



**Pro-Poor  
Livestock  
Policy  
Initiative**

# **Report of the Informal Meeting of African Institutions on Livestock Policy Making for Africa**

Rome, 8-9 March, 2005

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## ACRONYMS

AfDB	African Development Bank
AGOA	Africa Growth and Opportunity Act
ALG	Autorité autonome du Liptako Gourma
ASAL	Arid and semi-arid lands
ASARECA	Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa
ATR	Temporary Relocation Agency
AU	African Union
AU/DREA	African Union/Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture
AU/IBAR	African Union/Inter-African Bureau of Animal Resources
BRS	Banque regional de solidarite
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme
CAWH	Community animal health workers
CEDEAO	Communauté économique des états de l’Afrique de l’Ouest
CEWARN	Conflict Early Warning and Response Mechanism
CBPP	Contagious bovine pleuro-pneumonia
CILSS	Comité permanent inter-états de lutte contre la sécheresse dans le Sahel
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
CTTBD	Centre for Ticks and Tick-Borne Diseases
EAC	East African Community
EC	European Commission
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EISMV	Ecole inter-états des sciences et médecine vétérinaires
EPA	Economic Partnership Agreement
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FAO/IAEA	Joint FAO/International Atomic Energy Agency Division
FAORAF	FAO Regional Office for Africa
FEWS	Famine Early Warning System
FMD	Foot and mouth disease
GREP	Global Rinderpest Eradication Programme
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Authority
ICPAC	IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
ILRI	International Livestock Research Institute
LEAD	Livestock, Environment and Development Initiative
MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa’s Development

OIE	Office international des epizooties/World Organization for Animal Health
PACE	Pan-African Programme for the Control of Epizootics
PANVAC	Pan-African Veterinary Vaccines Centre
PATTEC	Pan-African Tsetse and Trypanosmosis Eradication Campaign
PMA	Plan for Modernization of Agriculture
PPLPI	Pro-Poor Livestock Policy Initiative
RECs	Regional Economic Communities
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SPS	Sanitary and Phyto-sanitary measures
SWALIM	Somalia Water and Land Information Management System
UEMOA	Union economique et monétaire ouest Africaine
WAEMU	West African Economic and Monetary Union
WHO	World Health Organization

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The informal meeting of African institutions on Livestock Policy Making for Africa was held at the headquarters of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in Rome 8-9 March, 2005. The meeting was attended by 28 participants engaged in livestock-sector planning and policy formulation from such pan-African institutions as the African Union (AU), New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), African Development Bank (AfDB), Regional Economic Communities (RECs) from selected countries (Uganda, Senegal and Zambia) and FAO officers (for full list of participants see Annex 1).

The meeting was convened by FAO's Pro-Poor Livestock Policy Initiative (PPLPI) to:

- Develop a common understanding of key policies and strategies for livestock-sector development in the major livestock keeping regions in sub-Saharan Africa
- Identify the main constraints to implementation of the key livestock sector development policies and strategies
- Define the role of the Pro-Poor Livestock Policy Facility (PPLPF) in overcoming the identified constraints.

The programme combined formal sessions of presentations by the delegates with working groups addressing specific topics of general importance that emerged from the presentations. During the formal sessions, the participants made short statements about: key policies and strategies for livestock-sector development, major constraints to their implementation and recommendations from the perspective of the pan-African institutions, RECs and individual countries. There was also a presentation by FAO on the Livestock Chapter of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) and the PPLPI.

## 2. OPENING SESSION

Samuel Jutzi, Director, Animal Production and Health Division (AGA), FAO welcomed the participants to FAO Headquarters on behalf of the Assistant Director General, Agriculture Department, Ms Louise Fresco and expressed his appreciation for their participation. He pointed out that the livestock production in Africa has not met the required development targets despite Africa being a continent with extensive animal feed resources. He observed that the 'livestock revolution,' a phenomenon that has characterized the livestock sector in other developing regions, was actually by-passing Africa. This is because of the biophysical/technical and agro-ecological constraints, and policy and institutional factors facing the sector. He reiterated the objectives of the meeting, which were timely because of renewed efforts to improve livelihoods and food security and to combat poverty in sub-Saharan Africa, and especially in view of the potential role livestock could play. Furthermore, the preparation of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) companion document of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) that includes a chapter on livestock also provides new impetus and interest for the livestock sector. He urged participants to seize the momentum to develop the livestock sector in Africa and looked forward to fruitful deliberations.

Mafa Chipeta, Director, Policy Analysis Division (TCA), FAO noted that the failure of the livestock sector to meet the development targets was no surprise in view of the lack of investment in the sector. The issue of promoting agricultural development goes beyond policies and institutions because eventually farmers have to make decisions as to whether it is worth investing in livestock. Since per caput consumption levels for livestock products are still very low in Africa, there is a need to go beyond self-sufficiency in planning so as to create a sector that produces enough to satisfy the demand for livestock products. A whole new dynamic is needed, especially with regard to interactions of the livestock sector with crop production, e.g. utilization of feed by livestock. He suggested that lessons should be derived from both past and present, especially in the light of the structural adjustment programmes undertaken by many African governments. In this context he wondered how the private sector could move into traditional livestock production, which is largely non-monetary, and hence saw the need to clarify the role of the public sector in supporting the livestock sector. He noted that the livestock sector is not really disengaged from the whole economy and this should be taken into account when discussing livestock policies.

Joachim Otte, Coordinator, PPLPI, FAO reiterated the meeting was timely because the CAADP has included livestock in its programme and because of changes at the African Union (AU), with the creation of the new Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture and the appointment of the new Director of the African Union/Inter-African Bureau of Animal Resources (AU/IBAR). He added that the meeting should provide all participants the opportunity to exchange information on each other's activities on the continent, and that although the agenda was tight, everybody could have a chance to speak. He informed participants that he would chair the meeting and Cheikh Ly, Coordinator, PPLPI West Africa hub would moderate the discussions.

### 3. SUMMARY OF PRESENTATIONS

Modibo Traore, Director, AU/IBAR outlined the importance of livestock in the economies of African countries and the challenges facing the livestock sector at different levels (sub-national, national, regional and continental). He gave the following objectives for the livestock sector:

- Assuring food security for African populations with high levels of self-sufficiency (through increased animal production and productivity)
- Alleviating rural poverty (through employment generation and increased income opportunities for agro-pastoralists)
- Promoting economic and social integration of the continent (making use of complementarities between countries and regions).

In order to achieve these objectives AU/IBAR envisage undertaking interventions in three key areas:

1. Increasing production and productivity
2. Enhancing trade in livestock and livestock products within Africa
3. Preparing conditions for access to international markets.

Implementation of livestock sector policies are constrained by:

- Biophysical constraints such as the presence of devastating epizootic diseases coupled with the low genetic potential of African livestock
- Poor adoption of technologies by traditional farmers
- Tariffs and non-tariff barriers to trade, including the diversity of sanitary standards and inadequate standards for livestock on the continent
- Lack of coordinated interventions by different actors coupled with unclear roles and tasks at different levels
- Weak African states that lack cooperation and a common vision
- Non-existence of strong professional organizations at sub-regional and continental levels
- Poor competitiveness of the livestock sector due to dumping

In order to tackle these constraints he recommended that there was need to:

- Improve animal disease control (through reinforcing cooperation between member countries, epidemiological zoning, and adoption of a common strategy to protect against the introduction of exotic diseases)
- Encourage conservation and genetic improvement of major local breeds on a regional basis
- Harmonize the position of African states and prepare for common negotiation platforms on the sanitary aspects of trade in animal products
- Enhance regional research programmes to elaborate appropriate livestock standards for the continent
- Harmonize interventions of partners and clarify the actor roles at different intervention levels.

Chi Lawrence Tawah, Senior Livestock Expert, and Marcel Bicaba, Livestock Policy Officer, African Development Bank (AfDB) discussed the objectives for the livestock sector, key policies and strategies, constraints to their implementation and recommendations at the pan-African, sub-regional and national levels. Their objectives for the livestock sector comprised:

- Enabling the sector to contribute significantly to poverty reduction, food security and enhanced well-being
- Economic growth through enhanced rural incomes of operators
- Savings from foreign exchange earnings by promotion of international trade in livestock and livestock products.

Key policies at pan-African level relate to:

- Trade policies
- Technology transfer
- Research and technology development
- Control of transboundary animal diseases
- Product quality
- Institutional policies.

They observed that the implementation of pan-African policies is being constrained by the lack of harmonized policies across countries and the weak infrastructure in most countries, which has led to uncoordinated efforts in combating transboundary animal diseases and disparity in regional research and development efforts.

In order to overcome these constraints, they recommended:

- Promotion of harmonization especially in sanitary and phyto-sanitary (SPS) standards and in combating transboundary animal diseases
- Training staff in the negotiating skills required in dealing with standard-setting bodies like the World Organization for Animal Health/Office international des epizooties (OIE) and World Trade Organization (WTO)
- Establishment of a pan-African institution to handle issues of livestock product quality and to address problems of technology transfer.

They observed that the key policies and strategies at sub-regional level principally relate to:

- Establishment and harmonization of regional trade policies,
- Strategic organization of livestock production chain (production, processing and marketing),
- Provision of transport and communication infrastructure within and across the region
- Provision of support to regional research and development structures.



