



Livestock play a critical role in the food security and overall well-being of pastoralist and agro-pastoralist communities in South Sudan by providing milk, meat, income, and as draught power in farms. Animals are a central socio-cultural component for most of the people of South Sudan.

Climatic shocks such as floods and drought, animal diseases and livestock-related conflict have worsened the situation of pastoralist communities and significantly affected livestock mobility and traditional migration routes and patterns – the most critical element of any pastoral production system. As a consequence, pastoralists have become unable to access traditional water and pasture resources as well as markets and forced them to move to new geographic areas within their states or into other states or regions in search for grazing lands. This has resulted in increasing conflicts among farmers-pastoralists, pastoralists-pastoralists and pastoralists-nomads.

The combination of climatic shocks and insecurity has seriously compromised livestock production and reproduction, food security and ecosystems' health. In

addition, such disruptions limited access to vaccination and treatment services and facilitated the spread of animal diseases.

### NORWAY AND WORLD BANK CATTLE CAMP VISITS

High-level delegations from the World Bank and the Government of Norway visited pastoralist communities living in cattle camps across the Nile in Juba in late March and early April 2022 respectively. The delegations witnessed FAO and partners' efforts in vaccinating and treating the animals and listened to the challenges cattle keepers are facing.

The World Bank delegation met livestock keepers to discuss issues related to animal health and natural resources management. H.E. Anne Tvinnereim, Minister of International Development of Norway talked to Ms Amour Awai Anyang, a widow who was able to send her three children to school thanks to the money she earned selling milk. Despite this, Ms Amour told the



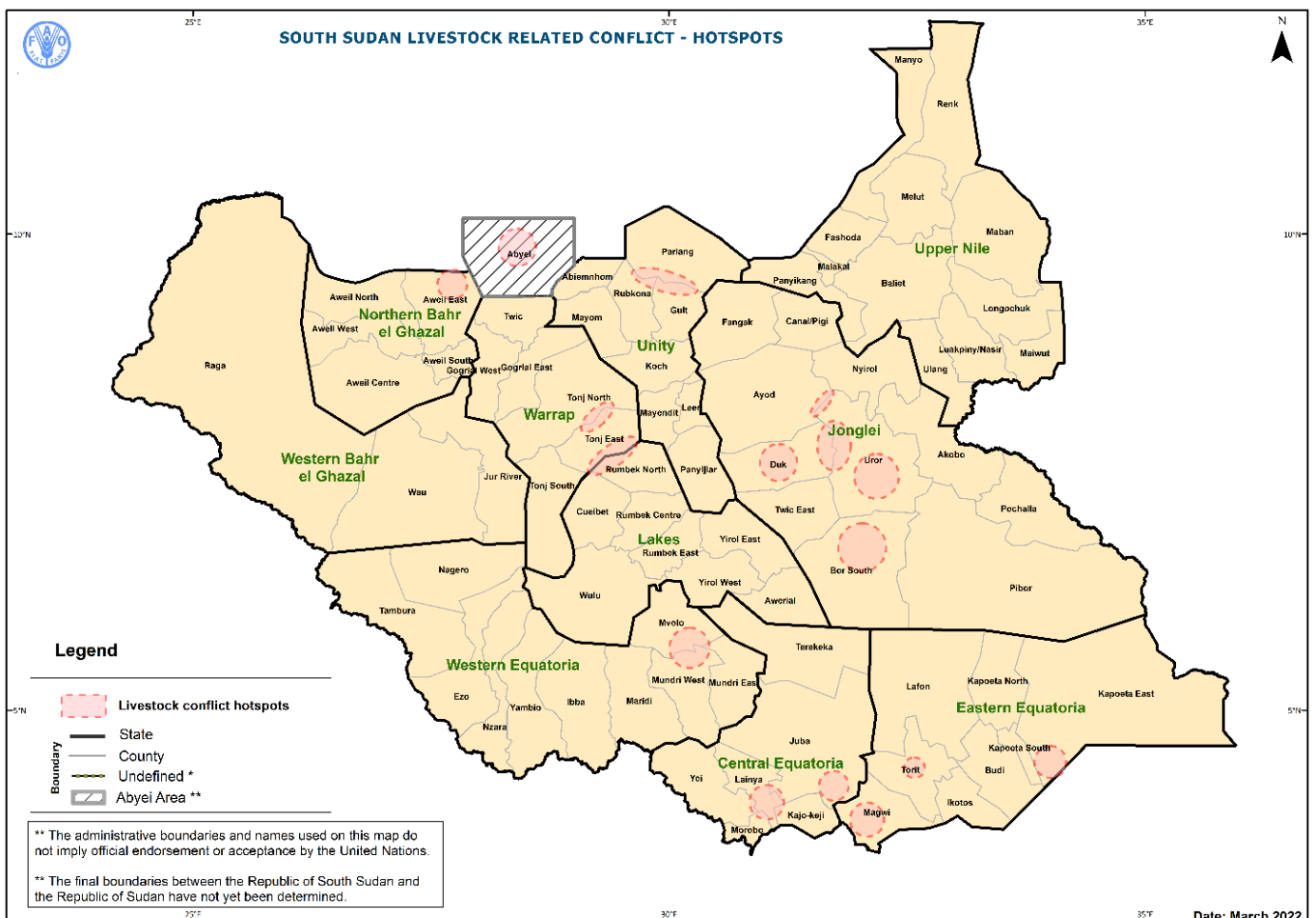
Minister that her milk yields are always limited due cattle’s poor genetic production traits and lack of animal feed. The Minister announced that Norway will explore ways to increase support to animal breeding with the aim of improving production.

