanced	4.3.1	Promote partnership with ICT companies to develop innovations for livestock marketing, information sharing and other services including financial transfers, disease reporting and extension
		4.3.2	Strengthen public sector support and investment to create an enabling environment
		4.3.3	Promote incentives for value addition with commensurate dis-incentives for the export of raw commodities

	Expected Results		The strategies to be employed
4.4	Sanitary measures affecting animal health, food safety, public health enforced	4.4.1	Support capacity building and coordination mechanisms for sanitary enforcement at National, Regional, Continental levels
		4.4.2	Support advocacy and lobbying among stakeholders to enhance knowledge of and compliance to standards
		4.4.3	Support establishment of self-regulation compliance mechanisms through capacity building, cooperative development and public-private partnerships
4.5	Access to inputs and services improved	4.5.1	Promote innovative public private partnerships enabling private sector participation in the provision of services and inputs
		4.5.2	Create enabling policy environment and incentives to reduce the cost of inputs and services
		4.5.3	Promote local production and intra-regional distribution of essential inputs and supplies

4. SECTOR STAKEHOLDERS

The target groups for this strategy are the various stakeholders within the public sector and non-state actors (NSAs) that are actively involved in livestock activities, at national, regional and continental levels. These include:

- Private Sector Actors (These include private livestock value chain actors, who play a critical role in funding and implementing the livestock development agenda in Africa).
- Civil Society and Stakeholders Organizations: (At local, national, regional and continental levels with economic advocacy and policy lobbying functions).
- Public Sector Actors
 - » *National Governments*: The primary role is to establish the policy and regulatory frameworks for the sector, and to ensure their enforcement.
 - » *Regional Economic Communities (RECs)*: Play an active role in harmonizing the various institutional frameworks and trade facilitation instruments, thereby occupying a crucial position in facilitating intra- and inter-regional trade.
 - » *Other regional public institutions*: include sub-regional research organisations, and regional agricultural and livestock institutions.
 - » *Continental level*: African Union through the Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture (DREA) is directly responsible for the sector. Within DREA, three specialized institutions are entirely devoted to the Livestock sector (the Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR), the Pan African Tsetse and Trypanosomosis Eradication Campaign (PATTEC), and the Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Center (PANVAC)).
 - » *International/global Organisations*: A large variety of international and global organizations contributes to the development of the sector and will be involved in the implementation of this strategy. These include the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), World Health Organisation (WHO), World Trade Organisation (WTO), International Livestock

Research Institute (ILRI), French Agricultural Centre for International Development (CIRAD), World Animal Protection, International Union of Conservation of Nature (IUCN), World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and other similar organisations.

5. INVESTMENT AND FINANCING FRAMEWORK

The realization of the intended goal of the LiDeSA will depend on the level and quality of investments that will be allocated to the livestock sector. The traditional sources of funds for agriculture in general and livestock in particular are principally public budgetary allocations by governments, donor funds (bilateral and multilateral) and private sector investments, including those provided by farmers. New funding opportunities exist which could be beneficial to the livestock sector. They include investments supported by foundations and the African Diaspora.

6. ACCOUNTABILITY, MONITORING AND EVALUATION

This will ensure that the stakeholders in the livestock sector are committed to ownership of responsibilities combined with the obligation to monitor and report on the discharge of these responsibilities in ensuring the successful implementation and sustainability of the strategy, through a results-based management and decision making while ensuring a clear and logical basis for tying resources to expected results. The establishment of a continent-wide forum for sharing experiences and best practices, reporting on progress and discussing solutions to challenges that arise in the implementation process will be cardinal.

7. RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

7.1 Risks and flexibility

The slow economic growth in some Member States could compromise the availability of financial resources for investment in the livestock sector:

- The moisture distress and recurrent droughts in some countries are potential causes of crises that may affect the livestock sector and have negative impacts on the implementation of the strategy.
- The growing trend of natural resources degradation in some areas owing to unrestricted use could affect the development of the sector.
- Poor market linkages and their current exploitative nature may negatively affect the livestock farmers' production and incomes vis a vis the high prices for basic inputs.
- Regardless of the improvement of the production, productivity and quality, the Member States might fail to export live animals and livestock products due to livestock disease incidences.
- Institutional and political factors may have an adverse impact on the strategy organization and implementation.
- Some Member States might not prioritise LiDeSA activities, hence leading to low status of implementation or complete lack of domestication.
- Livestock occupies a low position in the prioritization of resources by the public sector

7.2 Assumptions

The assumptions for the successful attainment of the livestock strategies, result areas and objectives are well spelt out in the detailed Logical Framework for the strategy. The main ones are:

- The performance of the economy in the African region will continue to show a steady growth;
- Member States will increase their financial commitments and prioritise the agricultural sector (including the livestock sector) as outlined and agreed in the Maputo Declaration;
- LiDeSA will be mainstreamed in existing national livestock strategies and other existing Governments' operating systems;

- That the National Governments will be willing to fully participate in the implementation of the strategy;
- That there will be enabling environment such as political willingness, peace, security, macroeconomic stability and the rule of law; and
- That shocks from climate change, natural disasters and conflict will not significantly affect the process of implementation of the strategy.

8. MECHANISMS TO KICK-START THE IMPLEMENTATION

After the approval of the strategy, follow-up actions will be undertaken at continental, regional and national levels to ensure widespread awareness and acceptance of the strategy, the mainstreaming of the strategy objectives and results into regional and national sectoral policies and action plans and the consolidation of the support of national governments and development partners through resource allocations for implementation of the strategy at the different levels. A detailed monitoring and evaluation framework will be undertaken to ensure effective follow-up of implementation. In order to jump-start the implementation of the strategy, it is recommended that

8.1 The AUC to:

- ensure the wide dissemination of the strategy
- establish a broad-based stakeholder platform and launch the implementation of the strategy
- engage in high level dialogue with development assistance donor agencies to obtain buy-in to the goal and objectives of the strategy
- assist regional organizations and Member States in lobbying development banks, the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, Foundations, the African diaspora etc., to review their portfolios in line with the objectives and expected results of this strategy in order to increase allocation of funds to the livestock sector

8.2 At Regional level

RECs– to:

- establish coalition of the key partners and stakeholders, and agree on administrative and structural arrangements needed to facilitate and coordinate required actions
- convene regional workshops of key partners and stakeholders to develop plans of action to advance the implementation process
- review opportunities for costs sharing resources and the exchange of experiences between countries.

8.3 At National Level

Ministries and/or agencies in-charge of livestock to adapt and mainstream the suggested sector development strategies into national development policies and action plans so as to ensure coherence in policy and the allocation of public resources to jumpstart implementation.

National livestock institutions to:

- conduct national workshops to create awareness and disseminate the major tenets of the strategy
- develop different implantation scenarios for policy makers
- formulate projects and action plans with clear targets and performance indicators based on national priorities

CONCLUSION

The huge potential of Africa's livestock sector has not been harnessed to satisfactorily contribute to food and nutrition security, poverty reduction and socio-economic development. The absence of a coherent continental livestock sector development strategy, left most development efforts to ad hoc disjointed initiatives. The Livestock Development Strategy for Africa (LiDeSA) seeks to harmonize and coordinate interventions at national, regional and continental levels and create synergies for accelerated growth through mainstreaming of investments, policy and institutional reforms and enhanced production, productivity and competitiveness of the sector. The strategy focuses on key issues and supports long term investments in capacity development, institutional and policy environments. These measures aim at enhancing the sector's contribution to Africa's sustainable socio-economic development while supporting resilience, avoiding environmental degradation and limiting adverse public health impacts.

Further, the strategy promotes partnerships involving all actors addressing a common agenda. The strategy supports the private sector to leverage the costs of investment and to provide demand- driven cost-effective services, while focusing the capacity of the public sector towards developing and enforcing legislations and regulations that assure equity, food safety, hygiene and health. This Livestock Development Strategy therefore provides a broad framework to guide programming and project formulation, especially at the level of livestock owners, MS, RECs and continental bodies. Although the formulation of any strategy is a fundamental prerequisite, it needs to be accompanied by action plans that articulate detailed projects and programmes with the resources required to implement them in order to achieve the intended outcomes.



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