Constraints to the implementation of these policies and strategies at regional level include:

- Poor organization of regional markets
- Non-exploitation of regional specificities (opportunities) for strategic livestock production
- Poor exchange of information between countries in the region due to the lack of transport and communication networks
- Poorly structured and funded regional research and development
- Weak transport and communication infrastructure.

In order to address the above constraints at regional level, they suggested that there was need to:

- Develop appropriate policies that take care of tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade
- Exploit the comparative advantage of each region/zone
- Strengthen transport and communication infrastructure so as to facilitate access to domestic and inter-regional markets.

These measures should be accompanied by a strengthening of regional research and development institutions and improving market information systems at regional level.

In outlining the policies and strategies at national level, they noted that these relate to the need for livestock to significantly contribute to addressing poverty and to:

- Strengthen institutional capacities, public-private partnerships, policies about privatization of services (veterinary services, inputs and outputs)
- Improve transport and communication infrastructure, organization and dissemination of market information and financing of activities in the sector
- Promote research, development and extension services
- Organize the production chain
- Empower gender
- Include livestock-environment interactions in national environmental action plans.

In discussing the constraints at national level, they observed that poverty reduction strategy papers (PRSPs), which are the main instruments for funding, were formulated without the involvement of key livestock players and hence livestock production hardly received any budgetary support as it is still traditionally perceived as a sector that does not require funding. In addition, the livestock sector faces poorly organized institutions, weakness in decentralization of services due to lack of motivation for staff to work in rural areas and weak, in most cases contradictory policies on privatization of services (grazing land, veterinary services, water and sanitation, etc). Poor infrastructure, an ill-defined training curriculum for livestock operators and the non-inclusion of women in the formulation of livestock policies were also noted as constraints.

In addressing these constraints at national level, they recommended the following actions:

- Increasing the awareness of the importance of livestock to the national economy and thus the involvement of key stakeholders in the formulation of PRSPs
- Encouraging governments and donors to support modernization of livestock production
- Developing a sound policy on decentralization and privatization of services including research, improvement of genetic resources, grazing lands, veterinary services, etc.
- Adoption of policies that encourage private-public partnerships in service delivery
- Revision of training curricula to include business skills, entrepreneurship, leadership and organizational skills, etc.
- Encouraging governments and donors to support the opening of rural communities in terms of road and communication infrastructure
- Involving women at every level of policy formulation and implementation
- Promoting systems, institutions and infrastructure that facilitate the access of the poor to quality financial services (rural lending, savings mobilization, etc.)
- Promoting sustainable management of livestock-environment interactions.

Aubin Sawadogo, Animal Resources Expert, Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) indicated that the aim of ECOWAS is to promote cooperation and integration through an economic union of West Africa. Its further aims are to: raise the living standards of the West African population, maintain and enhance economic stability, and to re-enforce the relations between member states in order to contribute to progress and development of the African continent. He further mentioned, that a common agricultural policy has been prepared that gives special attention to conservation, transformation and commercialization of agriculture, livestock, fisheries and forestry products. ECOWAS facilitates the access to regional and international markets and promotes the modernization of production systems.

He further mentioned that transhumance is specifically addressed through a programme assessing its ecological and socio-economical impact, looking at improving transhumance corridors and managing conflicts between pastoralists and sedentary producers. Constraining factors in the development of the livestock sector relate to:

- Increases in population, urbanization, poverty and malnutrition
- Inappropriate administrative and financial institutions
- Re-emergence of large pandemics/epizootics
- Degradation of the environment and natural disasters (drought, locusts, etc.)
- Unfavorable trade policies for developing countries including aggressive competition of cheap products on the world markets, tariffs and non-tariff barriers to trade
- Lack of a regional livestock policy and strategy.

He informed the meeting that ECOWAS was requesting member states to increase annual budgetary allocations to small-scale producers by 25% for the development of the livestock sector over a 3-year period through the creation of financing and support systems, and by reinforcing human capacities and value addition. He concluded by stressing the need for a regional information-sharing network on livestock

development, and to address: production, transformation and epidemio-surveillance, to monitor the nutritional status of animals and for genetic improvement and conservation.

Mousslim Maiga, Coordinator, Regional Special Programme on Food Security, Union économique et monétaire ouest Africaine /West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA/WAEMU) described the potential of the livestock sector in the UEMOA countries, which is yet to be realized because of inappropriate livestock policies. The common agricultural policy of UEMOA provides an opportunity as it includes livestock and fisheries and has as its objectives:

- Poverty reduction
- Contributing in a sustainable manner to food security
- Enhancing economic and social development of its member nations.

He informed the meeting that the UEMOA agricultural policy has the following entry points:

- Adaptation of the production environment through the identification of complementarities among member states, searching for regional market opportunities. Special attention is paid to regional agricultural development, addressing land-tenure aspects, coordination of agriculture research and promoting rural restructuring.
- Exploring the regional UEMOA market on agricultural production and resource management, while protecting the consumer and the producer. The activities especially relate to the harmonization of sanitary standards and market regulations. Transhumance is viewed as a shared public good, requiring a common approach.
- The inclusion of the UEMOA agricultural sector into regional and international markets is facilitated through UEMOA's representation of member states in World Trade Organization (WTO), European Union (EU) and ECOWAS trade negotiations. In addition, there is concerted regional effort on the meat commodity chain, the implementation of the Special Programme for Food Security and the harmonization of its legislation and inspection services.

He highlighted the difficulties in the implementation of the envisaged activities that are partly due to the lack of investment in the regional livestock sector. The fact that products of animal origin produced in the region are in direct competition with products from outside it represents a threat for local (subsistence) producers. As points for intervention he suggested the implementation of price policies and specific institutional policies as well as the promotion of appropriate technologies to enhance the production and marketing capacities of small-scale producers in the region.

Chungu Mwila, Director, Investment Promotion and Private Sector Development, Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) discussed the objectives, key policies and strategies, constraints to their implementation and recommendations at pan-African, regional and national levels. He observed that the broad objectives for the livestock sector include:

- Increasing the contribution of livestock to food security
- Income generation, employment creation and poverty alleviation
- Intra-regional and extra-regional trade
- Enhancement of rural crop production through use of draught power.

Key strategies and policies at pan-African levels should aim to provide:

- Appropriate technologies
- Technical expertise to states on animal genetic resources
- Animal disease control.

These are constrained by insufficient: home-grown technological development capacities, utilization of available animal genetic resources and animal disease control expertise. In order to overcome these constraints, he recommended strengthening/development of partnership and use of available capacities/expertise through pooling of resources.

At regional level he suggested development of programmes to control transboundary animal diseases and the facilitation of intra-regional and extra-regional market access as key policies and strategies. These were being constrained by insufficient harmonization of national disease control strategies and the presence of tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade. In order to address these constraints he recommended:

- Harmonization of SPS measures, including harmonization of surveillance, trace-back, emergency preparedness, risk analysis and certification systems
- Enhancement of transparency through regional animal disease information systems and peer review mechanisms
- Collective and synchronized implementation of disease control strategies
- Implementation of WTO rules and the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Agreement.

In discussing key strategies and policies at national levels, he considered reduction of the effect of animal diseases on productivity, utilization of animal draught power, promotion of local poultry production, securing grazing rights and access to water and promotion of domestic livestock markets, in particular in the rural areas as important. The achievement of these strategies is constrained by:

- Insufficient resources for effective delivery of animal health services
- Decimation of animal populations through diseases
- Insufficient animal genetic resource capacities
- Lack of appropriate extension services
- Inappropriate land tenure systems
- Insufficient rural demand for livestock and livestock products
- Insufficient motivation among rural producers.

In order to overcome the above constraints, he recommended a community approach to animal health services delivery through strengthening/formation of public/private sector partnerships, promotion of rural backyard poultry production, reviewing and adjusting land tenure systems and promotion of out-grower schemes.

Samuel Zziwa, Chief, Agricultural Development and Food Security Section, Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) outlined IGAD's new strategy for food security, which is to enhance the capacity of IGAD member states to achieve food security through closer regional cooperation in sustainable food production, marketing and poverty reduction. In achieving this objective, he considered the role

of IGAD as being catalytic, facilitative, advocacy, coordination and networking. IGAD is involved in a number of regional livestock programmes including:

- Livestock policy initiative (IGAD/FAO/EU) (yet to be operational)
- Livestock information system for feeds, animal health and markets
- Transboundary animal disease control (Pan-African Programme for the Control of Epizootics (PACE)
- Water harvesting in the arid and semi arid lands (ASALs) (pilot demonstration)
- Dryland management, including animal feeds
- Harmonization of zoonosanitary (and phyto-sanitary) standards (Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa, COMESA).

Implementation of regional livestock programmes is constrained by the lack of:

- Technical capacity to formulate and implement appropriate policies
- Information to support the policy making process
- Political will to support the traditional livestock sector
- Funding for the livestock sector
- A strong private sector to support the liberalization policies.

In order to address these constraints, there is a need for national governments to mainstream livestock in PRSPs . He hoped, that the establishment of the PPLPI, whose funding would be finalized soon, within the IGAD hub would address the constraints.

William Olaho-Mukani, Director, Directorate of Animal Resources, Uganda outlined the overall objective of the livestock sector, which is to increase the contribution of the livestock industry to national income, food security and people's welfare. Specific objectives include:

- Carrying out effective disease control
- Formulating and putting into operation appropriate policies, strategies, standards and regulations
- Promoting genetic improvement, animal traction, livestock research
- Delivery of services and improved marketing.

