



Republic of South Sudan

MINISTRY OF LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES

South Sudan National Livestock Development Policy

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Foreword

South Sudan has huge livestock wealth and the per capita livestock ownership is among the highest in Africa. Livestock occupy an important place in the socio-economic welfare of the pastoral, agro-pastoral and mixed crop-livestock farming households. They provide a wide variety of services to their owners – food, employment, security and socio-cultural functions – just to mention a few. At national level, the livestock sector is conspicuous in terms of its contribution to employment with an estimated 80 percent of the country's population making a living from livestock rearing.

The livestock based resource is yet to be developed in order to improve the socio-economic welfare of the people and foster economic development of the country. Livestock productivity in South Sudan remains low and production largely subsistent. There is a huge deficit in the availability of livestock products across urban centres. The deficit is currently being met through imports. The government, through the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries (MoLF) intends to develop the sector to improve nutrition and food security, creating employment, realizing self-reliance in livestock products and increasing export earnings. Realizing these goals would require putting in place conducive policies for key stakeholders operating along the entire livestock production spectrum. This National Livestock Development Policy (NLDP), lay-down the policy leverages that the Government of South Sudan believes necessary to transform the sector. The MoLF acknowledges the technical and financial supports that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) South Sudan has provided to the Ministry in the course of the preparation and validation of the NLDP.

This policy framework intends to respond more appropriately to sector-wide issues in the changing context of South Sudan. The policy is aligned to South Sudan Strategic Vision 2040, the South Sudan National Development Strategy (SSNDS) and to the regional and international policy frameworks. The policy formulation process took structured and systematic approaches whereby the key challenges were identified through intense discussions with key livestock stakeholders. It is our ultimate objective that all stakeholders own the NLDP in order to ensure a strong and vibrant sector.

To address South Sudan livestock development challenges in a coherent, strategic and sustainable way, complimentary policy instruments, and implementation and evaluation mechanisms are provided in the NLDP. The Policy covers a number of policy areas including those within the domain of livestock productivity, marketing and livelihood development.

This policy framework is intended to be a living document that will be reviewed every five years to adapt to new challenges that may be posed by climate change, changes in resource availability, shifting security situation, or new opportunities in the market for livestock products in domestic and international markets. It is also anticipated that this policy framework will provide a guide for effective collaboration of actors in public institutions, the private sector and development partners towards the improved wellbeing of livestock value chain actors and the transformation of the sector.

Signed.....

Hon. Onyoti Adigo Nyikwec

Minister of Livestock and Fisheries

Executive summary

The National Livestock Development Policy (NLDP) is formulated within the limits of the national strategies and plans, and cognizant of the central place that the livestock sector occupies in the economy of the Republic of South Sudan. This is a sector which contributes to 36 percent of the agricultural GDP and 15 percent of the National GDP, and provides livelihoods for about 80 percent of the country's population. Viewed both in terms of numeric strength and species diversity, the livestock resource has considerable promise to address the challenges of nutrition and food insecurity, poverty and unemployment that continues to have a negative impact on the country. Despite such potential, the sector is not doing enough in the socio-economic welfare of the population and the country's economic development due to numerous constraints, one of which is the lack of national livestock policy. Therefore, the NLDP is formulated in order to leverage the policy constraints faced by the livestock sector.

The NLDP is structured in six chapters covering the following areas:

- 1) Chapter I – Introduction;
- 2) Chapter II – Need for national livestock development policy;
- 3) Chapter III – Conceptual frameworks;
- 4) Chapter IV – Policy areas, policy issues and policy statements;
- 5) Chapter V – Cross-cutting issues; and
- 6) Chapter VI – Policy implementation frameworks.

The NLDP process started with a stocktaking exercise, which involved the collection, grouping and analysis of relevant national strategies, plans and other livestock related national policies. Due consideration is also given in the stock taking exercise to the sub-regional, continental and global policy and strategic frameworks for alignment and compliance to relevant treaties, agreements, regulations, standards and norms. This is further complemented by consultations with stakeholders at national and state levels. The policy constraints were analyzed along with the entire livestock development value chain with emphasis on policy advantages that improve the livestock sector's productivity, value addition, commercialization and trade.

The NLDP is built on the Livestock Policy Frameworks and Strategic Plan of 2012-16 and targets the main livestock species namely cattle, sheep, goats, poultry as well as the country's honeybee colonies. The policy instruments featured in NDLP highlight the directions that the Government is prepared to take in order to address the sector's development challenges in a coherent, strategic and sustainable manner over the next 10-15 years. Essentially, the identified policy instruments provide a conducive environment for the critically needed private investment. To this end, the policy interventions that remove barriers and provide incentives vital to stimulate the involvement of a wide array of actors like livestock input and service providers, livestock traders, abattoirs, and manufacturers and processors are considered. Government actions with respect to the financing of the NLDP are also made clear. Furthermore, cross-cutting issues of relevance to the livestock sector, most notably those that aim to ensure gender equality, environmental health, increase resilience to climate change and many others were brought on board and properly dealt with.

The implementation of NDLP involves a wide spectrum of key actors and partners, though this is mainly the responsibility of the MoLF. The Ministry's main function in this regard is to make sure that the subsistence livestock producers and the private sector get the policy support necessary to transform the sector. The conditions believed critical for effective implementation of the policy are identified and the modalities of their executions are outlined. Issues of coordination, linkages and partnerships, and monitoring and evaluation in relation to the implementation of the policy are emphasized in order to encourage synergy and complementarity.

Abbreviation and acronyms

AI	Artificial Insemination
AU-IBAR	African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources
BSE	Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy
CAMP	Comprehensive Agricultural Development Master Plan
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
CCPP	Contagious Caprine Pleuropneumonia
CBPP	Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia
CBAHWs	Community-based Animal Health Workers
CPA	Comprehensive Peace Agreement
CBOs	Community-based Organizations
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FMD	Foot and Mouth Disease
HPAI	Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza
IGAD	Inter-Governmental Authority on Development
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoLF	Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
OIE	<i>Office International des Epizooties</i> (World Organization for Animal Health)
PFSP	Policy Framework and Strategic Plan
PPR	<i>Peste des Petits Ruminants</i>
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SPS	Sanitary and Phyto-sanitary Standards
SSDI	South Sudan Development Initiative
SSDP	South Sudan Development Plan
SSNDS	South Sudan National Development Strategy
SSASIP	South Sudan Agriculture Sector Investment Plan
TAD	Trans-boundary Animal Disease
WHO	World Health Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization

Terms and definitions

The terms and definitions given below are for the purpose of this particular policy document. It is intended to create clarity and avoid misunderstanding.

Artificial insemination – a technique for collecting semen from male animals, processing and depositing it into the reproductive tract of recipient female animals

Cattle rustling – cattle theft often accompanied with violence and the use of lethal force

Cross breeding – mating of animals of two or more breeds, lines and strains with an intention of improving the desired productive and reproductive traits

Ex situ conservation – the process of conserving an endangered animal species or breeds outside their natural habitats. It is implemented via number of strategies, e.g. captive breeding, or conserving frozen tissues, embryos, semen or ova in gene banks.

Exotic breed – an animal breed introduced from outside the country for the purpose of production or breed improvement programs

Indigenous animal breeds - animals adapted to a particular biophysical environment, selected over generations on the bases of preferred traits by a given community

In situ conservation –the conservation of species in their natural habitats where inbreeding or mixing with the population of similar species is prevented. This practice is regarded as the most cost effective and appropriate preservation method of the animal biodiversity resources.

Key ecological resources – dry season grazing areas, permanent and seasonal water points. The degradation or losses of these resources will compromise the entire pastoral production system.

Livestock industry – all livestock related activities carried out in the country to advance the development of the livestock sector

Nutrient dense feeds – feeds rich in one or more of the essential nutrients that are commonly used in livestock feeding to make-up for deficiencies or fed to animals in order to support desirable level of production

Pastoralism - system of livestock production and land use based on mobility of livestock in search of fresh pasture and water. It is a generations' perfected land use strategy for arid and semi-arid environment less suited to other forms of land uses.

Payam - 'the coordinating unit of a County which exercises delegated powers from the County' –the second lowest administrative unit in South Sudan, above Boma which constitutes a village

Sanitary and phyto-sanitary standards –World Trade Organization requirements that are used to determine whether to grant animals, plants or their products' access to global trade or impose protective measures to ensure food safety and prevent the spread of pests and diseases based on scientific evidence.

Toich grasslands – open grassland in low lying areas, which constitute important grazing resource during the dry season but get inundated by rainwater or flood and become inaccessible to grazing animals during the wet season

Trans-boundary animal diseases – highly contagious animal diseases that rapidly spread across national borders. These diseases can cause high livestock mortality with considerable socio-economic and public health consequences.

Zoonotic diseases – diseases that are transmitted from animals to humans and *vice versa*, and threaten human health

CHAPTER ONE

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Country context

1.1.1 South Sudan became an independent country in July 2011. It adapted a decentralized system of governance with three levels of governance – national, state and county level authorities. It covers an area of 644 000 km² (UNDP, 2012) and an estimated human population of 12.44 million (NBS, 2021) with over 85 percent of its population lives in rural areas. The large majority of South Sudanese are agro-pastoralists. The youth, which constitute 72 percent of the population, accounts for the largest share of the unemployed workforce (Southern Sudan Centre for Census Statistics and Evaluation, 2011). Lack of productive engagement in economic activities has decimated hope among youth and demobilized soldiers and militias. Cultural norms in South Sudan continue to contribute to the perpetuation of gender inequalities with men controlling productive resources and decision-making power, and women, who remain largely illiterate (80 percent), facing violence and abuses.

1.1.2 South Sudan relies heavily on an oil-based economy, with 80 percent of the gross domestic product (GDP) and 98 percent of the fiscal revenue derived from oil exports. The downturn in global oil price has affected the affordability of food and basic consumer goods that are normally imported from outside the country as well as the delivery of public services. The country loses huge amounts of foreign currency every year as a result of importing food items, including livestock products. The most widely consumed animal products are milk and meat. With urbanization and increases in income, the demand for livestock products is growing rapidly and this trend is expected to continue in the near future. However, for now, these needs are met by imports from neighbouring countries and elsewhere. The challenge is that the majority of livestock smallholder farmers remain poor and food insecure due to low productivity, high cost of livestock inputs, local market inefficiencies and shocks with the population living under extreme poverty standing at 65 percent; and over half of the population being food insecure (SSNDS, 2018).

