



COMMUNIQUE

SADC Regional Stakeholder Consultation Workshop to Refine Implementation Modalities of Catalytic Actions for Prioritized Regional Livestock Value Chains

Victoria, Seychelles

9th to 11th March 2020



BACKGROUND

1. The African Union-Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) in collaboration with the Southern African Development Community (SADC) conducted a consultative stakeholder meeting at the Berjaya Beau Vallon Bay Resort, Victoria, Seychelles from 9th to 11th of March 2020 to refine the implementation modalities of catalytic actions for the prioritised red meat and live animals Regional Livestock Value Chain (RLVC).
2. The meeting was attended by 31 participants from 14 SADC Member States (Botswana, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe), tertiary institutions (Stellenbosch University, University of Zambia, University of Zimbabwe), a member of the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research - International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), red meat and live animals industry - (the Lesotho abattoir and the National Emergent Red Meat Producers' Organisation (NERPO)) and staff from AU-IBAR.
3. The overall objective of the workshop was to: build consensus on modalities including, prioritised intervention and action areas, develop workplans and time-frames, budget and targets for implementation of defined catalytic actions under the SADC Priority Regional Livestock Value Chain of the red meat and live animals.
4. The specific objectives were to:
 - a) Review and build consensus on priority catalytic intervention actions as defined during the stakeholder stocktaking exercise and consolidated during the Project Steering Committee meeting.
 - b) Draft a Concept Note including workplan and budget along the priority catalytic intervention areas of the Regional Livestock Value Chain of the red meat and live animals.
 - c) Consolidate implementation modalities which include subsidiary complementarity and direct intervention by AU-IBAR.
 - d) Establish implementation approaches for knowledge management and communication.
 - e) Establish risks and assumptions, potential constraints and mitigation measures.

PROCEEDINGS

5. The meeting was chaired by Botswana. Representing the Government of Seychelles, Ms Alejandra Cubillos welcomed the participants to the workshop. She emphasised the importance of achieving the set objectives, including reaching a consensus on the implementation modalities and coming up with a Concept Note for the red meat and live animal value chain. She also noted that this meeting was coming at a time when Seychelles was developing its Livestock Strategy and enhancing some of its livestock value chains and would therefore benefit from the proceedings. On behalf of the Director of AU-IBAR, Dr Edward Nengomasha informed the participants that this workshop was a follow-up to the stakeholder stock-taking exercise conducted in August 2019 in Cairo, Egypt and was to define intervention areas along the Priority Livestock Value

Chains under the theme '*Catalytic Actions to Boost Equitable Growth*'. He also noted the agreement that each REC would develop a detailed Concept Note with priority activities, clear expected outputs and impacts, budgets, timelines, as well as responsible institutions to operationalize the support from the Live2Africa project. He emphasized that the task ahead of the workshop was significant especially that the catalytic actions of the chosen regional livestock value chain were expected to contribute to the improvement of the livelihoods of SADC livestock keepers and contribute to food and nutrition security as well as economic growth.

6. The proceedings comprised plenary presentations and group work. The participants were split into three groups and tasked to identify key areas of intervention considered priority by the SADC region from the presented three strategic areas. It was stressed to the participants that the key interventions should be implementable with tangible positive outputs before the end of the project in December 2021.
7. The groups deliberations generated the following key intervention areas:
 - a. Develop mechanisms to enhance market access at local, regional and international levels.
 - b. Develop approaches for conservation and utilization of natural resources and the environment.
 - c. Develop /Promote platforms/ hubs for knowledge, communication and information sharing at local, national and regional levels including the use of ICTs.
 - d. Develop a framework for Public Private Producer Partnerships (PPPP) in the red meat and live animals
 - e. Value chain.
 - f. Capacity building of stakeholders (both public and private sector) along the value chain.
8. Out of these intervention areas, participants were encouraged to further prioritize and to match the available funds from the project. Furthermore, it was explained that the process to operationalise incubation of selected agripreneurs at a Regional African Technology and Innovation Incubation Hub (A-TiChub) had been initiated at the Live2Africa project level. Earlier meetings of stakeholders from the SADC region had proposed Stellenbosch University and Tshwane University of Technology as potential institutions to serve this purpose. The participants endorsed consideration of these two institutions. After thorough deliberations, the participants came to a consensus on the following three priority interventions areas to be implemented for the red meat and Live animals value chains:
 - a. Develop approaches for conservation and utilization of natural resources and the environment.
 - b. Develop mechanisms to enhance market access at local, regional and international level.
 - c. Develop/ Promote platforms/ hubs for knowledge, communication and information sharing at local, national and regional levels including the use of ICTs.

9. The participants then developed a draft Concept Note (CN) for the region. The above-mentioned priority areas of interventions informed the development of the CN for the red meat and live animals value chains. The CN was drafted based on a template provided.

WAY FORWARD

The Concept Note will be finalized by the SADC region and submitted to AU-IBAR for funding under the Live2Africa project.

Victoria, Seychelles, 11th March 2020