Key policies and strategies should comprise:

- Harmonizing policies, strategies and regulations for livestock production, disease control and trade
- Creating of an appropriate policy and institutional environment, with respect to liberalization, privatization and decentralization
- Encouraging national governments and regional organizations to promote private and public sectors to participate more in livestock development especially in aspects of production, disease control and trade
- Fostering bilateral negotiations and unilateral reductions of tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade.

He observed, that implementation of the above key strategies and policies at pan-African level was being constrained by:

- Weak/unstable domestic economies and political systems
- Inadequate or absent enabling economic environment
- Biophysical, technical and socio-cultural constraints
- Unfavorable policies from developed countries and multi-lateral lending institutions
- Inappropriate institutional settings.

In order to address these constraints, he recommended that there was need to:

- Assist national governments and regional bodies/organizations to harmonize livestock production and disease control efforts
- Provide economic and political support to individual countries, and strengthen links between them
- Encourage, through incentives, national governments to bring private investors on board and to develop integrated programmes that encourage private- and public-sector participation and investment in livestock development with clearly defined roles
- Support regional organizations to set up mechanisms for a continent-wide approach to such issues as protection of regional markets, disease control, animal production, information and data management
- Provide technical and political leverage and support to countries that are engaged undertaking policy reforms such as trade, disease control, production or service delivery
- Set up an institutional mechanism to assist member countries in policy development.

He noted, that the key strategies and policies and constraints at regional level were similar to those at pan-African level. He recommended setting up regional centres of excellence in areas such as: disease control, policy analysis and formulation to be accompanied by harmonization in training and joint development of regulations and guidelines (e.g. SPS) for the livestock sector.

In discussing key policies and strategies at national level, he said that the broad national development policy in Uganda was defined by the: Poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP), Plan for the Modernization of Agriculture (PMA), National Agricultural Research Policy (NARP), the National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS) and the Policy to Promote Strategic Exports. He listed livestock specific policies:

- National Policy on the Delivery of Veterinary Services
- Animal Breeding Policy and Act 2001.
- National Drug Policy.
- Dairy Master Plan (1993 Dairy Development Authority, DDA).
- National Meat Policy
- Hides Skins and Leather Development Policy (draft).
- Pasture and Rangelands Policy (draft).
- Animal Feeds Policy (draft)

- Tsetse and Trypanosmosis Control Policy (draft)
- Animal Diseases Control Strategy
- Animal Production and Marketing Strategy.

Constraints for the implementation of policies and strategies at national level were biophysical, technical and socio-cultural, production, marketing, poor institutional settings, lack of financial resources and poverty-related. In order to address them there is need to:

- Advocate increased funding to the livestock sector through dialogue with government and development partners
- Build appropriate technical and scientific capacity and improve infrastructure for livestock production, disease control and marketing
- Improve the enforcement of laws and regulations and review and revise laws pertaining to the livestock sector
- Encourage livestock farmers to treat livestock farming as a business through training and sensitization
- Improve marketing of livestock and livestock products through training, sensitization and encouraging formation of organizations for livestock farmers and traders of livestock and livestock products
- Operationalize the strategies for national livestock development and marketing and animal disease control to improve livestock production.

Peter Sinyangwe, Director, Department of Livestock and Veterinary Services, Zambia noted that the objectives for the livestock sector are described in Zambia's Livestock Development Plan (2000) and include:

- Enhancing the contribution of livestock to poverty alleviation through income and employment generation
- Achievement of national and household food security
- Generation of export earnings
- Provision of raw materials for industry
- Maintenance of the natural resource base.

A key strategy at pan-African level is trade in livestock and livestock products, which is constrained by lack of harmonized pan-African trade policies and standards and inadequate institutional capacities for tackling animal diseases and to regulate the standards and monitor the activities of para-veterinarians. In order to address these constraints at pan-African level, he recommended provision of technical and political support in trade policy reforms, including unilateral/multilateral reductions of tariffs and non-tariff barriers.

Key policies and strategies at regional level comprise fostering the exploitation of intra-regional economic complementarities and promotion of intra-regional trade through standard setting. There is also a need to deal with informal cross-border trade that is becoming increasingly important especially with regard to disease-control efforts. The constraints at regional level hence relate to: lack of harmonized trade policy reforms, lack of promotion of comparative advantage, and the presence of informal and unorganized cross-border trade. These could be addressed through harmonization of trade policies and organization of informal cross-border traders.

Key policies and strategies at national level include:

- Controlling diseases of national economic importance and promotion/facilitation of private-sector participation in disease and vector control, livestock production and health research and in the provision of livestock services
- Strengthening the capacity to deal with emerging and current public health issues and to ensure safe and wholesome food of animal origin
- Facilitating access to markets for smallholder producers.

Implementation of these above strategies is constrained by:

- Lack of financial resources
- Failure to streamline the roles of community-based organizations and the private sector in disease-control programmes
- Institutional weaknesses in service provision
- Disorganized informal livestock trade coupled with a lack of market centres and inefficiencies in the support industries
- Inadequate investment in rural infrastructure development.

In order to overcome these constraints, there is need to:

- Improve funding for disease control especially in emergency cases
- Update legislative environment for animal health intervention
- Strengthen human and infrastructure capacities
- Organize livestock trade, create livestock market centres and improve efficiencies in the support industries.

Cheikh Ly, Coordinator, PPLPI West African hub, Senegal, presented on behalf of the Ministry of Livestock, Senegal who were not able to attend the meeting. The activities that have been identified to contribute to poverty reduction in rural areas relate to improved food security, income generation and sustainable production systems. He informed the meeting that the Ministry of Livestock in Senegal has decided to focus on the intensification and modernization of livestock production systems, supporting sustainable pastoralist system and reinforcing food safety and animal disease protection, including development of livestock information systems. Main constraints identified included the lack of quality human and financial resources earmarked for the livestock sub-sector. Furthermore, institutional instability and isolation as well as the slow dynamics of producer organizations need to be addressed. As a direction for global policies for the livestock sub-sector, the privatization of livestock services needs to be reinforced and investment programmes based on access to basic services, accessibility of marginal production areas and enhanced marketing and production infrastructures in addition to the financing of production units need to be implemented. Concluding, he mentioned that other areas that needed attention relate to the activation of scientific research, implementation of appropriate legislation as well as reinforcing human capacities and institutions for the livestock sub-sector.



Seïni Ali Gado, Director General, Autorité autonome du Liptako Gourma (ALG), explained that ALG is a programme encompassing boarder areas between Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger, covering a total of 370 000 km<sup>2</sup>. Its overall objective is poverty reduction by providing special attention to food security, improving access to marginal areas, environmental protection and social development. Since its inception in 1970, ALG has been working on human health, water resource development, roads and telecommunication as well as the livestock sector that has been specifically targeted.

In the livestock sector, ALG has prioritized pastoralism/transhumance and is addressing issues of access to animal health services, water resources, marketing and capacity building for producer organizations. The development of rural markets and reinforcement of commodity chains is expected to further contribute to improving food security and promoting income generation, especially for women in rural areas. To date, ALG has faced a number of difficulties in the implementation of policies due to fragmentation of internal markets that leads to conflicts in commercial exchanges within the region. Furthermore, the many barriers to the trade of animals and their products and the lack of financial resources have hindered support of local production and access to local markets. There is a need to mobilize local organizations, the private sector, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and public institutions to formulate and implement policies that would benefit all the actors involved.

Zakary Rhissa, Policy Officer, FAO Regional Office for Africa (FAORAF) noted that after 70 years, livestock policies have still not been able to improve animal production in sub-Saharan Africa. On the contrary, Africa in the 1970s was self-sufficient in meat and milk while today imports are needed to satisfy local demand. He stressed the urgent need for a new strategy to make use of Africa's comparative advantage. Priorities include producing at low cost and generating income as well as creating employment especially for women and young people, thus creating hope for those presently without any prospects. The implementation of the NEPAD Livestock agenda will need to:

- Promote the control of transboundary animal diseases
- Reinforce capacity building, research and information dissemination
- Establish quality norms.

Investments in the livestock sector are further needed to promote and maintain the comparative advantage of strategies based on local knowledge. The PPLPI could play an important role in the exchange of experiences between states, private sector, developers and researchers in the livestock sector. In the West African region coordination in transboundary pastoralists' movements and resource exploitation require specific policies related to disease surveillance in addition to the sanitary control of imported products for the protection of African animal products. Often unnecessary administrative procedures, (illegal) taxes and insecurity at boarder crossings increase the costs of products making them less competitive.

Another area worthwhile addressing relates to the large-scale development of guinea fowl and ostrich production as this could represent new opportunities especially through the application of a micro-project approach. Action-oriented research, making use of local breeds and local knowledge could be a way of exploiting the potentialities of each agro-ecological zone. New actors in the livestock sector, such as the young, need to be prepared to become rural entrepreneurs to enhance the effectiveness of the sector.

Ahmadu Babagana, Director, Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture, African Union (AU/DREA) presented a paper entitled 'African Union Strategy for the Development of the Appropriate Livestock Sub-sector Policies'. He informed participants that the AU had spent the last 3 years working on a new vision and strategy for the period 2004-2007, i.e. 'An integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, an Africa driven and managed by its citizens and representing a dynamic force on the international arena.'

To this end, AU has since developed a strategic framework and action plan(s) for the period. AU/DREA is one of the eight departments, is headed by the Commissioner, Rosebud Kurwijila and is mandated by the African Heads of State to:

- Contribute to the development of rural economy
- Improve livelihoods through increased agricultural productivity
- Enhance the use of natural resources.