1.1.3 Inadequate infrastructure in South Sudan contributes to high production cost and production inefficiencies, which is limiting the growth of livestock and agro-processing; therefore, reducing the competitiveness of livestock products. Some of these infrastructure constraints are the high costs of fuel, utility and telecommunications, electric power, and market facilities. Other constraints involve the restrictive amount of secondary and feeder roads in rural areas, which limits production during the rainy season.

1.1.4 Pastoral areas where most livestock products come from are geographically remote, drought and conflict prone, food insecure, with weak infrastructure and less developed service provision. These areas are sparsely populated and far away from markets. Several livestock diseases affecting food and nutrition security, and thereby of economic importance, are prevalent in pastoral areas.

1.2 Resource base and socio-economic profile

1.2.1 South Sudan is endowed with diversity of indigenous livestock genetic resources. According to estimates from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

(FAO), the country has about 11.7 million heads of cattle, 12.1 million heads of sheep, and 12.4 million heads of goat; but there are few statistics to support the number of other domestic livestock species distributed in considerable numbers over the states of South Sudan with the exception of the tsetse fly infested South-West Green Belt. The livestock data provided above places South Sudan as the seventh largest livestock holding country in Africa with livestock contributing 36 per cent of the agricultural GDP and 15 percent of the total GDP. On the other hand, South Sudan has the highest livestock to human population ratio in Africa. Despite South Sudan's abundance of livestock, the average consumption of animal-based protein is low and food security remains an issue. South Sudan, therefore, is neither self-sufficient in most of the livestock products nor able to earn significant foreign exchange from the livestock sector.

1.2.2 The Livestock breeds of South Sudan are classified as non-descriptive with unique adaptive and production characteristics. The productive and reproductive potential of these breeds is poorly understood due to lack of systematic characterization. Mixing of herds coming from different areas in dry season grazing areas and the attendant indiscriminate breeding is leading to severe genetic erosion. Given the socio-economic local tradition of equating wealth with the number, herders give less attention to the improvement of productive traits despite the obvious cost implications of taking care of low-producing animals. Some households in agro-pastoral and pastoral areas of the country practice beekeeping. Estimates put the current annual country production of honey and beeswax between 10 000 and 1 000 tonnes, respectively (SSAIP, 2013); though beekeeping is believed to constitute only a small fraction of what could possibly be produced in the country.

1.3 Role of the livestock sector

1.3.1 In the traditional system, livestock are kept for a variety of functions. They are sources of livelihood, food, cash income, investment and more importantly are kept to play important socio-cultural roles. The socio-cultural roles that livestock serve include prestige and status; bridal gifts, fines, and compensations; and communal feasts and sacrifices. Livestock also play risk management functions such as safety nets during times of crisis and insurance against crop failures during drought. Despite these multiple benefits, livestock are also associated with negative impacts on human and environmental health.

1.4 Current performance of the livestock production system

1.4.1 Livestock production system in South Sudan is predominantly pastoral and agro-pastoral and rely on extensive grazing of communally shared rangelands. Livestock mobility within the country and across national borders allows the use of diverse grazing resources. The country possesses a large livestock population well adapted to the environmental conditions, although the breed diversity and the economic traits of the indigenous animals are yet to be studied.

1.4.2 Livestock production and productivity are generally low and undergo marked seasonal fluctuations due to the seasonality of feed supply. Practices that stabilize the seasonal supply of feed and the use of nutrient dense feeds are largely lacking. Water is among the key ecological resources that affect animals' performance in the arid and semi-arid environments. Uneven distribution of livestock water in these areas leads to under-utilization of remote rangelands and heavy grazing pressures around permanent water points resulting in degradation of the rangelands. Since the use of watering troughs is largely uncommon,

existing livestock water-points experience serious water wastage and pollution and the attendant increase in incidents of common livestock diseases.

1.4.3 Livestock diseases of economic importance in South Sudan include trypanosomiasis, rift valley fever, foot and mouth disease (FMD), rabies, contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP), Contagious Caprine Pleuropneumonia (CCPP), and Newcastle disease. Most of these diseases are of a trans-boundary nature where the control and containment policies and strategies require strong collaboration with neighbouring countries. In addition to the above diseases, livestock survival and productivity in the country are seriously affected by internal and ecto-parasites, scours and reproductive disorders. Inadequate healthcare and sub-optimal animal health regulatory systems could also compromise the safety of local consumers and the competitiveness of the livestock industry in the global market.

Due to the shortage of trained animal health practitioners, limited number of veterinary health posts, poor disease reporting systems and key veterinary facilities, the current level of animal health service delivery in the country is very low. The poor road infrastructure and the mobility-based pastoral way of life have further undermined the accessibility of the animal health service.

1.4.4 Cattle camp based milk production is not suited for semi-intensive and intensive systems of dairying, which require high producing cattle, breeds. Good prospect exists in promoting small and medium-scale commercial dairying in urban and peri-urban areas using cross-bred or dual purpose breeds of cattle and goats. Feedlots, improved poultry farms, and piggery are also underdeveloped, which otherwise could improve the supply of animal-based protein to the fast growing urban population.

1.4.5 Pastoralist preference leans toward increasing livestock numbers and social status at the expense of maximizing economic benefits. In most cases, livestock marketing is driven by subsistence needs rather than market demand. That is to say, animals are not necessarily sold when the market price is attractive, but when there is a need for cash or when a drought hits. Despite this, pastoralists supply the bulk of livestock for South Sudan domestic meat markets where local administrations generate revenues through taxation of livestock destined for marketing. Livestock trekking from cattle camps to markets is the predominant mode of transportation in the country. Annual off-take from the national pastoralist herd is estimated at 10-15 percent. Hides and skins, honey, and goats and sheep are potential valuable export items. On the other hand, livestock are not well integrated into value chains, with as much as 80 percent of production being consumed directly by households. In addition, the livestock sector has a strong gender dimension in that women are greatly engaged in livestock production and management, and livestock-products marketing activities.

1.4.6 Conflict and insecurity including cattle rustling are disruptive to livestock activities, resulting in: losses of human life and livestock; displacement of communities; disrupting of access to and utilization of key grazing and water resources; and, reduced access to dry season grazing areas, market and trade. According to a study conducted by IGAD Centre for Pastoral Areas and Livestock Development, an estimated USD 2.7 Billion worth of cattle is lost to cattle rustling in South Sudan every year. This is believed to have affected livelihoods, and increased food and nutrition insecurity and poverty in the country. Cattle rustling are a challenge widely shared by the neighbouring countries in the sub-region with significant

pastoral populations. In 2008, this concern led to the signing of the Protocol, “Prevention, Combating and Eradication of Cattle Rustling in East Africa”.

CHAPTER TWO

2.0. Need for national livestock development policy

2.1 The policy and legal framework

The National Livestock Development Policy (NLDP) is consistent with the following national, regional and global documents.

2.1.1 Schedule C, Section 20 of the Transitional Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan, States that “The National and the State Governments shall have legislative and executive competences on pastures, veterinary services, and animal and livestock disease control”. This section underscores the importance attached to the livestock sector. Article 37, which delivers on the Economic Objective ‘poverty eradication, attainments of MDG Goals, and achievement of decent standards of life’, further reinforces this recognition.

2.1.2 The South Sudan Vision 2040 that came out in 2011 upholds a similar economic development vision and intends to foster national consensus, peace and economic stabilization. Among the seven pillars identified by Vision 2040, Pillar 2, which reads “Building a prosperous, productive and innovative nation”, has objectives with direct relevance to the agriculture and livestock sectors. The stabilization of the economy and sustainable management of the natural resources remain the core principles of the 2018 National Development Strategy (SSNDS) of the Republic of South Sudan. Poverty reduction, food security, eradication of hunger, economic diversification and export promotion are among areas given priority in SSNDS.

2.1.3 The sector specific agriculture and livestock plans namely the Agriculture Sector Investment Plan (ASIP, 2013), Comprehensive Agricultural Development Master Plan (CAMP, 2015), and the livestock related policies and frameworks, Acts and Regulations remain faithful to and in-line with the constitution and the national development strategies and plans.

2.1.4 The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), CAADP results framework, Africa Agenda 2063, AU-IBAR Livestock Development Strategy, AU Pastoralism Policy, and IGAD Livestock Policy Initiatives underscore the role that inclusive and integrated animal agriculture play in addressing the challenges of food and nutrition insecurity and poverty. Food and nutrition insecurity and poverty of the population in Africa were the central themes in these policy and strategic framework documents. Lack of engagement in productive livelihoods and the means to make a living are the underlying causes of food and nutrition insecurity, and the widespread unrest across the continent. The above policy frameworks show the considerable potential of the livestock agriculture to improve the socio-economic welfare of the poor and diversify exports provided countries invest in infrastructure and meet World Trade Organization (WTO) and Office International des Epizooties (OIE) regulations and standards.

2.2 Rationale

2.2.1 Accelerating growth in the livestock sector has remained a key policy concern in South Sudan. There is a need for a NLDP to grow the livestock sector beyond past experiences and failures, and use the sector as a means to realize the vision of promoting stability, food security and prosperity. The development of the sector is thus important to create jobs, realize self-sufficiency in livestock products and stimulate economic development.

2.2.2 Livestock remains central to poverty reduction, food and nutrition security, and equitable economic development. It is the main source of livelihood and employs nearly 80 percent of the rural population. Furthermore, it contributes to 36 percent of the agriculture GDP and 15 percent of the national GDP.

2.2.4 No significant effort has been initiated to develop the sector largely due to the lack of a long-term policy framework. To address livestock development challenges in South Sudan in a coherent, strategic and sustainable way, a policy framework with series of policy directives, implementation strategies and evaluation mechanisms is needed.

