



## BACKGROUND

Livestock play a critical role in the food systems and livelihood of pastoralist and agro-pastoralist communities across South Sudan. Livestock are regarded as moving banks, and play a significant socio-economic function during the natural and man-made disasters such as floods, drought and intercommunal conflicts where foodstuffs are destroyed or not available. Climatic change-related shocks such as floods, drought, animal diseases, resource and politically related conflicts have worsened the situation of agro-pastoralist and pastoralist communities and significantly affected livestock mobility and traditional migration routes and patterns. This has also affected access to traditional water and pasture resources as well as markets.

As a result, there is an urgent need to address conflict related to livestock migration which may occur between herders and farmers. The conflict also has a direct impact on livelihoods of the majority of South Sudanese and on national economic growth. These issues must be dealt with in order to be able to transform and commercialize the livestock sector for increased economic benefit.

## SOUTH SUDAN NATIONAL LIVESTOCK CONFERENCE

The Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, and the Special Committee for Livestock and Fisheries of the Revitalized Transitional Legislative Assembly (R-TNLA), in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and United Nations Agencies organized a three-day national livestock conference in Juba, 1-3 September 2022. Key resolutions and recommendations from the conference included: the need for participatory land use planning and rangeland management; coordinated and inclusive herder/farmer and pastoralist dialogues and intercommunity interaction; and the review and expedited enactment of livestock sector laws, policies and legislative bills. The conference recommended dedication of more resources towards building resilience building among pastoralist communities for the establishment of gender sensitive and climate smart livestock-related infrastructures including for water harvesting (solar boreholes and haffirs or water reservoirs) and animal health.

## KEYS HIGHLIGHTS

- The area specific replication of lessons learned and good practice e.g. Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Lakes State, as well as from within the IGAD region such as Uganda and Kenya .
- Urgent need to review and expedite the enactment of livestock sector laws, policies and legislative Bills. This must also include consideration of taxation issues and licensing of livestock traders, and planning for a livestock census
- Over 341,000 livestock traded in 65 markets across South Sudan during reporting period
- Close to 3.5 million livestock vaccinated against priority animal diseases and about 700 000 animals treated / dewormed against various diseases and worms.

## LIVESTOCK MARKETS

The Juba livestock market is one of the biggest in the country. About 80 per cent of cattle and 40 percent of small ruminants are supplied from within South Sudan. The balance is imported from Uganda and Kenya. During the reporting period, 341 079 livestock (87 667 cattle, 85 528 sheep and 167 884 goats) were traded in 65 markets across South Sudan.

## HOTSPOT AREAS FOR LIVESTOCK RELATED CONFLICT

Thousands of cattle were raided and hundreds of people killed in cattle-related conflicts in several hotspot locations as depicted in figure 1.

