

VÉTÉRINAIRES
SANS FRONTIÈRES GERMANY



ANNUAL REPORT

2015



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CONTENTS

EDITORIAL	4
VSFG AT A GLANCE	5
VOICES FROM THE PROJECTS	8
VSFG PROJECT MAP	10
PROJECTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT	12
INTERVIEW W/ YOHANA TONG	24
EL NINO IN ETHIOPIA	26
VSFG PROJECT COUNTRIES	28
Country Portrait: Kenya	30
Country Portrait: Sudan	32
Country Portrait: South Sudan	34
Country Portrait: Somalia	36
Country Portrait: Ethiopia	38
VSFG IN GERMANY & EUROPE	40
HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT US	44
ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE	45
FINANCE OVERVIEW	46
COLLABORATIONS	50





DR. WILHELM DUEHNEN
MANAGING DIRECTOR

EDITORIAL

At 60 million, the number of people displaced is at an all-time high. It is not a new phenomenon to see people who flee their homes due to natural or political disasters in search of a better life. What is new, and unexpected, is the large amount of refugees flooding into Europe in 2015.

There are reasons why many people from Syria, Libya, Eritrea, Somalia and Sudan embark on a long, costly and dangerous journey. Often, they do it to provide for their families who they hope can have a safe, peaceful future filled with opportunities. Although Europe remains overwhelmed by the numbers of refugees reaching its shores, they only represent a small fraction of displaced people compared to regions like East Africa. Both Kenya and Ethiopia host large refugee camps. People here fled traumatizing experiences, and are either settling out of pure necessity or only taking a quick rest to reenergize before continuing their difficult journey. The reasons for displacement are manifold. Some are of temporary nature and returns will happen soon, but others will not return in the foreseeable future. Both require action plans: the return to a destroyed home country or a new beginning in a new home.

As VSFG, we aim to help people find their place and make a living. We do so by providing livestock and seeds so that people can grow and harvest food. Providing assistance and expertise in these fields is VSFG's core competence of 25 years.

After all, it is a liveable and sustainable life and future prospects that will keep people from embarking on a risky venture such as fleeing. We support local communities in their fight against droughts and their efforts to improve animal health of their livestock. Fishery and water management trainings, as well as supporting start-ups through micro-credits are other examples of how we ensure people have liveable prospects.

None of this would be possible without your support and donations and without the commitment of our staff, who face many difficulties and insecurities in the field.

Sincerely,
Daniel Zaspel & Willi Duehnen
March 2016



DR. DANIEL ZASPEL
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

VSFG AT A GLANCE

Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Germany (VSFG) is a non-profit organization that has been working in the Greater Horn of Africa since 1998. VSFG's headquarter is in Berlin with a regional office in Nairobi, Kenya. VSFG is legally registered and present with country and field offices in Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan. VSFG believes that healthy animals, healthy people and a healthy environment are essential for a prosperous future for all of us. VSFG works with people whose livelihoods is based or closely linked to animals and animal products, namely: pastoral and agropastoral communities, women trading dairy products and investing in poultry farming, youth looking after animals, fishery communities, service providers, local authorities and partners.

VSFG is an expert in livestock production and marketing, animal health, livelihoods and food security, agriculture, natural resource management and conflict management, disaster risk reduction and emergency preparedness and response. VSFG also trains stakeholders on women empowerment, protection and nutrition sensitive programming, advocacy, capacity building and policy dialogue.

Finally, VSFG is a member of VSF International – a network of non-profit organizations working all over the world with hundreds of projects in the field of livestock, health, welfare, animal and agriculture production in support of small scale farmers.

