



Navigating the Delicate Balance of Animal Welfare, Climate Change, and Development: Africa's Response to the Effect of the Triple Global Crises on the Feed and Fodder Sector

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- The Conference theme "Navigating the delicate balance of animal welfare, climate change, and development" fits well with the Agenda to address Africa's disarticulated feed and fodder sector
- Triple global crises (Covid-19 Pandemic, Climate Change and the Russia – Ukraine conflict) have exacerbated global food and nutrition insecurity
- Feed and fodder constitute 60 – 70% of cost of animal production, therefore an area greatly affected impacting livestock, livelihoods and production of animal sourced foods
 - They provide important insights to weakness in African response to crises as well as the opportunities for where Africa can strengthen its feed and fodder systems
 - Future climatic challenges are inevitable - definitive urgent action is needed for better animal welfare outcomes

Highlighted underlying causes

- Weak, fragmented and disarticulated feed and fodder systems
- Dependence on external value chains disrupted
- Limited data for decision making
- Inadequate policy, legal, regulatory and institutional framework policies
- Existing but poorly harnessed models for upscale
- Inadequate investments
- Exclusion of women and youth from gainful participation
- Negative effects on access and cost of quality animal sourced foods especially by women and children – only 4

Some of the Effects of the Recent Drought

- The last three droughts have each in turn, as they occurred, been declared the worst in living memory:
 - The 2010/2011 drought, where 250,000 people lost their lives;
 - The 2016/2017 drought where the combined effects of less precipitation and high temperatures made experts declare it to be of the severity of a drought that occurs once every 250 years in observational records (Xue Han, Yan Li, Weidong Yu and Licheng Feng (2017)).
 - The latest drought from late 2020 to 2022 and early 2023 had the unprecedented feature of being the first with five consecutive rainy season failures, a climatic event not seen in the last 40 years, with massive loss of livestock and wildlife.
 - This outlook augers a trend that future droughts might be worse.

Some of the Effects of the Recent Drought

- Landscape of the covid-19 pandemic, locust invasion, the Russia-Ukraine conflict with compounding effects
- An estimated loss of 9.5 million livestock in the Horn of Africa, the drought obliterated a financial equivalent of over two billion dollars (USD. 0.5B) – huge market failures
- Equivalent to twice the total food import budget for Kenya (which according to KNBS stood at 1.2 billion USD in 2022) or nearly thrice the export value of coffee from Uganda, Africa's largest coffee exporter, which earned 876 million USD in 2022 (Food Business Africa).
- Huge genetic resources developed over decades, key to adaptation to climate change and for livelihoods and incomes especially among pastoralists and small holders who produce over 80 to 90% of meat and milk
- Major disruption of ecosystem services of animals, including water recharge systems and nutrient recycling and soil health – a key cause of increasing flooding in livestock areas
- Loss of millions of liters of milk leaving 1.6 million underage children malnourished
- Huge loss of incomes for downstream processing and retailing businesses, many unable to service loans, and passing costs to consumers – linking them to the climatic effects on welfare of livestock
- Some mild droughts have resulted in severe socio-economic crises due to confounding effects of other factors including conflict, cumulative erosion of resilience capacities, and other crisis - An example is the mild 1983 – 1984 drought that resulted in over 1,000,000 human deaths
- Negative effects of climate change are exacerbated by other crises

Effect of the Conflict between Russia and Ukraine on F&F

- The ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine has disrupted global trade dynamics, including the availability of essential agricultural inputs
- This conflict has had cascading effects on feed and fodder supply chains, adding complexity to an already fragile system
- Africa is highly vulnerable due to its over-reliance on imported inputs



The Response: RAFFS Project

- In response to these crises, the AU-IBAR and the BMGF have launched the Resilient African Feed and Fodder Systems Project (RAFFS Project)
- This emergency initiative aims to understand and address the effects of the 3Cs on African feed and fodder systems
- The feed and fodder systems in Africa are pivotal, as they constitute 60 – 70% of the cost of animal production



Project Objectives

- **Result 1:** A Knowledge and Analytical Ecosystem for Informing Evidence Based Solutions Established
- **Result 2:** Viable business models, Strategic Partnerships, Catalytic Interventions for Coordinated Action Supported to Attract Enhanced Investment for Short Term Solutions to Feed and Fodder Shortages
- **Result 3:** Women Empowered to Participate and Benefic from Feed and Fodder and Animal Sourced Food Supply Chains to Enhance their Food and Nutrition Security
- **Result 4:** Policies, Regulations, and Institutions Reformed for the development of a more sustainable and resilient feed and fodder industry

Implementation Focus

- While focusing on 3 severely affected regions and 6 AU Member States [Kenya, Nigeria, Somalia, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Cameroon], RAFFS Project aims to enhance AU-IBAR's capacity to address feed and fodder system inefficiencies across the continent
- Good animal welfare practices are integral to animals' efficient utilization of feed and fodder
 - Therefore, the project will also enhance AU-IBAR's coordination of the implementation of the AWSA to ensure the sustainability of interventions

- The 3Cs crises have underscored the fragility of Africa's feed and fodder systems and the need for urgent action
- Sixty to seventy percent of total cost of animal production is related to feeding, and is key to animal welfare and production of nutrients critical to human well being
- Very few countries have an articulated feed and fodder sector and industry. There is lack of institutional capacity and contractual investment mechanisms to enforce contracts to deliver the feed and fodder critical to animal welfare
- Africa's response to these crises key to demonstrating commitment to forging a sustainable one animal welfare linking animal welfare, and human well being and environmental health



Thank you

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