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# **Livestock Related Capacity & Institutional Assessment Of Regional Farmer Organisations – Southern Africa.**

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# Presentation Outline

## Objectives

## Methodology

## Findings:

- Unions
- Producer Organizations
- Government Ministries
- Other institutions
- Regional issues & proposed strategies to enhance national & regional livestock lobbying & advocacy
- Required capacity

## Way forward



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## Main objectives of the study

**Assessment** to create a better understanding of the place of livestock in regional farmers' organizations within SADC including the scope of issues addressed, capacity and internal arrangements that are in place to facilitate the **engagement with livestock issues for future VET-GOV Programme support.**



## Specific objectives

- **Map** the regional producer organizations and describe how they have evolved in the last 10 years in form and functions/services provided
- **Understand the current scope** of work/issues being undertaken/addressed by the regional farmers organizations;
- **Understand current institutional and governance arrangements** in place in the regional farmers organizations to support livestock related work **including horizontal and vertical linkages to national and international organizations;**



- **Understand** the current livestock (by species/value chains and themes) related work (social, economic and political) being undertaken by the regional farmers organizations and strategies used
- **Propose strategies** to increase national and regional Livestock keeper organizations' role in the internal governance and functions of the regional farmers organizations;
- **Identify capacity building requirements** needed to support the regional farmers organizations to strengthen their lobbying activities towards livestock related issues



## **Countries that were covered during the study**

**(7,654km)**

- 1) Botswana
- 2) Lesotho
- 3) Madagascar
- 4) Malawi
- 5) Mozambique
- 6) Namibia
- 7) South Africa
- 8) Swaziland
- 9) Tanzania (COMESA)
- 10) Zambia (COMESA)
- 11) Zimbabwe
- 12) Kenya



## **Approach to the study**

**Semi-structured interview for each of the following groups of institutions:**

- Farmer unions in the country
- National livestock associations
- Key government officials who deal with livestock matters (such as the Departments/Divisions of livestock production, veterinary field services and sector support programmes in the ministries of agriculture).
- Other key stakeholders (identified by VET-GOV, farmer organisations and government officials).



## Approach to the study contd.

### Extensive review of existing literature, e.g.:

- annual reports, project reports, on the role and capacity of farmer organisations in facilitating engagement with livestock and other issues at national and regional level
- specific role and capacity of the farmer organisations in the southern African region





## Evaluation questions

### Government officials:

- Livestock production statistics
- National livestock strategic plan
- Strategies and degree of interaction with farmer organisations in planning, implementation and evaluation of livestock policies and programmes
- Opportunities and challenges for the livestock sector
- Opportunities and challenges for national farmer organisations
- Recommendations for farmer representation in the country and linkage at regional level in order to ensure that livestock matters are well represented at regional, continental and international fora.



## Evaluation questions

### Livestock associations

- Membership and constitution
- Structure
- Strategic plans
- Interaction with members
- Linkages with the livestock value chains (nationally and regionally)
- Interaction with government and other major stakeholders, nationally
- Linkage with unions, nationally, regionally and internationally
- Benefits (if any) from the interactions government, national unions and regional and international organisations

## Evaluation questions

### Farmers' unions:

- Membership and constitution
- Structure
- Strategic plans (especially for livestock if any specific ones)
- Interaction with members
- Interaction with government and other major stakeholders nationally
- Linkage with commodity associations, other unions and the rest of the livestock value chain nationally, regionally and internationally
- Benefits (if any) from the interactions government, national unions and regional and international organisations



## Evaluation questions

### SACAU and regional commodity associations:

- Membership and constitution
- Structure
- Strategic plans (with special attention to any matters that are specific to the livestock sector)
- Interaction with members
- Interaction with government and other major stakeholders regionally and internationally
- Linkage with regional commodity associations, and the rest of the livestock value chains in member countries, regionally and internationally
- Examples of benefits to the livestock sector that were/could be derived through the involvement of the regional farmer organisation.