The vision of AU/DREA was an Africa free of hunger and poverty beyond 2015 and its mission is to work with member states, regional economic communities (RECs), civil society, the private sector and development partners to reverse the poor state of rural economies in order to improve the livelihoods of African people. The core functions of AU/DREA include:

- Improvement of production and productivity for crops, animals and fisheries
- Sustainable development and management of natural resources
- Diversification of rural economy
- Capacity building and knowledge management
- Contributing towards expansion of domestic and international trade for agricultural products
- Enhancing institutional capacities for rural development and facilitation
- Follow-up programme implementation and evaluation.

The strategy of AU/DREA for the development of the livestock and fisheries sub-sectors is to:

- Facilitate development and harmonize policies for improved livestock and fisheries production and marketing
- Promote cooperation on transboundary diseases and pest control
- Mobilize efforts for the eradication of tsetse and trypanosomosis from Africa
- Promote drought-mitigation programmes for improved livestock, fisheries and pasture management
- Promote investment in livestock and fisheries
- Promote value-added processing of products

AU/DREA houses several livestock organs:

- Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (IBAR)
- Pan-African Tsetse and Trypanosomosis Eradication Campaign (PATTEC)
- Pan-African Veterinary Vaccines Center (PANVAC)
- Inter-African Phyto-sanitary Council (IAPSC).

and works very closely with RECs in order to implement its strategies.

AU/DREA consider appropriate livestock policy as vital for all the levels (continental, regional and national), but there are the following constraints to its implementation:

- Lack of coherent policy or only 'paper' policies,
- Outdated or inappropriate policies,
- Absence of policy monitoring and evaluation mechanisms
- Weak linkages between national, regional and continental organizations.

In order to address this, the AU commission invests significant time and resources into institutional development and AU/DREA would soon recruit specialist and institutional development staff to operate at continental level. Furthermore, the AU/DREA intended to second specialist livestock staff to RECs, who will in turn build capacities of member states.

AU/DREA in collaboration with key stakeholders (RECs and member states) intends to develop continental-level livestock policies and institutions. Priority areas at regional level were likely to include:

- Public and private investment in the livestock sub-sector
- SPS Agreement and African export trade
- WTO guidelines and subsidized imports of livestock commodities into Africa
- Intra-regional trade
- Transboundary animal disease eradication
- Drought mitigation and access to water
- Continental minimum standards, e.g. professional education, processing of livestock products
- Genetic resource development and conservation

AU/DREA will also be involved in the collection and collation of livestock data in order to inform policy making at continental level.

Although there is political will for policy implementation and development at regional level, their implementation is constrained by the fact the RECs continue to lack both human and financial resources. Hence the AU/DREA will work with RECs and other relevant partners to seek the support of member states and development partners to develop joint policy and institutional development action plans. Priority areas at regional levels include:

- Fostering intra-regional trade
- Disease control and eradication
- Sharing of regional facilities and human resources
- Regional minimum standards e.g. on education
- Intra-regional use of crop bi-products to improve livestock productivity
- Coherence on public-private partnership for service delivery.

AU member states have advised the AU/DREA and its organ AU/IBAR that they are keen to develop their capacities in the policy-making process. Key policy issues at national level are:

- Incorporation of livestock components into the PRSPs and ensuring that the PRSPs have impact
- Investment in the sub-sector
- Strengthening of public-private partnerships
- Effective use of technology
- Service delivery and tackling production
- Marketing and strengthening of civil society's ability to influence policy.

With regard to implementation of policies at national level he recommended:

- Strengthening the capacity of government and partners to policy analysis and formulation especially on how to incorporate livelihood approaches and pro-poor policies
- Organization of fora to advocate, network and share information
- Enabling the proper participation of the poor in policy making
- Build the capacity for grassroots organization.

He concluded by stating that the actual livestock policy areas that will free Africa of hunger and poverty need to be identified or refined through sound policy processes and hence there is need to invest more in policy and institutional development at all levels. In this respect the comparative advantages of various levels (continental, regional, national) need consideration when determining policy areas they should each develop. Furthermore, there is a need to link national, regional and continental policy process to ensure coherence. AU/DREA and its organs (particularly AU/IBAR) have begun this process and seek closer collaboration with RECs, development partners and technical agencies.

Richard Mkandawire, NEPAD Agricultural Advisor in his presentation, 'The Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) as a framework and process' explained that the CAADP was a living document, validated and internalized by most stakeholders, and that livestock was embedded within CAADP. He described the challenges facing African agriculture indicating that the per caput food production has fallen in the last 40 years and that 200 million people were chronically under-nourished in Africa and 30 million required food aid in any given year. Hunger and malnutrition are compounded by a wide range of other catastrophes and the best practices in agricultural development are not being replicated in Africa. Hence CAADP is a framework for the attainment of the African 'Agricultural Revolution.' The mandate of CAADP derived from the NEPAD vision, goals and objectives and the leaders of the Group of 8 industrialized nations (G8) and other development partners have since declared mutual interest in working with NEPAD to accelerate agricultural growth and food security in Africa. CAADP was endorsed by the AU summit in July 2003 and adopted the Maputo Declaration on Food Security. CAADP is organized around four main investment pillars:

- Extending the area under sustainable land management and reliable water control systems
- Improving rural infrastructure and trade related capacities for market access

- Increasing food supply and reducing hunger
- Agricultural research, technology dissemination and adoption.

Livestock, fisheries and forestry sub-sectors are companion to the four main pillars. CAADP also has two cutting areas:

- Capacity strengthening for agriculture and agribusiness: academic and professional
- Training information systems for agricultural strategy formulation and implementation.

NEPAD does not implement projects and programmes under CAADP, this is the responsibility of RECs and member countries. However, the NEPAD secretariat's role is coordination and advocacy, resource mobilization and peer review and sharing of best practices. NEPAD has since held CAADP regional implementation meetings (RIPs) with COMESA and the Southern African Development Community (SADC). It would soon hold RIPs meetings covering the West and North Africa regions, with a wrap meeting in Ghana in April 2005.

The livestock chapter of CAADP was completed and validated, however, there is need to define a road map for its implementation and to identify early actions so that mobilization of resources could proceed. AU/IBAR will lead the implementation process, while NEPAD adds value through:

- Joint efforts in resource mobilization
- Facilitation of mutual learning and networking
- Facilitation of policy development, convergence and implementation
- Development of tracking system on budget allocation into agriculture, including the livestock sector.

He concluded by indicating that there was emerging support for CAADP since the African leadership has placed agriculture on the development agenda by pledging to allocate 10% of national funding to agricultural development within the next 5 years. In order to speed up the implementation of CAADP, NEPAD will facilitate the establishment of a CAADP support group in each of the RECs and make representations at continental levels, which include G8, financing institutions and the private sector.

Pius Chilonda, Livestock Information Analyst, Pro-Poor Livestock Policy Facility (PPLPF) presented the livestock chapter of the Comprehensive Africa Development Programme (CAADP) companion document that covers the importance of livestock and challenges, constraints and strategies for the livestock sector. The livestock sub-sector is estimated to account for over 50% of the agricultural capital stock in sub-Saharan Africa and contributes around 30% to agricultural GDP. It contributes significantly to food supply and nutrition, is a source of livelihoods to million of Africans and enhances productivity of crop agriculture by providing manure and draught power. Africa's livestock resource is estimated at 231 million cattle, 244 million sheep, 22 million pigs and 1,398 million poultry annually producing a total of 30 million tonnes of meat, 12 million tonnes of milk and 2 million tonnes of eggs. With the possible exception of poultry, the vast majority of African livestock are kept in traditional systems, with more than half of all livestock kept in the arid and semi-arid zones.

Overall, livestock production and productivity growth has not been sufficient to keep up with the demands of expanding populations, and has led to increasing levels of net imports of livestock products into Africa, currently valued at close to US\$2,258 million per year and projected to increase further. It is estimated that total livestock production would have to grow at an average rate of 4.2% per annum by the horizon 2015 to: meet the needs of the growing population, improve nutrition, and progressively eliminate food imports, while required annual growth rates for the individual components would be 2.5% for meat, 4.9% for milk and 4.4% for eggs.

A variety of constraints impact negatively on livestock production and productivity in Africa and must be addressed if substantial growth is to be achieved for the sub-sector. The constraints facing the livestock sub-sector fall under three categories:

1. Technical and biophysical (inability to provide adequate feeding to livestock, presence of animal diseases and poor animal genotypes)
2. Policy and institutional (malfunctioning institutional settings and weak implementation capacities of policies. Budgetary and institutional constraints hamper the provision of effective extension services, generation of new technologies by national research centers and effective delivery of animal health services. Limited access to markets coupled by the absence of functioning marketing facilities and conservation and processing infrastructure. Most livestock departments are often limited by weak policy making, sector planning and implementation capacities, resulting from inadequate human resources, the lack of accurate and detailed statistical information, and poor negotiating powers.
3. Specific agro-ecological zone-related (different agro-ecological zones present different potentials for expanding livestock production).

Strategies for improving livestock productivity and increasing the production of meat and milk will focus on the higher potential regions of Africa (the semi-arid, sub-humid and highland zones) and are directed towards: (a) mixed crop livestock systems; (b) pastoral systems; and (c) intensive commercial systems. The development strategy will require enhancing the input functions of livestock within crop-livestock systems so as to expand and increase overall agricultural production and productivity while promoting market-based livestock development by connecting rural-based livestock production with the growing demand in the urban centres. The priority actions require efforts directed at removing biophysical and technical constraints and policy and institutional reforms.