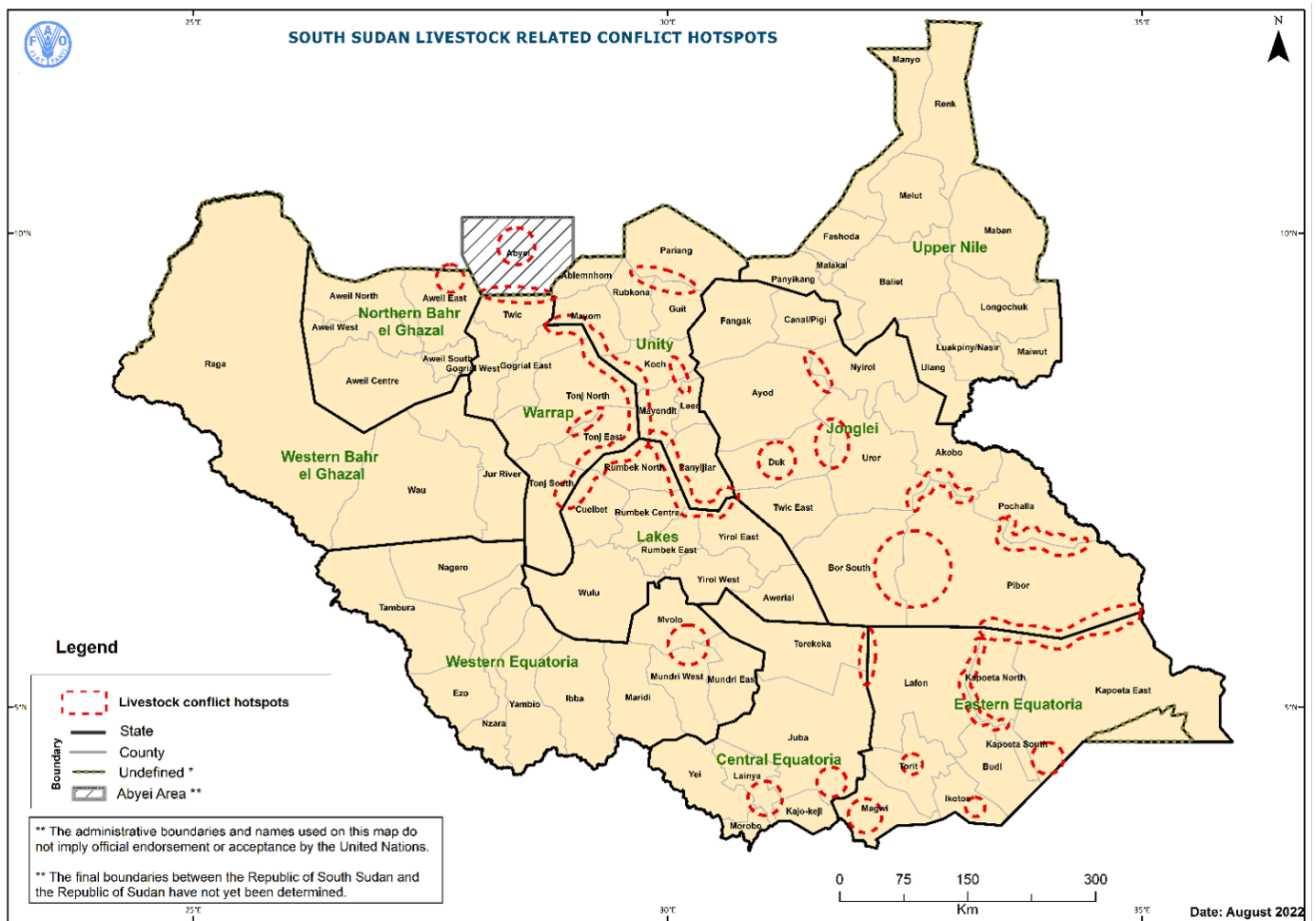


Figure 1. Livestock conflict hotspots

## IGAD PROTOCOL ON TRANSHUMANCE

In June 2022 South Sudan signed the IGAD Protocol on Transhumance which promotes safe cross-border movement of livestock across member states. The Protocol was signed in Torit by Mayiik Ayii, the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

## SUSPECTED LIVESTOCK DISEASE ALERTS

A total of 24 animal disease alerts were reported based on syndromic surveillance and clinical signs by the State Ministry of Animals Resources Fisheries and Tourism, FAO Field offices, partners, Community Animal Health Workers and private veterinarians. The reported diseases were Foot and Mouth Disease, haemorrhagic septicaemia, blackleg, Lumpy skin disease, *Peste Des Petits Ruminants (PPR)*, East Coast Fever and other flood-related diseases.

In response to these animal health threats, a number of disease investigations and joint missions have been deployed and supported by FAO in South Sudan. In addition to that, some interventions including vaccinations and treatment campaigns, risk communication, prevention and mitigation measures took place.

## LIVESTOCK VACCINATION, DEWORMING AND TREATMENT CAMPAIGNS

During the reporting period the livestock vaccination and treatment campaign reached 187 735 households. About 3 416 396 animals (1 957 459 cattle, 768 304 goats, 624 268 sheep, 66 088 chickens and 213 dogs, 64 donkeys) were vaccinated against priority diseases including anthrax, Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia, black quarter, PPR, Contagious Caprine Pleuropneumonia and Newcastle disease across the country. As part of the campaign, a total of 656 061 animals (115 473 cattle, 323 237 sheep, 193 851 goats, 22 868 chickens, 599 donkeys and 33 dogs) were dewormed and treated against the common livestock diseases and parasites.

## EUROPEAN UNION DELEGATION AND JAPAN AMBASSADOR VISIT TO PROJECT SITES.

From 16 to 22 March, 2022, representatives of the European Union (EU) and the United Nations Educational Scientific Cultural Organization (UNESCO) visited the EU-funded Pastoralist Livelihood and Education Field Schools (PLEFS) in Rumbek. The main aim of mission

was to interact with PLEFS beneficiaries and government line ministries to understand what works and to identify areas for improvement.

“I had never been to school before PLEFS and, at first, I did not understand why it was important to learn and read. But I studied the options. I knew the challenges and benefits of the dangerous, wild life I had been living. I saw in learning a chance to make things easier. With reading and writing would come new opportunities to make money. I would not have to steal anymore,” said Magnet Banisher Alter, Chairperson of the PLEFS Community Management Committee for the Minyiel Cattle Camp, who is 38 years old with two wives and nine children. The EU delegates were impressed by the project and encouraged the government to invest more in the education sector.

On 14 June 2022, the Japanese Ambassador Hachiro Tsutsumi visited the Central Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (CVDL) in Juba and was received by Hon. Onyoti Adigo, the Minister of Livestock and Fisheries and Meshack Malo, FAO Representative to South Sudan. The CVDL was established in 2019 with funding from Japan. Ambassador Hachiro indicated that with the peace, he was optimistic South Sudan can develop very quickly with the livestock sector contributing significantly.

**Building Resilience for Food and Nutrition Security in the Horn of Africa project (funded by African Development Bank) supervision mission to greater Kapoeta**

Staff from FAO, the national Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries and the national Ministry of Irrigation and Water, along with the Eastern Equatoria State Minister of Animal Resources, and Fisheries and Tourism senior staff organized a three-day mission from 16 - 19 September 2022. As part of the field visit, the mission team interacted with farmers and observed firsthand the recently introduced improved small ruminant model housing and Moringa home garden as well as the haffir (water reservoir) in Nakorongomo village, Kapoeta South county. The small ruminants housing shed will lead to better husbandry and health resulting in improved production and productivity.



Figure 2 and 3. Improved shed for small ruminants in Kapoeta ©Fao/Mayak Akuot

With the support of



Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs



Contact

Meshack Malo  
FAO Representative

FAO in South Sudan  
Juba, South Sudan  
FAO-South-Sudan@fao.org

Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations  
www.fao.org