2.2.5 The Policy Framework and Strategic Plans (2012 - 2016), which developed by the then Ministry of Animal Resources and Fisheries, is due for a review. Most of the identified policies and strategies that are foreseen in this Framework mainly focus on technical aspects of animal health, production, extension, research and marketing. The NLDP intends to respond on key policy leverages, stimulating the development of the sector within the domain of the national development strategies. The NLDP is also informed by the regional, continent-wide and global livestock strategies and policy frameworks.

2.2.6 The NLDP duly considered key policy areas that are believed to trigger the livestock sector's productivity, competitiveness, commercialization and marketing. To this end, policy leverages that ensure the active participation of the private sector, women and unemployed youth, and increases the economic benefits to substance livestock producers from the sector are adequately addressed.

2.2.7 The policy analysis explicitly shows the huge potential of the sector to meet domestic demand for livestock products, supply raw material for local processing agro-industries and diversify the country's export earnings. In connection to this, the NLDP endeavour to nurture strong alignment and coherence across the three tier structures of governance and inter-state collaborations. These are necessary to effectively address the myriad constraints lying along the entire production-consumption chains and translate the sector's potential into reality.

2.3 Scope of the national livestock development policy

The policy addresses issues concerning livestock production and productivity, global standards and norms, value addition, marketing and trade, pastoral livelihoods, governance and institutional capacity, and cross-cutting issues. The policy framework describes the current situation and constraints and presents the broad policy objectives and detailed policy statements.

2.4 Guiding principles

The NLDP is premised on values and principles that enhance the social, economic and cultural interests of the nation. These principles are adhered to in the process of the policy formulation.

- i. **Equity:** To reach the poorest and minimize disparity on account of gender, poverty, disability, other forms of social exclusion and geographic barriers in order to make the policy pro-poor, pro-women and pro-youth.
- ii. **Complementarity:** To embrace complementary strategies such that the policy is linked to be supported by and complemented by other sector policy initiatives.
- iii. **Partnership and consultation:** To enhance operational synergies through partnerships with key actors in the livestock sector, academic institutions, private sector, state government authorities, professional and pastoral associations, NGOs, community-based organizations (CBO) and livestock producers, etc. Participation ensures committed contribution of all stakeholders.
- iv. **Subsidiarity:** To ensure responsiveness and decision making undertaken at levels where they can be consistent with practical considerations and institutional capacity.
- v. **Ensure good governance:** Such that the implementation of the NLDP is steered by transparency in decision making and credible authority, and to ensure financial and performance accountability.
- vi. **Professionalism and integrity:** Livestock workers and managers shall perform their work with the highest level of professionalism, integrity and trust. Integrity applies to compliance with international commitments, protocols and conventions to which South Sudan is a signatory.
- vii. **Coherence and responsiveness to change:** Entails that the Policy must be dynamic, responding to experience and changing circumstances. Coherence entails that the Policy should be consistent with global, continental and regional policy and strategic frameworks.
- viii. **Market integration:** That all programmes and activities should integrate markets to facilitate free movement of factors of production, goods and services as well as the promotion of regional specialization based on comparative advantages.
- ix. **Sustainability:** Focusing policy instruments on the sustainability of the use of natural resources. Sustainable development has to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs while increasing livestock production, productivity, value addition, marketing and other human activities in the livestock sector.
- x. **Value chain approach:** Focusing the policy instruments for enterprise development across successive stages of the commodity value chains for the development of livestock sector, namely input supply and provision of services, production, storage, processing/utilization, marketing and consumption.
- xi. **Promote no regrets development:** That NLDP directives and strategies should not contribute to further climate change impacts or environmental degradation but rather facilitate adaptation, risk reduction, sustainability and environmental integrity.
- xii. **Responsiveness to gender in livestock development:** The Policy recognizes the need for gender equality as a fundamental value in provision of agriculture services to ensure equal participation of all gender categories.
- xiii. **Building on the strength of previous policy initiatives:** The Policy builds on the national experiences in the implementation of various policy initiatives undertaken in the livestock sector in South Sudan, such as the 2012-2016 Livestock Policy Framework and Strategic Plan.

CHAPTER THREE

3.0 Conceptual policy framework

3.1 Vision

A nation where the livestock sector significantly contributes to food and nutrition security, productive employment and prosperity.

3.2 Mission

To transform the livestock and fisheries sectors into productive and competitive sectors of economy to ensure food and nutrition security, generate income and foreign exchange; create employment, and conserving natural resources. This is in order to grow the economy, reduce poverty and empower the local populations for sustainable development through promoting, regulating and facilitating the implementation of programs and projects using local strengths and wisdom.

3.3 Mandate

To be the lead public institution responsible for formulating, executing, monitoring and coordinating the Government of South Sudan Livestock and Fisheries policies and provision of goods and services.

3.4 Purpose of the policy

To provide the enabling environment, opening up opportunities, and reducing risks and vulnerability and tapping into the full potential of livestock sector to accelerate economic growth, reduce rural poverty, ensure food and nutrition security; with the private sector as the main actor and the public sector playing a facilitative and supportive role.

3.5 Specific policy objectives

The NLDP seeks to raise the profile of the livestock sector. For NLDP to effectively contribute to the national development, it should achieve the following objectives:

- i. To create a conducive and supportive policy environment with clear strategic direction to attract public and private investments along the different livestock value chains and to address the peculiar challenges and needs of pastoral communities.
- ii. To enhance animal health service delivery and regulatory systems for increase production, productivity, resilience and competitiveness of livestock production systems.
- iii. To enhance coordination and collaboration amongst relevant stakeholders and strengthen their capacity in provision of livestock services to achieve national self-reliance in animal products and food safety.
- iv. To ensure inclusiveness and sustainable growth in animal agriculture through mainstreaming gender, environment, climate change and other related issues.
- v. To enhance innovation, generation and utilization of technologies, capacities and entrepreneurship skills of livestock value chain actors.

CHAPTER FOUR

4.0 Policy areas, policy issues and policy statements

The key livestock policy issues and policy statements presented in this chapter cut across cattle, sheep, goat, poultry and honeybee as the main South Sudan livestock species. They are primarily drawn from the findings of consultation meetings with stakeholders held with key value chain actors at national and states levels, and were consolidated by the analysis of relevant national, sub-regional, continent-wide and global policy and strategic framework documents. Successful implementation of NLDP will help address the overlapping challenges hindering the development of livestock sector in South Sudan and serve as a road map over the next 10-15 years.

Thematic area A: Livestock production and productivity

4.1 Policy area: National livestock improvement

South Sudan is endowed with large populations of cattle, sheep, goat, and poultry species with marked breed diversity. These breeds, however, are neither accurately quantified nor properly characterized with respect to their genetic performances. Adequate knowledge of the local genetic resource is the basis for future improvement program that would help to develop the dairy, beef, and poultry industries. Moreover, knowledge on the indigenous breeds is important to develop appropriate conservation measures and the importation of improved breeding stocks, embryos and/or semen.

4.1.1 Key policy issues

- i. Lack of accurate database and information on population size, trend and distribution of livestock species.
- ii. Inadequate knowledge on the productive and reproductive potential and comparative advantage of indigenous livestock species.
- iii. Unregulated breeding and intermingling of animals under communal grazing areas with risks of genetic dilution.
- iv. Unplanned and sporadic restocking programs by several NGOs with risks of gene erosion.
- v. Shortage of high producing cross-bred heifers suiting the climatic and management conditions of smallholder producers.

4.1.2 Objective

To increase the contribution of the animal genetic resources to the development of the livestock industry through characterization, breeding, conservation and utilization

4.1.3. Policy statements

The government shall:

- i. Support periodic conduct of livestock census to ensure informed and accurate livestock development planning.

- ii. Develop livestock breeding policy to guide the crossbreeding, multiplication of improved animal genotypes, and the import/export of genetic materials.
- iii. Establish a body that facilitates characterization, patenting and documentation of indigenous animal genetic resources.
- iv. Establish a national gene bank for *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation of local breeds of livestock.
- v. Characterize, conserve and utilize indigenous breeds of livestock and poultry.

4.2 Policy area: Livestock restocking

Protracted armed conflict in South Sudan has resulted in loss of livestock asset. As situations return to relative normality, some returnees who lost their productive assets may wish to resume livestock farming. In this case targeted livestock restocking support would help to accelerate the economic recovery and the productive engagement of the population, particularly women and the jobless youth.

4.2.1 Policy issues

- i. Loss of livelihood assets including livestock due to the protracted conflicts.
- ii. Inability of conflict affected communities to restock and resume livestock production-based livelihoods due to lack of access to credit.
- iii. Inadequate livestock restocking schemes by government, humanitarian and development agencies.

4.2.2 Objective

To enable households, particularly female-headed and the poor, which lost all their animals to conflict, acquire livestock and resume livestock production.

4.2.3 Policy statements

The government shall:

- i. Create mechanisms where the poor and widows access credit from financial institutions for acquiring high producing animals.
- ii. Work with partners to promote cost-sharing or in-kind repayment based restocking schemes with defined objective.

4.3 Policy area: Feed resource utilization

Rangelands are the major sources of livestock feed across all livelihood zones. However, the proper utilization of these feeds are constrained due to cattle rustling that deters seasonal mobility, uneven distribution of livestock water and the inability to conserve excess forage biomass in seasonally flooded wetlands (Toiches), and in high rainfall Savannah Grasslands and Woodland Savannas. Indiscriminate and uncontrolled rangeland fire is the other serious threat to livestock feed security and rangeland biodiversity. Crop residues, which constitute an important livestock feed in agro-pastoral and mixed crop-livestock farming areas are also poorly utilized due to the lack of technical skills and investment in processing or densifying machineries.

4.3.1 Key policy issues

- i. Weakening of customary institutions that traditionally manage and administer the grazing resources.
- ii. Disruption of seasonal livestock mobility between wet and dry season grazing areas.
- iii. Critical shortage of feed during long dry seasons or drought.
- iv. Lack of experience and economic incentive to conserve excess biomass in seasonally flooded wetlands (Toiches) and Savannah Grasslands.
- v. Indiscriminate and uncontrolled bushfire leading to loss of rangeland vegetation cover and biodiversity.
- vi. Direct use of crop residues by grazing livestock leading to high wastage due to trampling and soiling.
- vii. Less regard to crop residue feeding value or biomass yield while introducing new crop varieties to cropping areas.