PROJECT OVERVIEW



Project countries

5



Projects

34



Beneficiaries reached

1.8 MILLION



Animals treated

4.5+ MILLION



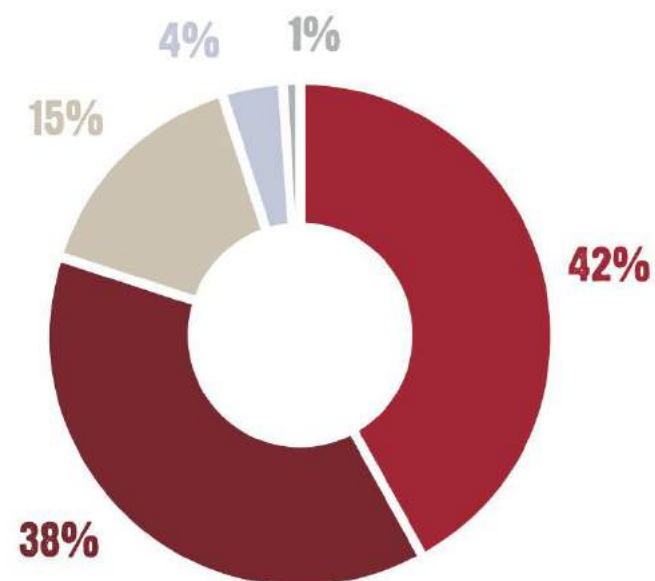
Community health workers trained

983



BENEFICIARIES PER COUNTRY

Total # of Beneficiaries: **1.8 MILLION**



KENYA

SOUTH SUDAN

SUDAN

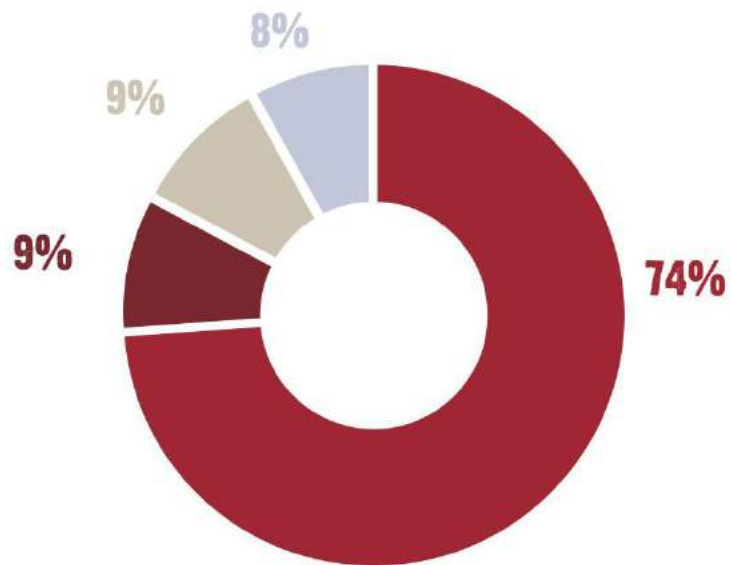
ETHIOPIA

SOMALIA



CAHWS/CRDS SUPPORTED

Total # of Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWS) & CRD (Community Disease Reporter) Supported: **983**



SOUTH SUDAN

KENYA

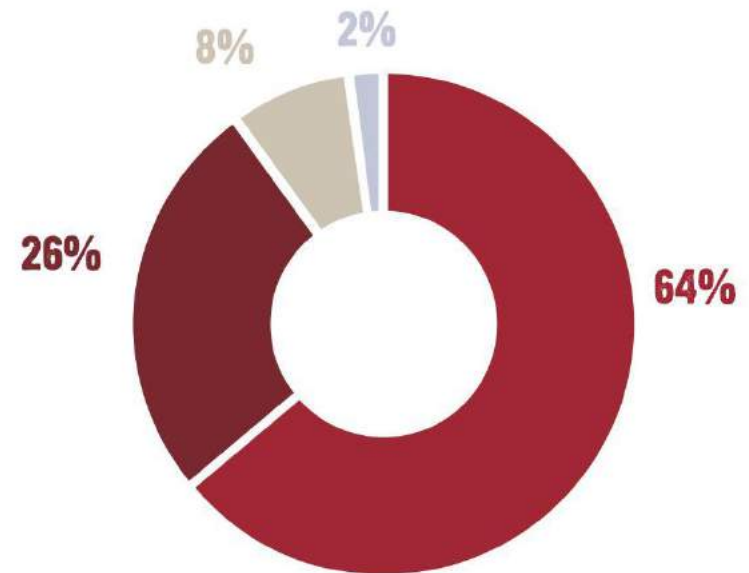
ETHIOPIA

SUDAN



ANIMALS TREATED/VACCINATED

Total # of Animals Treated: **4.5 MILLION**



SOUTH SUDAN

SUDAN

ETHIOPIA

KENYA

VOICES FROM THE PROJECTS

“

Just within five months after my training on fishing, I managed to buy four lactating goats – enough to feed the whole family and to buy school materials for the children.”