In the marginal areas (the arid and parts of the semi-arid zones) the focus must be the protection of pastoral livelihoods, preservation of rangeland productivity and prevention of land degradation, while for the humid zone, efforts will need to be geared towards the protection of the tropical rainforest.

Technology-based approaches need to be underpinned by policy reform and institutional strengthening. The fact there is increasing demand for livestock products particularly from urban centres means that priority should be given to improving the urban-rural linkages through efficient markets and that although targeting would be at country/regional level, a concerted effort is needed to make a difference.

Joachim Otte, Coordinator, PPLPF presented the PPLPI, whose overall goal is poverty reduction through policies and institutional changes using livestock as an entry point. The PPLPI was formerly operated through a central facility, the Pro-Poor Livestock Policy Facility (PPLPF) at FAO Headquarters, but has since selected five regional modules/hubs and focus countries in each region. The project is focusing on policy and institutional change because livestock sector policy in most countries rarely

favoured the poor, and institutions were not often created to be socially efficient but rather served the interest of those with the bargaining power to devise the rules. The overall purpose of the project is to strengthen the capacity of FAO member nations and international organizations to formulate (livestock) sector policies and implement plans that reduce poverty whilst managing the environmental risks. The scope of analysis that the project undertakes involves:

- Analysing the effects of existing policies
- Predicting the impact of policy changes
- Identifying opportunities for intervention
- Helping to formulate policies consistent with equitable and sustainable livestock production for different groups of producers and consumers.

The project has four main outputs:

- Increased awareness and consideration of the potential contribution of livestock to poverty reduction
- Portfolio of livestock-related interventions for poverty reduction
- Mechanisms for stakeholder representation and negotiation of policies and institutional changes
- Effective systems for livestock policy information, analysis, decision support, monitoring and evaluation.

The role of the PPLPF is to:

- Foster policy dialogue/promote pro-poor livestock policies at the international level
- Conduct cross-regional assessment of issues
- Standardize approaches and methodologies
- Coordinate and foster information exchange among the regional hubs and with other partners.

The five regional hubs will focus on policy and institutional changes at national and regional levels.

The project has a special focus on sub-Saharan Africa because of the high proportion of poor people and the potential role that livestock could play in the region. After explaining the elements of an ideal policy process, participants were informed that the project had chosen the following content issues:

- Role of livestock in economic development, poverty reduction and livelihood support
- Markets and market access (domestic and international)
- Access to livestock services (extension, health, artificial insemination, insurance, etc.)
- Pro-poor policies, policy instruments and policy processes

And in terms of process issues, the project had selected:

- Information management (information needs and sharing, decision support tools, communication strategies, and monitoring and evaluation)

- Instigating change (advocacy/awareness, stakeholder engagement, capacity building, establishment of fora).



#### 4. SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS, COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS RAISED BY DELEGATES

Richard Mkandawire, NEPAD Agriculture Adviser - noted that Africa has a reputation of consultation on issues and that there was need to focus on outcomes that will render credibility to the livestock sector. He wondered whether the meeting could begin identifying early actions, defining a road map for the livestock sector and identify pro-poor success stories on the ground that could be replicated.

Zakary Rhissa, FAO Regional Policy Officer - observed that the presentations raised fundamental issues such as dumping, poor genetic resources, trade etc. and that there was a need to find solutions for them in order to raise the incomes of farmers.

William Olaho-Mukani, Director, Directorate of Animal Resources, Uganda - noted that most of the issues raised showed that livestock are important and that the constraints could be tackled through significant financial investments. However, there was a need to raise awareness of the importance of livestock so that national governments, donors etc. could allocate resources into the sector.

Seini Ali Gado, Director General, ALG - noted that there was confusion of roles and non-definition of tasks by different players in the livestock sector, and hence there was need to harmonize the activities of the different actors. He also mentioned the challenge of linking policies with programmes in the field.

William Odwongo, Director, Plan for Modernization of Agriculture (PMA), Uganda - reiterated the crucial importance of selling the importance of the livestock sector to policy makers and added that there were a number of interventions that could be put into place such as: promotion of livestock linked to crop production, monitoring and evaluation systems, reaching agreement on what could be done in the short term, medium and long term, hence the issue of prioritization.

Achilles Costales, Livestock Economist, PPLPI - observed that transport costs in Africa were so high that livestock farmers obtained low profit margins, so there is a need to invest in physical infrastructure and to examine institutions that govern markets for livestock and livestock products.

Cheikh Ly, Coordinator, PPLPI West African hub - wondered whether there were any institutional links that have been put in place to avoid duplication and address the issue of institutional competition.

Marcel Bicaba, Livestock Policy Officer, AfDB - stressed the importance of taking into account the concerns of livestock producers in formulating livestock policies, especially in the preparation of PRSPs.

Peter Sinyangwe, Director, Department of Livestock and Veterinary Services, Zambia - wondered whether there was a forum for harmonization of policies by RECs, and if not, he urged the formation of such a forum for the harmonization of pan-African

livestock issues and wondered whether FAO would be willing to host such a secretariat.

Cheikh Ly, Coordinator, PPLPI West African hub - informed participants that there had been a PPLPI workshop 12-15 May 2003 in Ouagadougou that was intended to encourage the inclusion of livestock in PRSPs.

Chi Lawrence Tawah, Senior Livestock Expert, AfDB - noted that although support for the RECs has mainly been political, especially for the livestock sector, equipping the RECs with the necessary resources has been weak.

Ahmadu Babagana, Director, Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture, African Union (AU/EA) - informed participants that the absence of a forum has been of concern to the AU who decided that such an avenue for the RECs should be created. A protocol has been drafted and circulated to the RECs for comments.

Samuel Zziwa, Chief, Agricultural Development and Food Security Section, IGAD - informed the meeting that the RECs in the East African region meet often to coordinate regional issues and that there is a coordinating mechanism for that region funded by the EU.

Aubin Sawadogo, Livestock Programme Coordinator, ECOWAS - informed the meeting that the next Heads of State meeting of ECOWAS would address the need to increase the amount given for the livestock sector and the development of a common position regarding WTO/SPS negotiations.

Marcel Bicaba, Livestock Policy Officer, AfDB - commented that there was need to consider the type of livestock that would be promoted in either industrial or small-scale enterprises.

Zakary Rhissa, FAO Regional Policy Officer - emphasized the importance of credit schemes for the development of the livestock sector, in particular for small-scale enterprises.

Chi Lawrence Tawah, Senior Livestock Expert, AfDB - observed that poverty could not be addressed by simply focusing on the poor, but that there was need to focus on the less-poor so that they can generate jobs and employ the poor.

Modibo Traoré, Director, AU/IBAR - observed that that there are two types of livestock systems, i.e. traditional systems, which are very poor and generally low-resourced, and the modern sector that requires large investments.

William Odwongo, Director, PMA, Uganda - observed that as available resources are limited, there is need to make a choice of either supporting large-scale or small-scale farmers. He added that if small-scale farmers were supported and the necessary environment created, large-scale farmers would also be able to benefit.

Chungu Mwila, Director, Investment Promotion and Private Sector Development, COMESA - wondered whether there are enough statistics on the impact of dumping on livestock production.

Mouslim Maiga, Coordinator, Regional Special Programme on Food Security, UEMOA/WAEMU - informed the meeting that such statistics are available and show that the phenomenon of dumping has a negative effect on livestock production especially in West Africa.

Aubin Sawadogo, Animal Resources Expert, ECOWAS - observed that there was need for concrete actions/programmes to be initiated within the framework of NEPAD.

Zakary Rhissa, FAO Regional Policy Officer - suggested that as a strategy NEPAD should focus on negotiation for pan-African quality standards and capacity building.

William Odwongo, Director, PMA, Uganda - expressed his appreciation to the NEPAD Secretariat for preparing the CAADP companion document that includes livestock.

Peter Sinyangwe, Director, Department of Livestock and Veterinary Services, Zambia - observed that although the African leaders had committed to allocate 10% of their national budgets to agriculture, there was need to consider how much of this amount would actually go to the livestock sector.

Samuel Zziwa, Chief, Agricultural Development and Food Security Section, IGAD - wondered whether gender issues were included in the preparation of the livestock chapter of the CAADP companion document.

William Odwongo, Director, PMA, Uganda - viewed the role of NEPAD principally as one of resource mobilization and peer review mechanisms, while the AU's is the coordination of policies.

Chi Lawrence Tawah, Senior Livestock Expert, AfDB - informed the meeting that AfDB would like to be involved in the CAADP programme in general and also in the livestock agenda of CAADP.

Chungu Mwila, Director, Investment Promotion and Private Sector Development, COMESA - commended the idea of regular consultations between FAO, AU/IBAR, AU and NEPAD, but suggested that there was a need to consider extending this consultation to the RECs, as they play an important role in the implementation of programmes.

Joachim Otte, Coordinator, PPLPI - observed that there was need for capacity building for trade negotiation in Africa, which the AU/IBAR could take the lead in developing and wondered whether the AfDB could fund the establishment of a trade negotiation facility for Africa.

Chi Lawrence Tawah, Senior Livestock Expert, AfDB - in response to Otte's suggestion, said that if AU/IBAR formulated a project for the trade facility, the AfDB would consider funding it.