4.3.2 Objective

To enhance the sound management and utilization of locally available feed resources for improved resilience and socio-economic welfare of subsistence and market-oriented livestock systems.

4.3.3 Policy statements

The government shall:

- i. Recognize pastoral communities as custodians of the rangelands in their respective states and encourage sustainable grazing land management.
- ii. Work with development partners to promote feed security enhancing initiatives in pastoral, agro-pastoral and mixed farming production systems.
- iii. Encourage pastoral cooperatives and the private sector on forage biomass harvesting, curing and densification schemes in Toiches and Savannah Grasslands.
- iv. Support collaboration of Ministries in charge to regulate bushfire in rangelands to avoid damage to rangeland biodiversity, and protect honeybees and wildlife and their habitats.
- v. Work with relevant partners to promote the introduction of food crop varieties with high crop residue feeding value.

4.4 Policy area: Nutrient dense feeds

Nutrient dense-feeds include compound feeds, feed additives and nutritious improved forage crops. The provision of such feeds is necessary to achieve reasonable level of production of meat, milk, and eggs. In South Sudan, the use of nutrient dense feeds is low because of high cost and shortages of raw materials or ingredients.

4.4.1 Key policy issues

- i. Short supply of feed ingredients, which make compound feeds unaffordable to prospective market-oriented livestock producers.
- ii. Lack of feed mills producing and marketing compound feeds and/or feed additives at affordable price.
- iii. Lack of knowledge and skills in good manufacturing practices (GMP), and Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) necessary to uphold feed safety and quality standards.

- iv. Absence of feed safety and quality regulatory body.
- v. Lack of access to forage planting materials and land, and high machinery cost for medium to large scale forage production.

4.4.2 Objective

To increase production and marketing of compound feeds, forage legume leaf meals and feed additives supporting the productivity and profitability of market-oriented livestock production activities.

4.4.3 Policy statements

The government shall:

- i. Promote investment in feed ingredients production through provision of incentives, and development of frameworks where feed ingredients producers and manufacturing industries are linked.
- ii. Motivate private investments in feed mills through tax incentives.
- iii. Build the capacity of feed manufacturing mills in GMP and HACCP standards.
- iv. Establish body regulating feed safety and quality, and enforcing compliance to GMP and HACCP standards.
- v. Develop forage seed system that regulates the forage germplasm acquisition, which is necessary to make prior precautionary measures against the entry of pests and diseases into the country.
- vi. Provide incentives to producers to encourage medium to large scale improved forage production, processing and marketing of good quality fodder.

4.5 Policy area: Livestock water

Water is among the key ecological resources that affect animal performance in the arid and semi-arid environments. Most pastoral areas in the country suffer from the poor development of livestock water-points and watering infrastructure. As the use of watering troughs is largely uncommon, existing livestock water-points in these areas also experience serious wastage and pollution and high common livestock diseases incidence.

4.5.1 Key policy issues

- i. Poor and uneven distribution of livestock water-points across the pastoral areas leading to underutilization of remotely located rangelands, over-utilization around permanent watering points and increased livestock disease outbreak reporting.
- ii. Inadequate investment in livestock water development, rainwater harvesting and conservation creating water scarcity in arid and semi-arid areas.
- iii. Unhygienic and wasteful use of livestock water-points.

4.5.2 Objective

To increase the accessibility of livestock to water-points reducing the vulnerability of pastoralists to climatic shocks and incidences of resource-based conflicts

4.5.3 Policy statements

The government shall:

- i. Promote good grazing land management practices and support the construction and use of rainwater harvesting structures and livestock watering troughs in semi-arid areas.
- ii. Support the systematic development of stock water-points to overcome the degradation of rangelands close to livestock water-points, underutilization of rangelands in remote areas, livestock-human water supply points interaction and attending conflicts and livestock body condition loss during long-trekking periods to markets.
- iii. Promote efficient use and hygienic management of livestock water points.

4.6 Policy area: Animal health and veterinary services

In South Sudan, livestock diseases and parasites are widespread with the potential to cause direct economic losses through mortality and morbidity, and through diminished reproductive performance. Veterinary and animal health services are largely in the public sector domain and generally provided free of charge. Veterinary and animal health services, coverage and regular supply of vaccines are crucial for livestock to perform productively.

4.6.1 Key policy issues

- i. High livestock disease incidences and heavy parasite burden leading to significant morbidity, mortality, and reduced production and reproduction.
- ii. Limited coverage of veterinary services due to poor accessibility of pastoral areas and shortage of qualified and skilled animal health workers at state and national levels.
- iii. Inadequate animal health infrastructure and facilities including diagnostic laboratories, cold chain, animal holding grounds and quarantine and health certification facilities.
- iv. Lack of legal framework for regulating service and meet international standards.
- v. Limited private sector involvement due to excessively subsidized or free delivery of animal health services.
- vi. Lack of disease surveillance network and poor laboratory services to carry out disease surveillance, diagnosis, investigation, documentation and reporting of interventions.
- vii. Lack of clarity about the status of community-based animal health workers (CBAHWs) in the animal health service delivery system.
- viii. A long porous border, absence of animal movement control and lack of regulations.
- ix. Decentralization of veterinary services that de-linked veterinary professionals in the states from the central veterinary chain of command ultimately weakening veterinary service delivery.

4.6.2 Policy objective

To improve the reachability of animal health services delivery to pastoral and agro-pastoral communities for increased livestock production and productivity, and competitiveness of the livestock industry.

4.6.3 Policy statements

The government shall:

- i. Develop the public animal health capability with respect to skilled workforce and diagnostic laboratories, cold chains and quarantine and health certification facilities for improved and wider reachability of the service delivery.

- ii. Develop legislative and regulatory frameworks and harmonize national veterinary service delivery systems with international standards to improve veterinary performance.
- iii. Promote the privatization of animal health services that do not fall in the category of public goods.
- iv. Support appropriate CBAHWs training and capacity building to facilitate their incorporation into the national veterinary services and strengthening of animal health service delivery.
- v. Ensure the sustainability of animal health services by introducing cost-recovery for public animal health services.
- vi. Strengthen capacities of disease surveillance to ensure the timely reporting of disease outbreaks including Avian Influenza and other emerging diseases.
- vii. Strengthen Veterinary Council to help ensure the provision of quality veterinary services.

4.7 Policy area: Trans-boundary animal diseases

Trans-boundary animal diseases (TADs) are highly contagious epizootic diseases that can spread rapidly across international boundaries. The control and eradication of TADs require coordinated and sustained actions of national, regional and global partners. These diseases can cause high mortality and pose serious negative impacts on livestock trade, and the livelihood and socio-economic welfare of livestock keepers and other value chain actors. Some TADs (e.g. Anthrax, Bovine Tuberculosis, Brucellosis) and certain strains of influenza viruses (the highly pathogenic Avian influenza/HPAI) are zoonotic, while others (e.g. FMD, PPR and African Swine Fever) may not affect humans but do affect livestock production and trade.

4.7.1 Key policy issues

- i. Inadequate inter-governmental and regional collaboration and coordination constrain the ability to control and contain TADs.
- ii. A long porous border coupled with the absence of animal movement control and inspection and health certification of imported live animals and animal products in transit areas.

4.7.2 Objective

To control and contain the spread of TADs in order to improve the SPS standards and enhance the competitiveness of the livestock industry

4.7.3 Policy statements

The government shall:

- i. Support coordinated and harmonized national and regional early warning and response systems and share information, facilities and expertise for TADs control.
- ii. Establish livestock movement checkpoints, quarantine stations, veterinary diagnostic laboratories and certification services along national and between State borders for control of TADs.

4.8 Policy area: Veterinary public health and food safety

Veterinary public health and food safety involve food inspection, prevention and control of zoonotic diseases. The outbreak of zoonotic diseases reduces livestock production, threatens human health, and disrupts domestic and international trade. Presently, the coordination mechanism and the capacity to detect, report and respond to such human health threats in South Sudan is weak.

4.8.1 Key policy issues

- i. Weak veterinary public health and food safety owing to inadequate food inspection, and prevention and control of zoonotic diseases.
- ii. Poor coordination between bodies responsible for protection of human and animal health and welfare.
- iii. Inadequate slaughter facilities, laboratories and meat inspection and hygiene service to deal with diseases of public health importance.
- iv. Absence of compensation mechanisms for forcible culling or mass killing in the course of epizootics resulting in loss of livelihood.
- v. Absence of legal and regulatory framework, quality assurance and registration apparatus for quality control of livestock products.

4.8.2 Objective

To protect livelihoods, and human and environmental health by improving veterinary public health and food safety capacity.

4.8.3 Policy statements

The government shall:

- i. Collaborate with relevant entities to establish 'One Health Program' with protocol and mechanism for joint planning for handling zoonotic and emerging disease events.
- ii. Compensate the market-oriented small-scale producers according to the law in an event of mass killing of animals to control the spread of zoonotic disease to avoid loss of livelihood.
- iii. Promote public-private partnerships for establishing modern slaughterhouses in each state and improved slaughter slabs in the counties to promote hygienic production of quality meat.
- iv. Regulate the establishment and governance of slaughterhouses and processing factories.

4.9 Policy Area: One Health approach in livestock development

The One Health concept recognizes that the health of humans and animals is irrevocably linked and closely connected to the environment. On the other hand the livestock sector is a major contributor to global Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) – a rapidly emerging threat to human health. Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is an issue that requires a One Health approach. In this regard, the One Health approach in livestock development policy and practice is essential.

4.9.1 Policy objective:

- To reduce antimicrobial consumption and AMR morbidity and improve public awareness to attain optimal health for people, animals and our environment

4.9.2 Key Policy issues

- Close proximity between livestock, human and wildlife in the context of climate change poses great risk to human health
- 75% of all new, emerging, or reemerging diseases affecting humans at the beginning of the 21st century have originated in animals.
- The use of antimicrobial drugs in animals is one of the primary drivers for the emergence of antimicrobial resistance in South Sudan.
- challenges in managing trans-sectoral collaboration and coordination

4.9.3 Policy statements

The government shall:

- Partner with relevant entities to establish 'One Health Program or committee' with protocol and mechanism for joint planning for handling zoonotic and emerging disease events.
- Produce guidelines and national multi-sectoral mechanisms on sustained management of antimicrobial drugs in food-producing animal in cattle camps, veterinary hospitals and clinics.
- The government shall lead on the Global Health Security Agenda action packages for strengthening national laboratory systems and workforce development to tackle infectious disease threats, and contributed to the action package on Antimicrobial Resistance.