## Smallholder producer organizations' concerns

### Access to production resources & markets for product

ISSUE RAISED BY FARMERS	PERCEIVED SOLUTION
High feeding costs of cattle and pigs but market offers lower price	Market should offer high prices taking into consideration the high feeding costs
High feed prices	Suppliers should provide feed at affordable prices
Poor linkage to markets (pork, fresh milk)	Government should facilitate linkage
No slaughter facilities	Government should build an abattoir to slaughter pigs



## Some examples of concerns raised by commercially – oriented producers

- **Cost** of compliance with regulations
- **Reform** of regulations that impact on their access to inputs and markets (import/export levies, veterinary import requirements, etc.)
- **Impact of inflation** on cost of production vis a vis market prices

## **Regional Issues**



## Sanitary and phyto-sanitary issues

- Standard setting and compliance to standards (e.g.. for Mohair from South Africa that is sold through auction floors in Port Elizabeth)
- Setting and compliance with disease control standards (e.g.. OIE terrestrial animal health code).
- Control of trans-boundary diseases e.g.. PPR. CBPP.
- Creating an FMD free region.
- Quality assurance and inspection standards.
- There should be an SPS committee in which representatives of unions sit.
- Veterinary laboratories.





## Market access issues

- Reading **market signals** and responding to them.
- Take advantage of each other's **comparative advantage** (e.g.. Botswana beef vs Lesotho wool & mohair).
- Better coordination of activities in southern Africa by SACAU and SADC so that farmers can take advantage of the more advanced systems in the region.
- **Imposition of import/export levies**
- **Sharing of genetic material**; -Reciprocal trade standards for breeding stock.



## Market access: (Regional issues)

- Access to **regional markets** (e.g.. products that cannot be exported to EU market by Namibian farmers could be exported to local markets such as Angola, DRC, with less stringent requirements placed on producers and abattoirs. i.e. remove unnecessary trade barriers for trade within the region and continent.
- The region has strong **livestock producing countries** (Zimbabwe, Namibia, Botswana, South Africa and possibly Tanzania) and potentially could collaborate to exploit regional markets. However, solidarity is still a challenge.
- Build **regional brand for some products** (where we have competitive advantage) and have policies that support that.



## **Regional liaison**

- **Liaison forums** could be used, e.g.. SADC Poultry Liaison Forum,
- Collaboration needs themes – one or two issues that can be concluded.
- Build on existing initiatives
- Most countries are not self-sufficient in production and are possibly not ready for trade issues.
- Identify leaders who can drive the issues with passion. Nurture personal relations.
- More interactive meetings at regional level – deal with topics that are relevant for the time.



## Proposed strategy

- Use of the ZIM ACP, Heifer International and LMAC types of intervention at local level.
- Raised platform of livestock within unions (e.g.. livestock forums). Zimbabwe has such a platform across unions.
- Regional interaction on one or two issues that are not contentious and on which common ground could be reached in reasonable time without diminishing interest in the meetings.
- SACAU could be involved in the existing regional forums such as the poultry, dairy and facilitate those that are not there yet or are struggling (e.g.. SALMF).
- SACAU should be an information hub for benchmarking and informed lobbying on bilateral or multilateral issues.



## Proposed strategy

- SACAU should be an information hub for benchmarking and informed lobbying on bilateral or multilateral issues.
- SACAU should provide input into relevant regional structures (e.g.. SADC Food, Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment Ministerial Committee, SADC Livestock Technical Committees and CCARDESA).
- Facilitate learning across countries. Not many seemed to be in favor of a regional structure on livestock but encouraged dialogue forums whose recommendations can be fed to SACAU for follow through.
- SACAU would need to have strengthened capacity to handle livestock specific issues.
- Encourage active SADC LTC sub-committees in each of the countries, with industry participation.



## Required capacity to implement proposed strategy.

- Training of local farmer organisations in leadership, governance and effectiveness. This could be outsourced and done at regional level for producers' organisations. For grassroots level partnerships could be established with organisations such as Heifer international to provide more of such training to promising enterprises.
- Research for policy positions. Farmer organisations should be encouraged to identify local institutions that can assist them to deal with this and use such institutions for policy research. These could be local or in neighbouring countries.
- Coordination of producer forums at regional level and collation of regional information. This would require strengthening the capacity of SACAU to handle this aspect.



## Way forward for livestock matters in SACAU

- This conference should focus on the outcomes & pledges made in the past which include:
  - Towards a common regional agenda for livestock
  - Animal Health and Technology
  - Trade and Investment, Climate Change
  - Animal Health and Trade Standards
  - Towards a common regional agenda for livestock
  - Outlook for livestock products.
- SACAU's business plan, where are we
- Engage AU-IBAR, VET-GOV actively in some areas identified in the study
- Access the study report ([LIVESTOCK RELATED CAPACITY & INSTITUTIONAL ASSESSMENT OF REGIONAL FARMER ORGANISATIONS – SOUTHERN AFRICA](#))



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# **Thank you**