### LIVESTOCK RELATED CONFLICT - HOTSPOTS

Climatic changes triggered livestock movement from flooded areas to higher-grounds across the country. Pastoralists from Bor South and Twic East in Jonglei moved to the Greater Equatoria region while those from Terekeka County in Central Equatoria State moved to other parts of Central and Eastern Equatoria. In Unity State, agro-pastoralist communities from Guit, Rubkona and other counties heavily affected by floods headed north to Pariang County on the border with Sudan. These movements have resulted in the intermingling of pastoralist populations and farming populations, giving rise to cattle raiding and significant loss of human lives. Data from the Livestock Early Warning System indicate 29 incidents of cattle raiding in Jonglei State (Bor South and Duk counties), Lakes State

(Cueibet and Rumbek North counties), Warrap State (Tonj East and Tonj North counties) and in the Abyei Administration Area with a reported 15 952 heads of livestock stolen and 97 people killed .

The situation was reported to be particularly dire in Magwi County, Eastern Equatoria State, where conflicts between farmers and pastoralists led to cattle raiding, killing and property destruction on both sides. Clashes were also reported due to dry seasonal livestock movement along the border between Warrap State (Tonj East County) and Lakes State (Rumbek North County). In Jonglei State deadly clashes resulted in loss of human lives, devastation of properties in Bor South, Duk, Uror, Nyirol and Ayod counties characterised the dry seasons. Conflict also intensified along international borders. Clashes were reported between nomadic communities from Sudan and the local population in Aweil East County, and in the Abyei Administrative Area, and between the Toposa and Turkana groups on the border between Kenya and South Sudan. Other hotspots were Kajo-Keji, Torit, Mundri East and West, Tonj East and Tonj North counties.



## LIVESTOCK MARKET

The sale of livestock products is one of the main sources of income for the majority of South Sudan's rural population. Often livestock is considered as a 'moving bank.' In case of a pressing need, people tend to resort to livestock sale to be able to afford other expenses like medical bills, school fees, food, etc. This cannot happen in the absence of livestock markets. During the first quarter of 2022, 188 759 livestock (37 347 cattle, 56 324 sheep and 91 088 goats) were sold in 67 markets across South Sudan. Improvement in security along the roads between Juba, Terekeka, Yirol, Rumbek, Tonj, Wau and from Kapoeta to Juba will lead to increased trade in livestock. The prices of livestock in Lakes State were higher than the previous five years' average thanks to improvements in security.

On the other hand, deteriorated security in Jonglei and Greater Pibor Administrative Area interrupted livestock supply during the reporting period to Juba market.

In Juba, butchers buying animals from traders tended to pay only after selling the meat. However, some were reported to have disappeared without paying their debts and leaving traders with serious losses.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- At least 188 759 livestock sold in 67 markets from January – March 2022
- 2 193 692 animals vaccinated in 41 counties and 171 823 treated in 19 counties against various livestock diseases in the first quarter of 2022
- Climatic changes continue to be the major driver of livestock movement across South Sudan
- Livestock related conflicts increased in the first quarter of 2022

## ANIMAL HEALTH AND PRODUCTION

Widespread flooding led to a deterioration in pastures due to severe inundations which resulted in poor livestock body condition for 60 percent of animals across the country. As the dry season sets in, most animals were still recovering from the impact of floods. In greater Kapoeta livestock were affected by very dry conditions due to poor rains.



Most parts of the country did not get rainfall during January-March. Rainfall was only reported in parts of Central and Eastern Equatoria states as well as Lakes State (Wulu County). Pastures were reported to be in poor condition in the first quarter of 2022. However, insecurity and climate change continued to create serious challenges in accessing pastures by livestock keepers across the country especially in Jonglei State (Bor South, Duk and Uror counties), Lakes State (Cueibet and Rumbek North counties), Eastern Equatoria State (Lafon and Kapoeta East counties), Warrap State (Tonj East and North and Twic counties) and in the Abyei Administrative Area.

### LIVESTOCK VACCINATION AND DEWORMING TREATMENT CAMPAIGN

Between January and March 2022, the dry season livestock vaccination and treatment campaign reached 86 718 households. 2 193 692 animals (1 401 703 cattle, 477 533 goats, 29 148 sheep, 21 883 chickens and 1 425 dogs) were vaccinated against priority diseases in 41 counties across South Sudan. As part of the campaign, 171 823 (57 564 cattle, 20 833 sheep, 92 688 goats, 65 chickens, 442 dogs and 21 donkeys) were dewormed and treated in 19 different counties.

### WAY FORWARD

- Continuous monitoring of rainfalls and downscaling of climate information to livestock owners and farmers through Ziraa Tanna (radio programme) and other channels
- Scale up the livestock vaccination and treatment campaign across the country (especially in Unity state – badly affected by floods) to protect livestock against important diseases
- Encourage dialogue among the communities in the face of increasing climate-related shocks

### IN NUMBERS

**2 193 692** animals vaccinated

**171 823** animals dewormed

**60%** livestock in poor body conditions

**188 759** animals sold in **67** markets across South Sudan from January – March 2022



Animals are a central socio-cultural component for most of the people of South Sudan. ©FAO/Elizabeth Stuart

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