4.10 Policy area: Livestock inputs

Improvement in livestock production and reproduction is the function of access to sets of inputs, which include breeding stock, veterinary drugs and vaccines, compound feeds, fodder, forage seeds, and equipment and machineries. The quality and accessibility of these inputs in the local market tells how well or bad the livestock system is doing. The safety of inputs is also of paramount importance for the success of livestock-based businesses, the welfare of animals, and the safety of animal products to consumers.

4.10.1 Key policy issues

- i. Substandard or counterfeited veterinary drugs and a virtual absence of effective regulatory systems.
- ii. Placement of veterinary drugs and biological control and inspection under the MoH compromising the capacity development and quality of the service.

- iii. Free distribution of livestock inputs and services to livestock producers undermining the development of the private sector.
- iv. Unregulated multiple taxation affecting affordability of inputs and services.
- v. Individual livestock owners, traders and projects import livestock inputs on an ad hoc basis resulting into drug abuses.
- vi. Inadequate drugs/vaccines, hormones and other input handling knowledge and skills.

4.10.2 Objective

To ensure the timelines, affordability, safety and quality of inputs and services demanded by the livestock and honey value chain actors.

4.10.3 Policy statements

The government shall:

- i. Develop and enforce standards for inputs used along the livestock and honey value chains.
- ii. Establish an autonomous regulatory authority with department dedicated for inspection and regulation of veterinary drugs, animal feed, feed additives and biologicals.
- iii. Facilitate secured and timely public and private sectors' access to high quality and price competitive basic production inputs.
- iv. Encourage local production of inputs through incentives and regulatory mechanisms.
- v. Implement a system of cost sharing and cost recovery at delivery of drugs and vaccine of private goods as deem appropriate.
- vi. Regulate taxation on livestock inputs for increased profitability and competitiveness of livestock-based business ventures.

4.11 Policy area: Dairy production

Milk is an important diet for the pastoral and agro-pastoral households. Cattle, goat and sheep all contribute to the household milk supply. Indigenous cattle breeds are sole producers of milk with the daily average production barely exceeding 1.5 litre and an average lactation milk yield of 270 litres. Much of the milk produced in the traditional system is not marketed. This has led to huge deficit in milk supply around urban centres and encouraged high imports of powder milk and other dairy products.

4.11.1 Policy issues

- i. Shortage of dairy products in urban centres.
- ii. Huge deficit of dairy products in the domestic markets, which trigger imports.
- iii. Poor handling and sanitary and hygienic standards of dairy products.
- iv. Lack of artificial insemination (AI) infrastructure and bull studs for multiplying crossbred heifers.
- v. Shortage of high producing crossbred heifers suiting the climatic and management conditions of smallholder producers.
- vi. Inability of local dairy producers to compete with imported dairy products and lack of tax incentive on dairy production inputs.

4.11.2 Objective

To promote small and medium scale commercial dairy production to ensure the year-round supply of quality and safe dairy products, and the creation of productive employment

4.11.3 Policy statements

The government shall:

- i. Build the capacity and entrepreneurial skills of dairy producers to ensure the hygienic handling, processing and marketing of dairy products.
- ii. Establish National Artificial Insemination Centres (NAICs) as a source of improving dairy breed genetics through an efficient AI service delivery system.
- iii. Support the establishment of centres that operate as per the recommendation of the breeding policy for multiplying and promoting crossbred heifers.
- iv. Introduce high-producing breeds (e.g. Botana and Kenana cattle) for breed improvement programs in livelihood zones endowed with better feed supply and less animal health threat.
- v. Regulate tax on imports of dairy products and dairy inputs to enhance the competitiveness of the local dairy industry.
- vi. Encourage set up of large dairy farms and support cooperative dairy development in potential areas of the country.
- vii. Establish a National Dairy Development Board as a regulatory body to promote dairy development.
- viii. Increase production and productivity of milk at the national level, to reduce imports and improve foreign exchange.

4.12 Policy area: Meat production

Cattle and small ruminants contribute for 35 percent and 44 percent of the locally consumed meat, respectively. Similar trends are observed in per capita consumption of meat; 4.4 kg for beef and 6.6 kg for small ruminants with the former trailing behind the continent's average of 6.4 kg and the latter exceeding the continent's average of 2.4. Local breeds of cattle and small ruminants are named as identified by the pastoral communities and are not well studied. For cattle, among others include the Toposa, Ingessana, Hill Zebu, Murle and Nilotic, and for small ruminants (sheep and goats) the local breeds include Toposa, Nilotic, Murle and South Sudanese just to mention few.

4.12.1 Policy issues

- i. Subsistence oriented livestock production and limited use of production boosting inputs (healthcare, proper feeding and improved husbandry practices).
- ii. Poor sanitary standards of slaughterhouses and slaughter slabs.
- iii. Inability to meet upper-end consumers demands with respect to consistency of supply, and products quality and sanitary standards.

4.12.2 Objective

Increase and sustain the supply of live animals and meat from beef and small ruminants for domestic and export markets.

4.12.3 Policy statements

The government shall:

- i. Build capacity and provide incentives to livestock producers, cattle feedlots, and small ruminant finishing schemes to ensure the sustainable supply of quality and safe products to domestic and export markets.
- ii. Promote PPP for the development of export standard abattoirs and quarantine facilities.

4.13 Policy area: Poultry production

The low-input based chicken production system is widely practiced in rural and urban areas of the country. Chicken are reared to supply meat and eggs for home consumption and to generate addition income. Demand for poultry in urban centres is high and is currently being met by the import of live poultry and frozen dressed-chicken. The chicken used in the traditional backyard poultry are the unselected and low producing local breeds namely Betwil Baladi, Sudanese Bare-neck Baladi and the large Sudanese Baladi.

4.13.1 Policy issues

- i. High incidences of diseases and mortality.
- ii. Low meat and egg production potential of indigenous flocks.
- iii. Lack of hatcheries and poultry farms supplying improved breeding stock to potential poultry producers.
- iv. Limited access to and high cost of concentrate feed and premixes.
- v. High taxation on imported day-old chicks of improved poultry genotypes.

4.13.2 Objective

To promote small and medium scale commercial poultry production to ensure the sustainable supply of quality and safe poultry products for domestic market, and the creation of productive employment.

4.13.3 Policy statements

The government shall:

- i. Develop the technical capacity and entrepreneurial skills of poultry producers to ensure the profitability, sustainability, and product safety and sanitary standards.
- ii. Establish poultry breeding stock producing farms and hatcheries to ensure the sustainable supply of improved poultry breeding stock, and support training and demonstration of good practices.
- iii. Regulate taxes on imported day-old chicks and premixes used in local poultry production.
- iv. Enforce the registration of Commercial Poultry farms with Ministry in charge of livestock.

Thematic area B: Pastoral livelihood and resilience

4.14 Policy area: Pastoralism

Pastoralism is the system of animal production and land use. For pastoralists in South Sudan, seasonal mobility is a typical characteristic, which embodies the way of life. For generations such mobility has helped pastoralists to contain the temporal and spatial variability in the supply of pasture and water.

4.14.1 Key policy issues

- i. Conflict among pastoral groups over access to grazing resources, and between pastoralists and sedentary agro-pastoralists or farmers due to crop damage.
- ii. Weakening of traditional governance systems and growing incidences of cattle rustling.
- iii. Encroachment of crop agriculture, oil exploration, wildlife parks, mineral prospecting into the rangelands.
- iv. Lack of infrastructure, basic social services, markets and proper demarcation of pastoral mobility routes.
- v. Natural and manmade shocks leading to increased vulnerability.
- vi. Inadequate integration of the pastoral system to mainstream market.

4.14.2 Objective

To increase resilience of pastoral system and facilitate peaceful and secured mobility of people and livestock for increased trade and sustainable use of key grazing resources

4.14.3 Policy statements

The government shall:

- i. Facilitate peace building among the pastoral and host communities to address conflicts over key ecological resources and prevent damages to crops.
- ii. Establish seasonal livestock mobility corridors leading to dry season grazing reserves.
- iii. Invest in livestock market and animal health infrastructure along the seasonal livestock mobility routes.
- iv. Build the resilience of pastoralists to climate change risks and disasters.
- v. Harmonize regional legislation to support seasonal mobility and temporary access to key natural resources within and between countries.
- vi. Support the implementation of regional protocols and policy frameworks on cross-border mobility of people and livestock.

Thematic area C: Livestock commercialization and marketing

4.15 Policy area: Livestock value addition

Given the country's resource potential, a number of livestock products and by-products can be considered for value addition both at household and commercial scales. Value addition of these products creates jobs and income for women and the youth who make up over 50 percent and 70 percent of the country's population, respectively. Pastoralists and agro-

pastoralists could also benefit more, if supported to add value to products they normally sale as such.

4.15.1 Key policy issues

- i. Weak link between livestock producers, and processors and consumers.
- ii. High wastage of livestock products (meat, milk, egg, and beeswax) due to limited experience in processing and value addition.
- iii. Huge wastage of hides and skins due to branding, pests and diseases, and improper flaying and handling.
- iv. Lack of key infrastructure including road network, electric power and water, which are key to stimulation of private sector investment in agro-processing.
- v. High competition with imported livestock products because of high cost and/or low quality of input and technical service.

4.15.2 Objectives

- i. To increase benefits derived from livestock production and beekeeping through value addition.
- ii. To promote both household and commercial scale agro-processing and value addition as a means of expanding opportunities for employment and increasing the income of livestock vale chain actors.