## 5. WORKING GROUPS

After the presentations the meeting proceeded by forming three working groups: East and Southern Africa, West Africa and a smaller group that dealt with AU-NEPAD-FAO cooperation. Considering any three of the four themes:

1. Trade in livestock and livestock products
2. Livestock health,
3. Intensification of crop-livestock systems
4. Protection of pastoral livelihoods.

The groups were requested to:

- Identify 'priority actions' to be initiated/issues to be tackled within 6 to 12 months
- Identify 'lead' institution(s) and role(s) in the above
- Identify on-going or pipeline projects that could support/serve as demonstration for the above.

### 5.1 West Africa Working Group

The group addressed themes 1, 3, and 4. Their findings and recommendations are summarized below:

#### *Theme 1. Trade in livestock and livestock products*

- There is a need for clear 'Rules of the game' of international trade and there is the problem of equity
- Most countries lack negotiation capacities
- Although there is much information available, there is still a problem of accessibility
- How can harmonized legislation be implemented?
- Local markets can play an important role and need to respond to local consumer demands
- Trade is often associated with high transport and transaction costs and regional and intra-regional trade could be further explored
- Improvement of quality and safety of local products (standards)
- Capacity building for inspection and standards
- Increase transformation for addition of value
- Small-scale traders need access to credit
- Mind-set: willingness to sell animals, does this favour consumer or producer?
- Competitiveness has to be addressed and the promotion of specific products (e.g. guinea-fowl) needs consideration

The following institutions were already involved on some aspect of trade in livestock and UEMOA/ECOWAS partnership

- UEMOA/ Comité permanent inter-états de lutte contre la sécheresse dans le Sahel (CILSS) control of unusual practices, problem of implementation
- Professional organization on livestock and meat (created by UEMOA)
- FAO (proposal for tariffs)
- Pressure groups for negotiation (e.g. cotton)
- Banks supporting value addition to livestock products
- PPLPI to structure available information and facilitate activities.

The following recommendations were made:

- Institutions can improve trade but there needs to be a political will for regional trade
- Marketing and transaction costs have to be reduced (fight against corruption)
- Good governance to create favourable environments
- Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Commerce to consider the importance of livestock trade
- Creation of pressure group for equitable exchanges (poultry, beef, dairy)
- West Africa to adapt tariffs, need for concrete proposals
- Adaptation of norms and standards (capacity building)
- Information dissemination (trade, legislation, standards).

### *Theme 3. Intensification of crop-livestock systems*

The group noted there were different stages of intensification, i.e. there are large numbers of smallholders but only a few large-scale commercial producers. In peri-urban areas there is a move towards various levels of intensification. The relevant issues are:

- Competitiveness and consumer preferences
- Need of investment for intensification
- Availability of resources, inputs and markets
- Delivery health services, access to credit
- Availability of animal feed as an important constraint
- Genetic resources and improvement of local breeds
- Lack of producer organizations and the need for their reinforcement.

The following institutions within West Africa are involved in the intensification of crop/ livestock systems:

- FAO-RAF-AGAP technical interventions, micro project models
- ECOWAS/UEMOA agricultural policies
- NEPAD integration of livestock
- AfDB financing.

The following recommendations were made:

- Examples of micro-project and credit provision to be disseminated
- Production poles to be identified
- Market access to be promoted
- UEMOA/Banque regional de solidarite (BRS)
- NEPAD approach to be developed on intensified mixed crop-livestock systems.

#### *Theme 4. Protection of pastoral livelihoods*

Relevant issues identified:

- Pastoralist systems are not valued
- Pastoralists often not involved in decision-making
- Integration of early warning and traditional systems can be integrated into drought preparedness
- Legislation, land-tenure/reserves, Code pastoral, management of transhumance (direct involvement of livestock keepers), new groups involved
- Some intensification evolving especially through dairy production
- Marketing needs to be addressed
- Health service delivery and re-emerging diseases need to be addressed. The sanitary mandate, privatization of services and the use of community animal health workers (CAHW) has been introduced. However its sustainability has not been fully evaluated and the legislation still needs to be adapted.

#### **Institutions**

- Link between the livestock ministries of different countries
- CEDEAO/UEMOA
- ALG
- FAO

#### **Recommendations:**

- Awareness needs to be created and good examples/practices disseminated by PPLPI/ Livestock, Environment and Development Initiative (LEAD)
- Delivery of services to cater for pastoralist areas further facilitated (OIE, PACE)
- Political and economical issues of pastoralism need to be clearly explored and addressed
- Pastoralism should be included explicitly in CAADP/NEPAD
- AU to develop a vision for pastoralism at pan-African level
- ALG is an ongoing programme and represents an opportunity for testing interventions (LEAD/PPLPI)

- CEDEAO/UEMOA/FAORAF to regulate transboundary movement
- UEMOA to enable privatization/sanitary mandate through harmonized legislation.

## 5.2 Eastern and Southern Africa Working Group

The group addressed themes 1, 2 and 4. Their findings are:

### *Theme 1. Trade in livestock and livestock products*

- Priority actions needed at the international level: Building capacity for trade negotiations (including tariffs, subsidies, dumping, standards)
- Raising the prominence of livestock in trade negotiations.

The lead institutions at international level and their respective roles were identified as:

Institution	Role
WTO	Technical assistance
OIE	Technical assistance and standard setting
FAO	Technical assistance
AU/IBAR	Coordination
RECs	Coordination and facilitation
AfDB	Funding
Multi-lateral-bilateral donors	Funding

On-going projects/initiatives with regard to international trade in livestock and livestock products were identified as:

- Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) negotiations with EC
- Africa Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) by the USA
- Red Sea Trade Commission
- FAO's Umbrella II

Priority actions at regional/intra-regional level:

- Building capacity for trade negotiations
- Raise prominence of livestock in trade negotiations
- Regional harmonization and implementation of policies and institutions.



The lead institutions at regional level with their respective roles were identified as:

Institution	Role
WTO	Technical assistance
OIE	Technical assistance and standard setting
FAO	Technical assistance
AU/IBAR	Coordination
RECs	Coordination and facilitation
AfDB	Funding
Multi-lateral-bilateral donors	Funding

Examples of on-going projects/initiatives:

- FAO's Umbrella II
- East African Community (EAC) document on trade harmonization
- AfDB-financed COMESA project on agricultural marketing.

With regard to domestic trade priority actions identified were:

- Building capacity for trade negotiations
- Raise prominence of livestock in trade negotiations
- Updating national policies
- Developing infrastructure.

The lead institutions at national level are the national governments, private sector, NGOs, donors and FAO.

On-going projects at national level include the AfDB-funded Uganda National Livestock Productivity Project.

### *Theme 2. Livestock health*

The working group identified as priority actions at international level as:

- Development of strategies for the sustainable control of:
  - Transboundary animal diseases (e.g. rinderpest, foot and mouth disease (FMD), contagious bovine pleuro-pneumonia (CBPP), trypanosomosis)
  - Public-health related diseases (zoonoses)
  - Trade-related diseases (FMD).

The lead institutions at international level were identified as: AU/IBAR, Pan-African Tsetse and Tripanosomosis Eradication Campaign (PATTEC), International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), World Health Organization (WHO), AfDB, FAO, OIE, FAO/IAEA.

On-going projects at international level were identified as:

- PATTEC Projects
- PACE
- Global Rinderpest Eradication Programme (GREP).

Priority actions at regional/intra-regional level were similar to those identified at international level:

- Development of strategies for the sustainable control of:
  - Transboundary animal diseases (e.g. rinderpest, foot and mouth disease (FMD), contagious bovine pleuro-pneumonia (CBPP), trypanosomosis)
  - Public-health related diseases (zoonoses)
  - Trade-related diseases (FMD).

The working group observed that the institutions operating at international level were similar to those operating at regional level. The Centre for Ticks and Tick-Borne Diseases (CTTBD), Pan-African Veterinary Vaccines Center (PANVAC) and RECS were added to the list.

The list of ongoing projects at sub-regional level was similar to that at international level. PATTEC projects, FAO projects and EU projects were added.

At national level, priority action was identified as:

- Developing and strengthening strategies (including learning from positive experiences) for the delivery of livestock health services.

The lead institutions at national level are: national governments, FAO, private sector and NGOs.

The list of ongoing projects at national level was similar to that at sub-regional level, i.e. PATTEC Projects, FAO Projects, EU Projects, PACE and GREP.

#### *Theme 4. Protecting pastoral livelihoods*

The priority action with respect to drought preparedness was identified as:

- Development of strategies for drought management (grazing reserves, water resources, rights of passage, information systems, capacity building, insurance, diversification of livelihoods)

The lead institutions in drought preparedness in the region comprise: IGAD, RECs, ILRI, Association for Strengthening Research in Eastern and Central Africa (ASARECA), and the Famine Early Warning System (FEWS).

The following on-going projects were identified: ASAL-based projects, Somalia Water and Land Information Management System (SWALIM) project (FAO), AfDB-IGAD water harvesting project, IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC), etc.

Priority actions related to conflict management were identified as:

- Empowering local communities to peacefully resolve issues of land, water and other resources (parliamentary representation, land rights)

- Harmonization of various conflict resolution initiatives nationally and regionally.

The lead institutions in conflict management are: IGAD, AU/IBAR, NGOs and national governments.

The following were identified as on-going projects: Conflict Early Warning and Response Mechanism (CEWARN), IGAD and Panos/Oxfam projects.

