

SOLICEP — At A Glance

Geographic coverage

The Somali ecosystem comprises Somaliland, Puntland and Central/South Somalia as well as the Somali Regional State of Ethiopia, the North-Eastern Region of Kenya and Djibouti.

Implementation period

February 2008 – July 2010

Funding

- European Commission € 2.8 m
- AU/IBAR € 0.31m

Main partners

Veterinary authorities represented in the Somali ecosystem, FAO, Terra Nuova

Beneficiaries

Livestock producers, traders, consumers and service providers from public and private institutions

Goal

Poverty reduction and consolidated peace through sustainable equitable economic growth and

Objective

Improve the export performance of the livestock sub-sector

Synergies and complementarities

SAHSP II, SERECU II, LTMP and PAN-SPSO

Expected results

- Capacity of Somali institutions to improve access to international livestock market enhanced
- An accredited animal health certification system which is adapted to pastoral needs developed
- Coordination of animal health certification at regional level and between trading partners improved

AU/IBAR

The origins of the institution

Established in 1951 to study the epidemiological situation and fight rinderpest in Africa, the institution today bears the name Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources.

AU/IBAR is mandated to support and coordinate the improvement of animals as a resource for human wellbeing in the Member States of the African Union and to contribute to economic development, particularly in rural areas.

“AU/IBAR is a pan-African institution with roots dating back to more than 50 years ago, dealing with all aspects of livestock development in Africa”

AU/IBAR reports to the Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture (DREA) of the AU Commission, approaching livestock development from three strategic angles: animal health, animal production and trade and marketing of animal products.

African Union

Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources

SOMALI LIVESTOCK CERTIFICATION PROJECT SOLICEP



IMPROVING HUMAN WELLBEING
THROUGH ENHANCED ANIMAL HEALTH,
PRODUCTION, TRADE AND MARKETING

Contact

For additional information on the projects visit our website or contact the communications unit

African Union
Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources
Museum Hill, Westlands Road
PO Box 30786, GPO 00100
Nairobi/Kenya
Tel +254 367 4000
communications@au-ibar.org
www.au-ibar.org



SOLICEP—The Aim



SOLICEP stands for Somali Livestock Certification Project — a joint initiative of the African Union's Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU/IBAR) and the European Union.

Livestock certification

— a prime aim for IBAR to facilitate trade and marketing of Somali animal products

Goal

SOLICEP aims to reduce poverty and consolidate peace by contributing to sustainable equitable economic growth and regional integration.

Objective

The project strives to improve the export performance of the Somali livestock subsector by

- Establishing a credible and internationally recognized animal health certification system
- Building mutual trust between importing and exporting countries

Methods and approaches

- Driven by locally defined needs, priorities and objectives
- Participatory and iterative learning models
- Curricula based on OIE codes
- Accredited tools such as PVS

Livestock export — vital to the region

The Horn of Africa hosts the largest concentration of pastoral populations and their livestock on the continent. It has traditionally been an important outlet for live animals and livestock commodities originating from the internal dry savannah towards the Arabian Peninsula and beyond.

Livestock trade is vital to Somali pastoralists and a main source of revenue for administrations. Import bans for Somali livestock commodities as imposed in recent years by countries on the Arabian Peninsula continue to hit them hard.

Regaining market access faces the challenge of having to develop accredited animal health certification procedures that are suitable for mobile livestock production systems found in nomadic and transhumant pastoralism.

The intervention

Enhance the capacity of Somali public and private institutions to carry out certification

- Professionals engaged by Somali veterinary authorities will be trained to gain skills in animal health certification to adhere to international standards and requirements of trading partners.
- Staff of the authorities will receive additional training in using epidemiological data for decision-making purposes, notification of animal health status to OIE and veterinary authorities of neighbouring countries and trading partners.
- Funds will be available to finance initial investments into the formation of an animal health inspection system.

Setting up an animal health certification system

The system lives up to international standards, is recognised by trading partners and takes the unique circumstances of nomadic husbandry practices into account.

Improving the coordination of certification at regional level and between trading partners

Harmonization of certification procedures will strengthen the position in trade negotiations, promote trade and increased tax revenue contributing to food safety, security, regional integration and minimizing health hazards associated with unregulated animal movement.



Herding, trading and exporting camels, goat and cattle
— the backbone of the Somali economy



Outputs

Report on the state of Somali veterinary services using a recognized methodology and the performance of veterinary services (PVS)

Action plan and report on key investments

to strengthen all institutions involved in the certification process and to establish and maintain the certification system

Educational and awareness campaigns

to train professionals within veterinary institutions and sensitize stakeholders on the importance of accredited certification

Disease specific bio-security and traceability protocols

to be applied by private sector within defined zones and compartments

External quality assurance protocols

to be enforced by veterinary authorities to audit compliance with bio-security standards

Disease notification reports

to OIE and veterinary authorities

Web-based database

on animal health certification and trade at www.au-ibar.org

Job opportunities

for approximately 200 professionals