4.15.3 Policy statements

The government shall:

- i. Direct and support the development of cooperatives' and private sector driven cottage and agro-industries in honey, milk and meat processing, and in modern abattoirs and hides and skins handling and leather processing.
- ii. Introduce tariffs on imported livestock products to enhance the market competitiveness of value added products.
- iii. Promote the development of niche markets for live livestock, red meat and honeybee products and by-products in which the country has comparative advantages.

4.16 Policy area: Livestock market access

Access to markets is critical to promote commercialization of livestock production. It is an impetus for improved livestock production and value addition of wide range of livestock products. Effective market access would require livestock market and road infrastructures, smooth flow of quality market information, and en route security. These conditions allow livestock producers and beekeepers, and traders to access diverse market outlets including the domestic inter-state and export market destinations.

4.16.1 Key policy issues

- i. Livestock marketing in pastoral communities is driven by subsistence needs rather than by market demand.
- ii. Poor road networks, insecurity and inadequate market infrastructure in remote parts of the country hinder commercialization and systematic development of livestock industry.

- iii. Long distance livestock trekking to auction markets result in weight loss, and increased incidences of disease, death and theft.
- iv. Lack of reliable and timely market information undermining the active participation of livestock traders.
- v. High interference of brokers and intermediaries restricting the direct participation as well as reducing benefits of producers.
- vi. High and multiple taxation on livestock and livestock products serve as disincentives for traders in livestock and livestock products.
- vii. Lack of access to markets is disincentive to subsistence producers to adopt improved technologies.
- viii. Underdeveloped, irregular, uncertain and non-transparent livestock and livestock products market.

4.16.2 Objective

To improve the market access of the livestock sector for enhancing benefits of livestock and beekeeping value chain actors and the competitiveness of the livestock industry.

4.16.3 Policy statements

The government shall:

- i. Support development of local markets for live animals in strategic locations of the country equipped with basic facilities, and security arrangements.
- ii. Develop a mechanism through which proceeds from the livestock markets are re-invested in upgrading and maintenance of market infrastructure.
- iii. Enhance the availability of reliable, timely and consistent market information to livestock producers and traders.
- iv. Regulate taxation on imported livestock products and inputs to stimulate local market-oriented livestock production.

4.17 Policy area: Cross-border international trade

Significant number of animals informally traded across the borders will make their way into international markets, with minimal benefit to the country. Some of the East African countries, through the support of AU/IBAR, Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and IGAD have made progress in harmonizing cross-border livestock trade. South Sudan could also use the regional collaborative initiatives to formalize the undocumented and unregulated informal cross-border livestock trade. To secure access to global livestock trade, it is also crucial to improve the consistency of supply and SPS standard of livestock productions.

4.17.1 Key policy issues

- i. Informal, unrecorded and unregulated cross-border livestock trade.
- ii. Irregular supply and low off-take of livestock from pastoral and agro-pastoral areas.
- iii. Lack of bilateral agreements with neighbouring countries and absence of livestock export market infrastructure.

- iv. Low capacity to meet the recommended SPS standards, which prevents South Sudan from entering potential regional and global markets for livestock and livestock products.

4.17.2 Objective

To maximize the contribution of livestock to producers' incomes and the national economy through increased integration to cross-border and international livestock trade.

4.17.3 Policy statements

The government shall:

- i. Develop market and animal health infrastructure along market routes and cross-border checkpoints to enable pastoralists and the country benefit from regional and international livestock trade.
- ii. Work in collaboration with neighbouring countries to formalize cross-border livestock trade.
- iii. Encourage the private sector and cooperatives to invest in stratified livestock production system where community-based ranching and feedlots compliment the traditional low-input pastoral and agro-pastoral systems.

Thematic area D: Global standards and norms

4.18 Policy area: Livestock identification and traceability system

Pastoralists in South Sudan manage spatial and temporal imbalance in the availability of pasture and water by adopting a mobile way of life. This mobility creates a condition where animals coming from far and wide areas come in close contact. Such situations increase risks of spreading animal diseases and undermine the competitiveness of the livestock industry. This challenge can be overcome by introducing a livestock identification and traceability system (LITS).

4.18.1 Key policy issues

- i. Low appreciation of the benefits derived from livestock LITS by most livestock value chain actors.
- ii. Lack of appropriate LITS suitable to the pastoral conditions of South Sudan.
- iii. Absence of the necessary infrastructure and organizational setup to promote the development and operationalization of LITS.

4.18.2 Objective

To ensure food safety standards, competitive international livestock trade, secured livestock mobility and reduced cattle rustling.

4.18.3 Policy statements

The government shall:

- i. Sensitize pastoral communities and livestock value chain actors on the benefits of LITS.
- ii. Introduce and regulate the implementation and management of nationally accepted and regionally harmonized LITS.
- iii. Promote the implementation of LITS by making livestock origin health certification a condition to get technical and administrative support along the livestock mobility routes and to secure the access to dry season grazing lands.

4.19 Policy area: Animal welfare

According to the Terrestrial Animal Health Code of 2016, animal welfare refers to the physical and mental state of an animal in relation to the conditions in which it lives and dies. Basically, the code demands the humane handling of animals including freedom from thirst, hunger, malnutrition, injury, diseases, discomfort, fear, distress; and the freedom to express normal behaviour. OIE and WTO protocols require actors engaged in animal and animal products trade to observe the good practices of animal welfare. In South Sudan, the abuse of animal welfare arises from the lack of knowledge and the skills necessary to observe animal welfare practices.

4.19.1 Key policy issues

- i. Inhumane treatment of animals in the course of production, transport and slaughtering.
- ii. Lack of regulation and guidelines that help ensure the observance of humane handling of animals.

4.19.2 Objective

To ensure the observance of the animal welfare standards in the course of production, transporting and slaughtering of animals.

4.19.3 Policy statements

The government shall:

- i. Promote acceptable animal welfare codes of operation and follow international standards.
- ii. Develop legal frameworks and legislative regulations to be used to enhance observation and monitoring of animal welfare at times of production, transporting, slaughtering and disasters.

Thematic area E: Livestock support services

4.20 Policy area: Credit and insurance access

In order to engage in market-oriented livestock production or value addition, prospective beneficiaries including women, the jobless youth, and the rural and urban poor badly need start-up capital. Presently, the country lacks financial institutions to provide this service to

livestock and beekeeping value chain actors at favourable terms and conditions. Likewise, access to insurance service encourages the poor and private investors to participate in market-oriented livestock ventures and stay in the business. Subsistence-oriented pastoralists also require insurance coverage to protect themselves against losses of livestock asset to man-made and natural disasters.

4.120.1 Key policy issues

- i. Vulnerability of livestock value chain actors to natural and human-made risks and disasters.
- ii. Absence of organization providing insurance cover or compensation schemes for livestock in the country.
- iii. Lack of adequate working capital for investment by progressive livestock keepers, butchers, hides and skins handlers, beekeepers and traders.
- iv. Lack of institutional mechanisms to protect producers against the loss of livestock against human-made and natural risks.

4.20.2 Objective

To increase the livestock and beekeeping value chain actors' access to credit and insurance services.

4.20.3 Policy statements

The government shall:

- i. Support the establishment of Livestock and Fishery Bank that provides loans to actors along the livestock and apiculture value chains.
- ii. Encourage the establishment of rural saving and micro-credit institutions that offer credit and insurance services to emerging small-scale livestock producers.
- iii. Stand as guarantor to enable the poor secure credit and insurance for livestock/apiculture based small businesses at concessionary interest rates.
- iv. Introduce incentives, tailored subsidies and start-up capital for youth, women and other disadvantaged groups aspiring to engage in market-oriented livestock and apiculture business ventures.
- v. Support risk-based livestock insurance schemes to livestock value chain actors.

4.21 Livestock research and development

The challenges of livestock development vary across agro-ecological zones and production systems. Livestock research could play an important role in developing, adapting and promoting the application of technologies and good practices suiting the interests and priorities of livestock producers, beekeepers and other value chain actors.

4.21.1 Key policy issues

- i. Shortage of skilled workforce, research facilities and operational budget constraining the active engagement of universities and other public research centres in applied and adaptive livestock research.
- ii. Absence of mechanism for joint research planning and information sharing leading to the duplication of efforts, misuse of scarce resources and limited impact.

4.21.2 Objective

To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the livestock sector through development of need-based livestock production packages and strong Research and Development (R and D) coordination

4.21.3 Policy statements

The government shall:

- i. Support establishment of livestock research centres and increase investment and funding for animal science and appropriate technology development.
- ii. Promote problem solving collaborative livestock research among universities, regional and international partners.
- ii. Support the coordination of livestock research conducted by varies entities for maximum harmony and impact.

4.22 Policy area: Livestock extension services

Meaningful change in the livestock sector can only come with increased access to extension services leading to accelerated productivity, processing and marketing. Adequate technical knowledge and sustained access to production-boosting technologies are crucial for livestock producers and beekeepers to improve their socio-economic welfare and contribute to the national economic development. Currently, these producers are poorly served by an extension system that supports the development of technical and entrepreneurial skills and accessing technological innovations.

4.22.1 Key policy issues

- i. Poor extension service delivery system.
- ii. Inadequate use of improved technologies and techniques by livestock keepers and other livestock value chain actors.
- iii. Poor linkages, coordination and harmonization of extension services among actors.
- iv. Low participation of private sector in extension services delivery.
- v. Lack of service delivery performance standards.
- vi. Project driven and top-down livestock extension services.

4.22.2 Objective

To improve production and productivity, profitability and competitiveness through increased access and adoption of technologies and good practices.

4.22.3 Policy statements

The government shall:

- i. Promote pluralistic extension service delivery system involving public sector, qualified NGOs and private sector to increase the reachability of livestock extension service.
- ii. Create decentralized institutional structures to provide broad operational framework for research-extension-farmer linkages.
- iii. Ensure adherence to performance standards, regulations, supervision and accountability in extension service delivery.
- iv. Support the establishment of multi-purpose livestock training centres offering practical training on technical and entrepreneurial skills, cooperative principles and finance management related to the delivery of extension services.
- v. Promote cost sharing and partial cost recovery in extension service delivery.
- vi. Encourage review of curricula in livestock training centres, colleges and universities to ensure production of competent extension personnel capable of providing quality extension service.
- vii. Ensure the usage of innovative and effective extension approaches and methods, such as information and communication technologies (ICTs) and farmer field schools (FFSs) to deliver messages.