Priority actions are:

- Adaption of veterinary legislation to accommodate the use of CAHWs
- Reviewing and sharing of best practices related to service provision in pastoral areas.

The lead institutions were: IGAD, AU/IBAR, national governments, veterinary associations/boards, private sector, NGOs, community based organizations (CBOs).

On-going projects identified are Community-based Animal Health and Participatory Epidemiology (CAPE) and PACE.

### 5.3 Working Group on AU-NEPAD-FAO Cooperation

This group included: Samuel Jutzi, Mafa Chipeta, Joachim Otte, Ahmadu Babagana, Modibo Traore and Richard Mkandawire. The group resolved that:

- There was need to continue exchanging points of view for better coordination between institutions, in this regard the group recommended that:
  - (i) FAO/NEPAD would share the latest version of the CAADP companion document with AU, EA and IBAR for comments before finalization and presentation to Heads of State (July 2005)
  - (ii) Each institution would draft 2-page briefs on ongoing/planned projects supporting livestock in Africa, e.g. EC-funded IGAD Livestock Policy Project (pipeline).
- There was a need to form a bi-lateral collaboration programme between AU-IBAR and FAO (involving the Animal Production and Health Division (AGA) and others). Specific areas of collaboration would include:
  - (i) Data collection and information management
  - (ii) Technical assistance in policy analysis and trade negotiation
  - (iii) Capacity building
  - (iv) Organization of fora/meetings to discuss livestock policy issues
  - (v) Regular consultation meetings between FAO, AU and NEPAD.
- There was a need for close cooperation between AU and NEPAD particularly in advocacy and resource mobilization for the livestock sector and in the identification of livestock success (e.g. smallholder dairy farms in East Africa), which could be replicated to other parts of Africa.

It was agreed that AU/IBAR be involved in the implementation of projects originating from the CAADP 'process.'

## CLOSING SESSION

The meeting was closed by Samuel Jutzi who thanked the delegates for participating in the informal meeting, which he considered a success. He observed that this was the time to raise the profile of livestock and noted that there was a window of opportunity. He urged the formalization of the CAADP companion document by July 2005. He said, that although this would close the gap, it would need to be complemented by convincing actions identifying early activities and successful livestock interventions that could then be scaled-up. This process would take time and hence the need for patience and lots of work. In doing so there is a need to ensure that the roles of all involved are well defined, and competition between institutions avoided. He further urged that the principle of subsidiarity be used in moving from the local, regional and international levels.

He noted that AU/IBAR was the only continental body dealing specifically with livestock and hence at a big advantage and that all present should work to help AU/IBAR succeed in its mandate. He welcomed the suggestion of a forum, which would help with the coordination and could be led by IBAR

He urged participants to capitalize on the NEPAD/CAADP process, which he viewed as an opportunity for advancing the livestock agenda in Africa. From the meeting proceedings, he observed that three priority areas emerged:

- Trade negotiation
- Livestock policy harmonization
- Legislation for land tenure.

He suggested, that there was a need to establish a livestock policy forum (or a negotiation facility) that could work on the harmonization of livestock policies and foster negotiation in trade for livestock and livestock products, possibly with a pro-poor approach.

## ANNEX 1: AGENDA

*Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> March*

09.15-10.00	Registration (Ethiopia Room) and coffee (Atrium)
10.00-10.20	Opening remarks JUTZI, Samuel, Director, AGA CHIPETA, Mafa, Director, TCA OTTE, Joachim Coordinator, PPLPF
10.20-10.40	TRAORE, Modibo African Union/Inter African Bureau for Animal Resources
10.40-11.00	BICABA, Marcel Livestock Policy Officer, African Development Bank
11.00-11.20	SAWADOGO Aubin Animal Resources Expert, ECOWAS
11.20-11.40	MAIGA, Mouslim Coordinator, Regional Special Programme for Food Security, WEAMU
11.40-12.00	<i>Discussion (LY, Cheikh moderator)</i>
12.00-13.30	Lunch (Indonesia Room)
13.30-13.45	MWILA, Chungu Director, Investment Promotion and Private Sector Development, COMESA
13.45-14.00	ZZIWA, Samuel Chief, Agricultural Development and Food Security Section, IGAD
14.00-14.15	OLAHO-MUKANI, William Director, Directorate of Animal Resources, Uganda
14.15-14.30	SINYANGWE, Peter Director, Dept of Livestock and Veterinary Services, Zambia
14.30-14.45	LY, Cheikh Coordinator, PPLPI West African Hub, Senegal
14.45-15.00	<i>Discussion (LY, Cheikh moderator)</i>
15.00-15.30	Break and refreshments (Atrium)
15.30-15.45	GADO, Seïni Ali Director General, Autorité autonome du Liptako-Gourma, Burkina Faso
15.45-16.00	RHISSA, Zakary Régional Policy Officer, FAO-RAF
16.00-16.15	<i>Discussion (LY, Cheikh moderator)</i>
16.15-16.35	BABAGANA, Ahmadu Director, Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture, African Union
16.35-16.55	MKANDAWIRE, Richard NEPAD Agriculture Advisor
16.55-17.15	CAADP - Livestock chapter CHILONDA, Pius Livestock Information Analyst, PPLPF

17.15-17.30	<i>Discussion (LY, Cheikh moderator)</i>
17.30-19:00	Reception (Indonesia Room)
<b>Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> March</b>	
08.30-09.00	OTTE, Joachim Coordinator, PPLPF The Pro-poor Livestock Policy Initiative
09.00-10.00	Working groups
10.00-10.30	Break and refreshments (Atrium)
10.30-11.30	Working groups
11.30- 12.30	Presentations by working groups
12.30-14.00	Lunch (Indonesia Room)
14.00-15.00	Plenary session, recommendations and conclusion
15.00-15.15	JUTZI, Samuel Closing remarks

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## ANNEX 3: LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT FOR SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA (BACKGROUND PAPER)

[Background paper for an informal meeting of representatives of African Institutions charged with formulation of livestock sector policies and development strategies held at FAO Rome, 8 and 9 March 2005.]

### Why focus development efforts on sub-Saharan Africa ?

Poverty is higher in most African countries than elsewhere in the developing world. In sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) 50 per cent of the total population or 300 million people live on less than 1 USD per day. Worse, the number of poor people has grown in the 1990s causing SSA's share of the world's absolute poor to increase from 25 to 30 per cent. SSA with 11 per cent of the global population, has an estimated 73 per cent of global HIV/AIDS related infections. So far 20 million Africans have died of HIV/AIDS, 10 million children have been orphaned and many families have lost their labour supply as adults have fallen ill or died (World Bank, 2002).

The prevalence of widespread chronic poverty and human disease is linked to the weak economic performance of SSA countries. While in 1970 SSA's GDP was higher than Brazil's, today it is only one fourth the size of Brazil's GDP. Unlike in other developing regions, Africa's average output per capita in constant prices was lower at the end of the 1990s than 30 years before and in some countries had fallen by more than 50 per cent. Africa's share in world trade has decreased since the 1960s and today SSA accounts for less than 2 per cent of world trade<sup>1</sup>. While developing countries in other regions have diversified, SSA remains an exporter of primary products (World Bank, 2000), lacking the capacity to add value to these.

In line with its share in total world trade, the relative share of African agricultural exports in world markets has fallen from 8 per cent in the period 1971-1980 to 3.4 per cent in the period 1991-2000 with the value of exports growing extremely slowly. Since the 1960s, imports of agricultural products have been rising faster than exports and Africa as a whole has become a net agricultural importer since 1980. Africa's dependence on food imports is highlighted by the food aid received by African countries. In 2000, African countries received 2.8 million tons of food aid, which is over a quarter of the world total (NEPAD, 2002).

There are a number of factors contributing to SSA's poor economic performance and the high levels of chronic poverty. These include: an economic environment that is characterised by a lack of investment in physical and human capital - SSA is the only major region with declining investment and savings per capita post 1970 (World Bank, 2000); high exposure to worsening terms of trade for primary products, adverse agro-ecological and climatic conditions, political instability and inter- and intra-state conflicts; poor health and the spread of HIV/AIDS; low population density; and finally a choice of inappropriate economic policies over the last decades. Among the latter are heavy implicit taxation of rural areas and overvalued exchange rates, undermining the export of agricultural products while promoting inward oriented industrialization.

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<sup>1</sup> Some of the decline in per capita output as well as part of Africa's declining share in world trade can be attributed to the long-term fall of real prices for the majority of primary products.

## Why focus on agriculture and livestock for development of sub-Saharan Africa ?

Poverty in SSA is especially prevalent in rural areas where an estimated 70 per cent or 210 million of the poor people live. According to current estimates the rural population will continue to outnumber the urban population for nearly three decades to come and is set to increase by nearly 60 million people (app. 15 per cent) over the current decade alone. Moreover, agriculture accounts for around 30 per cent of the region's GDP, 20 per cent of merchandise exports, and 60 per cent of employment.

The concentration of poor people in rural areas and their predominant involvement in agriculture means that for SSA rural well-being is closely linked to agricultural performance. Agriculture-led development is not only fundamental to cutting hunger and reducing poverty but also to generating economic growth, reducing the burden of food imports and opening the way to a moderate expansion of exports.

### The need to raise agricultural productivity

In most areas of SSA increasing productivity of farm activities will have the greatest potential for poverty-reducing growth, either through direct income benefits, indirect expenditure linkages<sup>2</sup> or through consumer benefits. Research has shown that about three-quarters of the variation in agricultural productivity in SSA is explained by the variation in use of conventional inputs, suggesting that there remains significant scope to improve productivity in many SSA countries through increased use of conventional inputs, particularly fertilizer, physical capital and livestock (Wiebe et al., 2001).