Thematic area F: Empowerment of local producer institutions

4.23 Livestock cooperatives and associations

Experience from developing countries shows that poor people engaged in market-oriented livestock production do better in their livelihoods when organized into producers and marketing cooperatives rather than operate individually. Organizing producers, processors or small business owners into cooperatives ease access to input and output markets, synchronize the supply of produce, increase their bargaining power and cut down administrative and transaction costs. In addition, operating collectively improves the position of these individuals to access credit, extension services, while allowing the group to influence policies that affect their livelihoods.

4.23.1 Key policy issues

- i. Lack of strong pastoralist and farmer organizations, and leadership to voice their concerns and advocate and lobby for their rights.
- ii. Difficulty of subsistent livestock producers and beekeepers to access basic inputs and services individually increasing their vulnerability to risks and disasters.
- iii. Unorganized producer groups facing high transaction costs and low bargaining power for accessing inputs, and appropriate prices and services.

4.23.2 Objective

To facilitate the formation of viable, sustainable and regulated livestock producers and beekeepers' organizations and networks to strengthen their bargaining power, competitiveness and accessibility to inputs and outputs markets.

4.22.3 Policy statements

The government shall:

- i. Promote and support formation of functional livestock associations, cooperatives and networks for cost-effectiveness and collective service delivery to their constituency.
- ii. Support the development of legal frameworks that promote transparency, accountability, sustainability and proper functioning of livestock producers and beekeepers production and marketing cooperatives and associations.

Thematic area G: Livestock governance

4.24 Governance and institutional capacity

The three tiers of government namely National, State and County levels have authority over the livestock sector. However, there is generally weak institutional framework and central coordination and collaboration, and lack of clarity of roles and mandates between the national and state livestock institutions in the context of the decentralized system of governance in the country. Lack of alignment and harmonization of organizational structures and post titles between national and state ministries and across states also pose serious challenges in the implementation of policies, strategies and programs in the livestock sector.

4.24.1 Key policy issues

- i. Weak institutional capacities and coordination, and lack of clarity of roles and mandates between the three tiers of government.
- ii. Emphasis on formal governance structures has weakened traditional institutions and reduced their capacity to help manage natural resources, resolve disputes and manage crises.
- iii. Low budgetary allocation and poor accountability and transparency in pastoral and livestock development.
- iv. Lack of uniformity and alignment in organizational structures and post titles of States Ministries.
- v. Limited availability of scientific data and access to scientific evidence restricts planning, policy formulation and good governance.
- vi. Fragmented stakeholder efforts characterized by duplication, lack of synergy and wastage of resources.
- vii. Weak PPP in all aspects of livestock development.
- viii. Poor collaboration/linkages between livestock sector and other supportive sectors.

4.24.2 Objective

To improve the governance and enabling environment of the livestock sector for efficient economic growth and social equity.

4.23.3 Policy statements

The government shall:

- i. Strengthen livestock institutional capacities and frameworks for effective policy implementation, services delivery and support in marketing and trade, research and extension as well as training.

- ii. Develop clear and harmonized functions, roles and responsibilities of the three tiers of governments to avoid overlapping and conflict of interest between them.
- iii. Support the State, County and Payam level governments to enforce laws and regulations related to livestock and to implement livestock policies through projects.
- iv. Develop a national database and reliable statistics on the national herd, its production level, disease prevalence, exports and profile of livestock producers.
- v. Strengthen veterinary governance and animal health systems for the prevention and control of animal diseases.
- vi. Develop a framework for collaboration and partnership between the public and private sectors/NGOs through PPP models and MOUs.
- vii. Recognize the potential role of traditional institutions in peace building, conflict management and promotion of sustainable development.

Coordinate livestock-related projects and programs implemented by development partners across the States.

4.25 Policy area: Human resource development

Transforming the livestock sector into a vibrant market-oriented industry requires a well-trained and skilled workforce capable of generating, adapting and promoting improved and good practices along the livestock value chain. Success in the livestock industry, among other factors, is determined by the technical competence and motivation of the livestock workforce serving the industry in various capacities. The majority of professionals in the public and private sectors lack either the appropriate qualification or skills that are required.

4.25.1 Key policy issues

- i. Shortage of qualified and motivated workforce, particularly at State and County levels.
- ii. Lack of performance standards for objectively assessing staff and service providers.
- iii. Inadequate technical and vocational training institutions catering for the livestock sector.

4.25.2 Objective

To develop sufficient technical staff with desired qualifications and skills for improved delivery of services in the public and private sectors.

4.25.3 Policy statements

The Government shall:

- i. Develop a cadre of trained technical staff with desired competences and skills.
- ii. Establish vocational training schools and other training institutions for middle cadre or livestock technicians and para-veterinary professionals to address shortage of staff with desired skills.
- iii. Develop and enforce quality assurance mechanism and performance standards for ensuring the delivery of quality services.
- iv. Support vocational training schools and other training institutions to develop livestock production and veterinary curriculum to address shortage of staff with desired skills.

- v. Strengthen livestock sector's linkages with regional and international organizations for experience exchange and technical skills development.
- vi. Promote gender balanced human resource development, recruitment, and deployment.

4.26 Policy area: Financing the livestock sector

In order to ensure the implementation of the NLDP, a wider base of financing, which includes the government, donor communities, private sector and end-users of livestock services, shall be sought. More importantly, the capacity of the financial institutions to lend to the livestock sector is crucial. Thus far, the livestock sector has not received the policy and financial attention it deserves.

4.26.1 Policy issue

- i. Low government budgetary allocations and limited budget support from the donors to the livestock development programs.
- ii. Heavy reliance on donor support for livestock development programmes.
- iii. Emphasis of donor funds to relief or emergency rather than development-oriented livestock schemes.
- iv. Lack of financial institutions providing credit to livestock based investments.

4.26.2 Objective

To ensure stable and sufficient financial resources for the implementation of long-term livestock development programs and annual work plans.

4.26.3 Policy statements

The government shall:

- i. Increase the level of public expenditure on agriculture including livestock in accordance to the Maputo declaration to allocate at least 10 percent of its annual budgetary allocation to agriculture sector.
- ii. Solicit funding from donor and development partners to complement the government's resource for livestock development.
- iii. Encourage development partners to devote more on livestock development projects.
- iv. Encourage private sector to invest in providing livestock support services and other livestock-related private goods and services.

CHAPTER FIVE

5.0 Cross-cutting issues

Livestock development is influenced by a number of issues that are either partially or entirely outside the mandate of the ministry in charge of livestock. The issues include, *inter alia*, environment, climate change, gender, youth, people with disability, nutrition security, HIV/AIDS.

5.1 Policy area: Land tenure and use

Land is the most important resource in livestock production and beekeeping based economic activities. Land ownership, more specifically the title deeds provide a legal ground to use land as collateral in financial transactions. In pastoral and agro-pastoral areas, land tenure is based on communal land ownership. Accessibility of and control over land affects the motivation for investment in the livestock sector.

5.1.1 Key policy issues

- i. Absence of land title deed hindering the use of land as collateral for financial transactions.
- ii. Prevalence of competing claims for land rights leading to frequent and widespread conflicts over access and control of customary grazing lands and watering resource.
- iii. Loss of productive rangelands to other forms of land use including mineral and oil extraction, wildlife conservation, crop agriculture and infrastructure construction.

5.1.2 Policy objective

To improve access, management and use of land for sustainable development of animal agriculture

5.1.3 Policy statements

The government shall:

- i. Support development of legislations that help standardize processes and compensation for land acquired for investment.
- ii. Recognize group tenure rights of pastoral communities to ancestral communal lands.

5.2. Policy area: Gender, youth and vulnerable groups

The term 'gender' describes the socially constructed attributes of men and women. These include male and female roles in both economic and non-economic functions, differential access to and control over resources and differences in knowledge and skills. The Government of the Republic of South Sudan has ratified the UN convention of eliminating all forms of gender disparity and therefore, has adopted relevant policies and plans to empower women. Women in pastoral and agro-pastoral production systems invest a large part of their time, labour and expertise in livestock production and domestic work. To make sustainable improvements in the livelihoods of rural women, their access to credit and opportunities for employment, enterprise development and income-generation, opportunities have to be improved. Equally important is youth and persons with disabilities who make a living from livestock activities.

Women work for longer hours while participating in most of the fieldwork related to crop production and have a significantly higher involvement in livestock production, forest resource production and fisheries.

5.2.1 Key policy issues

- i. Significant gender inequalities in accessing and controlling of productive resources.

- ii. Lack of working capital hindering women and youth engagement in livestock activities
- iii. Inadequate women's access to agricultural information, services or production assets as well as limited control over their earnings.
- iv. A growing disinterest of pastoral youth in livestock production.
- v. Absence of livestock programs that specifically target people with disabilities.

5.2.2 Objective

To achieve inclusiveness, equity and equal opportunities to access and control resources for livelihood development among men, women, youth and groups with special needs.

5.2.3 Policy statements

The government shall:

- i. Promote gender equality and ensure participation of women and female gender experts in livestock sector development.
- ii. Mainstream gender perspectives in livestock policies, programs and projects.
- iii. Ensure that people with disabilities enjoy equality and full participation in livestock development initiatives.

5.3 Policy area: HIV/AIDS

HIV/AIDS have a profound negative impact on household food and nutrition security, livelihoods and the productivity of livestock. Affected households experience these challenges as a result of the losses of productive member of the family, livestock asset and income. Such losses also undermine resilience to any crises and lead to the emergence of new extension clientele – orphan and grandparents headed households. In the absence of needs-based support that restores assets and/or offers alternative livelihoods, these households may abandon livestock production altogether and become dependent on relief food aid.

5.3.1 Key policy issues

- i. Lack of programs addressing the specific needs and priorities of HIV/AIDS affected households.
- ii. HIV and AIDS deplete financial resources and cause shortage of skilled and unskilled labour in livestock management and in the different livestock value chains.

5.3.2 Objective

To reduce the adverse impacts of HIV/AIDS pandemic on livestock keeping households

5.3.3 Policy statements

The government shall:

- i. Promote livestock programs that help control the spread of HIV/AIDS and improve the wellbeing of people living with the virus in pastoral communities.
- ii. Establish special programs in livestock targeting people living with the HIV virus.

5.4 Policy area: Environment

The environment, in addition to land and water, constitutes plant and animal biodiversity and has direct relevance to the livestock sector. This is so because the human-wildlife interface, if not managed properly, could lead to outbreaks in animal disease and pests, resource-based conflicts and biodiversity losses.

5.4.1 Key policy issues

- i. High environmental degradation, which aggravated resource use conflicts.
- ii. Poor disposal of most of slaughterhouse wastes, which result in large economic losses and environmental pollution.
- iii. Heavy and prolonged grazing of rangelands that often leads to destruction of vegetation and other natural resources and soil erosion.
- iv. Unregulated bushfires and tree cutting for charcoal production that exposes pastoral areas to the loss of biodiversity and desertification.
- v. Poorly managed human-wildlife interface with corresponding risks of animal health, loss of crop or livestock and resource use conflicts.

5.4.2 Objective

To improve the sound management of the environment for sustainable development of animal agriculture

5.4.3 Policy statements

The government shall:

- i. Mainstream environment and natural resources-related issues into livestock development plans and strategies.
- ii. Enforce environmental legislation safeguarding the environment from inappropriate disposal of wastes from intensive livestock production systems, slaughterhouses and tannery operations.
- iii. Encourage the collaboration of relevant line ministries in developing regulations fostering the safe co-existence of livestock with crop-farming and game animals.
- iv. Develop and enforce specific guidelines for establishing environment-friendly commercial livestock farms.

5.5 Policy area: Climate change

Climate change induced crises are the most formidable threats towards livelihoods and food security in South Sudan. Climate change poses serious challenges to pastoral and agro-pastoral households by affecting the quantitative and qualitative supply of pasture and water, the prevalence of pests and diseases, and the extent of thermal stress. Extreme incidences of climate change increase the risks of livestock losses and the attendant destitution of livestock keepers. In South Sudan, the negative impacts of climate change are pronounced, since these periods often coincide with high incidences of cattle rustling along stock mobility routes.

5.5.1 Key policy issues

- i. Loss of livestock asset, food and nutrition insecurity, hunger and famines attributable to the negative impacts of climate change.
- ii. Weak national early warning system and information sharing mechanism on looming hydrological risks and disasters thereby increasing the vulnerabilities of pastoralists.

5.5.2 Objective

To increase the resilience of livestock communities to negative impacts of climate change induced risks and disasters.

5.5.3 Policy statements

The government shall:

- i. Promote R and D on climate change and variability for the provision of early warning information to livestock keepers.
- ii. Improve inter-ministerial and inter-departmental decision-making and coordination mechanisms on climate change issues both at national, state and county levels.
- iii. Support the resilience building of pastoral communities for better preparedness and adaptation to climate change induced risks and disasters.

5.6 Policy area: Food and nutrition security

Food and nutrition security occupy central place in the narratives of the development and humanitarian programs of the country for a number of reasons. Firstly, the entitlement to food as a basic human right. The second reason is that brings food and nutrition security to the forefront is the magnitude of the population affected. The latest IPC estimate puts the proportion of food insecure people in the country to over 51 percent. Pregnant and nursing women, and children are the segments of the society worst affected by food and nutrition insecurity.

5.6.1 Key policy areas

- i. Inadequate understanding of the value of livestock products on food and nutrition security.
- ii. Low consumption levels of foods of animal origin and widespread micro-nutrient deficiencies among the country's population.
- iii. Absence of schemes supporting access of vulnerable population to the animal source foods.

5.6.2 Objective

To improve the food and nutrition security of vulnerable population through interventions that increase access to animal source foods.

5.6.3 Policy statements

The government shall:

- i. Promote programs enhancing the accessibility of animal source foods to women, children and other vulnerable groups.
- ii. Support innovative school feeding programs that ensure children's consumption of animal source foods.

5.7 Policy area: Cattle rustling and insecurity

Cattle rustling is the most daunting impediment to the development of the livestock sector in South Sudan. The practice which is accompanied by violence and force has disrupted normal seasonal livestock mobility and access to market. Its social and economic cost to the

livestock keepers and the country is enormous. Tens of thousands of people have been killed or displaced by incidences related to cattle rustling. Reportedly, cattle rustling is also hugely contributing to the spread of fatal zoonotic livestock diseases like Rift Valley Fever.

5.7.1 Key policy areas

- i. High incidence of cattle rustling increases transaction costs, discourages private sector investment in livestock and hinders pastoral mobility.
- ii. Declining influence of traditional authorities, weak state structures, impunity, heightened demand and competition for grazing resources, poverty, inflation in the bride price, and concepts of masculinity fuel cattle rustling.

5.7.2 Policy objective

To create a safe and secure livestock production and marketing environment for all actors involved in livestock value chain development.

5.7.3 Policy statements

The government shall:

- i. Strengthen the traditional dispute-resolution mechanisms to deal with the underlying factors fueling cattle rustling and implement measures overcoming the challenge.

CHAPTER SIX

6.0 Policy implementation framework

The success of the NLDP rests on effective implementation; therefore the following factors are of critical importance for the realization of positive outcomes: It is to be officially adopted at highest level of government to commit to and guide the overall implementation process.

6.1 Legal status of the national livestock development policy

All the government and autonomous organizations, multi-national institutions, NGOs, CBOs, and persons who are working within the geographical territory of South Sudan for the management, development and conservation of livestock resources, import-export or other business related to the livestock sub-sector will be under the purview of the NLDP.

6.2 Policy coordination and scope

This policy is a sector-wide document embracing an integrated approach and providing a national livestock development framework. The implementation of this Policy involves a wide spectrum of key actors and partners including national and state level government, private sector, NGOs, development partners, academia, subsidiary regional organizations and livestock keepers. During the implementation of this policy a mechanism will be instituted to coordinate the work of different stakeholders and facilitate linkages so as to achieve coherence and maximum impact. The ministry in charge of livestock will ensure effective coordination with all key players in livestock sector. This will entail both an intra-sectoral and cross-sectoral coordination of stakeholders.

6.3 Financial instruments

The ministry responsible for finance shall mobilize resources from the national treasury and through bilateral and multilateral support programs. Through fiscal policy, the Ministry will

rationalize, harmonize and monitor taxes in the livestock sector, a critical factor in ensuring incentives for increased production, processing and marketing. The ministry in charge of livestock will also endeavor to secure fund required to implement programs from the donor community. The cost of this Policy programs will be outlined in the policy implementation framework and strategic plan.

6.4 Institutional and corporate governance structure

Successful implementation of the NLDP requires a number of institutional, legislative and regulatory instruments that will create a favourable environment for the development of the livestock sector. The key institutions among others will include the meat commission, veterinary board, dairy and breeding boards and pastoralist associations.

The institutional capacity needed to implement the policy includes availability of skilled workforce, effective organizational structure, facilities and most of all funds to implement the policy directives in order to achieve the desired outcomes. Effective and productive human resource is crucial for the generation and diffusion of technology, while professionalism and expertise will be taken seriously.

A system of transparency and accountability that includes incentives to motivate workers to provide quality services and sanctions for any activities that are non-compliant with the livestock laws and regulations or that break the contract is essential for effective policy implementation. Incentives may include issuing certification of the qualifications for livestock service providers and assigning specific accountability measures at the national and county levels.

The ministry in charge of livestock is responsible for overseeing the functionality and proper implementation of the policy through a subcommittee appointed by the Minister. The Minister should provide leadership and adequate resources to build the ministry's capacity. The Council of Ministers will be informed and advised on sectoral issues by the Minister in charge of livestock with support from senior officials.

The states' ministries in charge of the livestock sector will domesticate the specific objectives and interventions of the NLDP to suit their local needs. MoLF would provide the necessary assistance and support to states to implement the policy.

The ministry responsible for infrastructure development shall be encouraged to put in place infrastructure like roads, which are critical enablers of the sector's development in order to allow smooth flow of goods and services. The ministry responsible for land together with local governments and communities shall facilitate the accessibility of land required for livestock investment.

6.5 Communication and advocacy

Communications and advocacy can improve policy commitment and donor funding. Advocacy instruments, which are evidence-based and focus on the contribution of livestock to the socio-economic welfare of the livestock value chain actors and the country's economy, will be developed and disseminated.

6.6 Monitoring and evaluation

Systematic monitoring and evaluation is essential for policy implementation and performance assessment. The overall responsibility of monitoring and evaluation is vested in the ministry in charge of the livestock sector.

This ministry will have a policy implementation plan of action with key indicators for monitoring and evaluation focusing on the achievement of results.

The ministry in charge of livestock shall develop procedures for regular monitoring and collecting information on the implementation of the policy based on measurable and verifiable indicators and conformation with basic rules of simplicity, timeliness and cost effectiveness.

Policy directives contained within the NLDP shall be regularly reviewed and improved to suit changing contexts and the relevant needs beneficial to the sector. The impact of the policy shall be evaluated every five years. Lessons learned from the implementation of the policy or legislative instrument will then be incorporated back into the process to give rise to either new policy decisions or additional policy development to modify the present instrument.

6.7 Stakeholder responsibilities

The Minister:

- a. Commit to take all necessary measures to effectively implement this Policy, and in particular, to define more precisely the plan of action, the institutional structure, the financing system and lastly the monitoring and evaluation mechanism;
- b. Commit senior management and Director Generals of various directorates of the ministry to adopt and domesticate the specific objectives and interventions of the Policy, and to promote linkages between them and national level policies and strategies;
- c. Encourage other regional integration and cooperation to support and contribute to the successful implementation of the Policy by aligning, where possible, their strategies, policies and programs in the livestock, food and natural resource management sectors;
- d. Encourage all private sector actors, professional societies and civic organizations to actively take part in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of this Policy; and
- e. Reviewed the policy every five years in line with the principles of responsiveness to change. The staff review is a solicitation of comment and feedback. It is a step in the process where ideas are needed to help improve the policy.