It follows that agricultural productivity is not primarily constrained by a lack of available technologies, or of investment in agro-industry or agricultural machinery and equipment, which would need a commitment of major resources, but rather can be enhanced with relatively 'low cost' inputs. Modern, input-intensive farming is unlikely to become economic in SSA, until rural infrastructure, markets and agricultural input supply systems have caught up. In the meantime small-scale farmers have to look for lower cost alternatives such as low external input farming technologies; for example mixed farming systems with integrated crops, livestock and farm trees (Hazell, 2001).

### The role of livestock

Roughly 70 per cent or 150 million of the rural poor in SSA are at least partially dependent on livestock to sustain their livelihoods (LID, 1999) Furthermore SSA has the largest area of permanent pasture of any continent, and the largest number of pastoralists (Ogle, 1996). Livestock production currently contributes about 35 per cent of agricultural GDP in SSA (and if non-food products and services were added this share would even be higher) (Ehui et al., 2002).

Livestock production can contribute to poverty reduction in various ways. It can increase food supply, serve as a source of income and a means for capital accumulation, generate employment and supply inputs and services for crop production. Further, non-market exchanges of livestock represent an important factor for social integration (Faye, 2001).

Through increased livestock production many poor smallholders would have direct access to more livestock-derived food items, which are prime sources of easily absorbable iron, zinc, and many other minerals as well as of vitamin B12, all essential for child growth and their cognitive development (Neumann et al., 2003).

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<sup>2</sup> For sub-Saharan Africa it has been found that adding USD 1.00 to local farm income potentially increases total income in the local economy on average by an additional USD 1.00 (Delgado et al., 1998).

Livestock and livestock products are the most important cash 'crop' in many smallholder mixed farming systems in SSA. Sales of livestock products such as milk, eggs and fibre generate a constant stream of income and the sale of live animals, meat and hides produce substantial sporadic income. Livestock also contribute to the stability of the incomes of farm households as they act as a cash buffer (small stock), a capital reserve (large animals) and as a hedge against inflation. The increase in weight of livestock over time and its reproductive capacity allow farmers gradually and continually to accumulate assets. Raising livestock is also often found to be more profitable than saving money in a bank (if at all available) as net annual returns from livestock are higher than interest rates (Slingerland, 2000).

In mixed farming systems livestock reduce the risks resulting from seasonal crop failures as they add to the diversification of production and income sources (Sansoucy et al., 1995). Livestock play a critical role in process of the agricultural intensification through the provision of draught power and manure. While draught animal use is declining worldwide this trend does not hold for SSA. Especially in areas where mixed crop-livestock farming is practised, increased use of animal traction can help intensification and contribute to higher output (Sansoucy et al., 1995). The integration of livestock and crops also allows for efficient recycling of crop residues and by-products as animal feed and the use of animal manure as crop fertilizer. Livestock farming, especially in the case of dairying, also generates employment.

Apart from their important role for the poor in rural areas, livestock have become increasingly important to the livelihoods of the urban poor. The urban poor engage in livestock keeping as a response to limited alternative livelihood options and food insecurity. Even though livestock keeping is usually not the main occupation of urban households, livestock often have an important role for income generation (NRI, 2002).

## Performance of the livestock sector in sub-Saharan Africa

The average annual economic growth rate for SSA in the period 1995-2001 was around 4 per cent, up from 1 per cent in the first half of the 1990s. However, even a growth rate of 4 per cent is only about half the growth rate required to make significant inroads in reducing poverty, which most studies show to be around 6 to 8 per cent (ADB, 2002).

### Production and consumption of livestock products

Although the production of eggs, pig meat and poultry meat in SSA tripled between 1970 and 2000, that of milk and mutton and goat meat doubled and that of beef increased by nearly 70 per cent, the increases in production were not big enough to keep pace with population growth. For beef, milk, mutton, goat, and poultry meat the per capita production actually appears to have declined between 1970 and 2000 (FAOSTAT). Annual per capita consumption of meat, milk and eggs in SSA in 2000 was only around 10 kg, 30 kg and 1-2 kg respectively, only about 40 per cent, 60 per cent and 20 per cent of the respective developing country averages.

Hence, the 'livestock revolution', the rapid increase in the aggregate and per capita consumption of livestock products fuelled by population growth, rising incomes and increasing urbanization, as experienced in developing countries in Asia or Latin America, does not have its counterpart in SSA.

Livestock productivity in SSA also remains low and average yields per animal in SSA are lower than those in other developing regions. Average carcass weights achieved are only 129 kg, 13 kg, 12 kg, and 48 kg for cattle, sheep, goats and pigs respectively, while average milk offtake per lactation amounts to 341 kg. In comparison to animal performance across all developing countries, these values merely represent 35 per cent in the case of milk of milk offtake, while carcass weights for pigs, cattle and

sheep are about 70 per cent, 80 per cent and 90 per cent of developing country averages. Productivity growth has been negligible over the past decades and for beef and milk, production per animal appears even to have declined between 1975 and 1995.

### **Trade in livestock products**

To bridge the widening gap between demand and supply of livestock products, net imports have grown steadily since 1970. Imports of meat, milk and eggs increased in all sub-regions of SSA, with SSA as a whole switching from being a moderate net exporter of animal products (mainly meat) in 1970 to a net importer by 1985. Between 1975 and 1995, total values of net imports of meat, milk and eggs in SSA increased from USD 4 million to 283 million (from around 0.05 to 2.00 per cent of the value of production in SSA). It is predicted that net imports will rise sharply over the next 30 years, with net meat imports being ten times higher in 2030 than in 2000 (FAO, 2003).

### **Prospects for the livestock sector**

Projections for 2030 show that although per capita consumption of food crops and livestock products will only increase modestly (meat consumption by 40 per cent, milk consumption by 20 per cent and egg consumption by 53 per cent) and only slightly exceed the levels of 1970, total demand will more than double between 2000 and 2030 as a result of rapid population growth (FAO, 2003).

As overall economic growth in SSA is likely to stay modest, in the absence of viable alternatives, this growth still offers opportunities for improving the incomes and livelihoods of the livestock-dependent poor. Perhaps with the exception of milk, the projected demand could be covered largely by in-country production, particularly if 'dumping' of livestock products and the Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) member countries' subsidies for livestock production and exports were phased out, as discussed in the latest round of WTO negotiations.

## **A window of opportunity**

After a period during which African governments and their development partners withdrew from many of the ineffective and expensive agricultural interventions pursued under earlier models of development, and declining shares of donor's lending for agriculture and rural development, a reorientation towards pro-poor and rural sector policies is taking place. At the global level the adoption by the international community of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) - which include the commitment to cut the incidence of absolute poverty in half by 2015 - is part of this re-orientation.

The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), founded in 2001 to overcome the marginalization and enduring poverty of the African continent, as well as the formulation of Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSP), which have now become the centrepiece for policy dialogue in all countries receiving concessional lending from the World Bank and IMF, are examples of the new poverty focus.

African countries and most institutional donors have subscribed to achieving the MDGs and to the NEPAD initiative. It is hoped that this will be accompanied by increases in funding for rural areas and in particular increased funding towards agriculture and livestock development. However, since in the many sub-Saharan countries livestock development falls under the Ministry of Agriculture, rather than having a stand-alone ministry, there is a danger that this sector is sidelined by the generally more powerful crop-based sectors, despite its high importance.

Especially in the PRSPs livestock have frequently been neglected - so far there is hardly any connection between the importance of livestock for any given economy and the significance attributed to it in national PRSPs (Blench et al., 2003). This can be explained by the fact that government representation in the PRSP processes has often been at the ministerial rather than at departmental level, thus effectively barring livestock's voice from the process. The absence of appropriate pressure groups, CSOs or NGOs with a particular interest in the livestock sector and a lack of pro-active behaviour on behalf of the livestock sector departments, may further explain the omission of in the PRSPs.

The same problem applies to NEPAD. Despite the fact that agriculture is identified to be a sector of priority for NEPAD projects and programmes, livestock is currently not explicitly mentioned in the policy documents nor are its potential roles in economic growth and poverty reduction, though this has been partly addressed by the recent elaboration of a short companion document for the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme, which covers livestock.

In comparison to Asia, the modernisation of agriculture in SSA will be slower and more costly to achieve per capita due to limited water control, greater agro-ecological heterogeneity, lower population density and less market access. However, there do not seem to be insuperable physical and non-physical obstacles preventing agricultural modernisation in SSA (Kydd et al., 2001). Moreover, other sectors would be more difficult and costly to develop with uncertain results, whilst the development of the agricultural sector can be achieved with relatively low cost inputs and with immediate benefits for the rural poor, that result from increased agricultural productivity (Delgado et al., 1998).

## Rethinking livestock development for sub-Saharan Africa

The history of agricultural development in Europe and North America shows that it was not primarily hampered by technological constraints, but that farmers were only willing and able to adopt existing technologies once an enabling policy and institutional environment was in place. Such an environment allowed them to access new technologies and reap the benefits of their adoption. This enabling environment is influenced by economic and institutional factors that are beyond the households' immediate control (Birner, 1999). Thus, in order to reverse the negative trends of livestock development in SSA, major institutional and policy reforms are required at national, regional and pan-African levels.

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