Tobos Lokure, Fisherman



Omo Valley, Dasenech/Ethiopia



“

My cow Amer has been suffering from worms. Amer would have not survived if VSFG and CAHWs would not have stepped in and saved her. I am very thankful for that: With her four litres of milk that she produces every day I am able to feed my children.”



Yar Garang Deng



Kongor Payam of Twic East/South Sudan



“

According to Islamic tradition, we believe that in a house with a goat lives a family who doesn't suffer hunger. By receiving these goats these families will no longer suffer hunger.”



Elder during restocking ceremony



Central Darfur, Zalingei/
Sudan



“

We had to travel very far to sell our livestock – we walked about 72km just to reach a market where we could sell them. Now, I can sell our livestock nearby and that has solved many of my issues.”



Fadhayo Burcha, Market
Herder & Livestock Trader



OI Turot, Marsabit/Kenya



“

VSFG provided me with a business grant that has cleared off all my debts. I was also able to buy a refrigerator that helped attract more customers and increase my profits. It inspired me to think further: I want to save, open other businesses and become more self-sufficient.”



Siciido Samatar, Milk Vendor & Mother of 7



Galkayo/Somalia



VSFG PROJECT MAP



SOUTH SUDAN

1. Changing Livestock Landscape in Greater Upper Nile (Livestock Research in Greater Upper Nile)
2. Livestock Emergency Response Project (LERP)
3. Emergency Livestock Protection Response in Upper Nile & Jonglei States (ELPR)
4. Emergency Relief to Conflict Affected People in South Sudan (ERCAP)
5. Supporting Social Economic Reintegration of Children Affected by Conflict (SSERAC Part I + II)
6. Improved Chicken Rearing Contributing to Enhance Food Security & Generate Income
7. VSFG-Veterinary Support Logistic. Akobo in Kind
8. VSFG-Veterinary Support. Pibor in Kind
9. Strengthening Food Security & Livelihoods of Vulnerable Populations Project in South Sudan (FLIP)
10. Emergency Livestock Vaccination & Treatment FAO
11. Food Security through Enhancing Sustainable Agriculture (FSTP)
12. Integrated Food & Nutrition Security Programme in Jur River County (ESUH BMZ)
13. Community Animal Health Protection & Community Animal Health Workers (CAHW) Capacity Building
14. FAO-LOA Agropastoral Field School
15. Provision of Services Related to Emergency Livestock Vaccination & Treatment to 8,800 HHS in Jonglei, Upper Nile & Warrap

VSF GERMANY IS ACTIVE IN 5 PROJECT COUNTRIES



SUDAN

1. West & South Kordofan Integrated Livestock & Livelihood Support Program (WSKILLS)
2. Blue Nile Emergency Project
3. Food Security & Livelihood in Central Darfur



REGIONAL

1. Regional Consultation with Pastoralist & Livestock Breeders CSOs: Towards Better Policies in Support of Pastoralism



ETHIOPIA

1. Support to Agropastoralists' Resilience through Small-Scale Irrigation & Fishery Phase I
2. Support to Agropastoralists' Resilience through Small-Scale Irrigation & Fishery Phase II
3. Strengthening Drought Resilience through Fishing Practices around Tendaho Reservoir in Mille District of Afar Region
4. Multi-Sectoral & Integrated Community Based Resilience Building Project in Afar Region
5. Nutrition Sensitive Livelihood Based Emergency Response



KENYA

1. Strengthening Resilience, Emergency Preparedness & Response In Arid Lands Of Kenya
2. Strengthening Resilience of The Population Living in the Arid Lands of Kenya through Emergency Preparedness & Early Response
3. Emergency Envelope 1
4. Emergency Envelope 2
5. Rabies Control through Vaccination of Domestic Dogs & Cats, in Narok East District, Narok County
6. Community Action for Improved Drought Response Resilience (SHARE)



SOMALIA

1. Promotion of Gender Equality & Women's Empowerment in Somalia
2. Support to Women's Economic Empowerment
3. Supervision Services of Community Activities – Cash for Work IV
4. Supervision Services of Community Activities – Cash for Work V

PROJECTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

KENYA: OL-TUROT MARKET A NEW DAWN FOR LIVESTOCK TRADERS

Increased and protracted drought has weakened coping mechanisms for people in northern Kenya's dryland areas (also called ASAL – arid and semi-arid lands). This has had significant impact on livelihood options. In Ol-Turot village of Mt. Kulal, pastoralists only sold livestock to meet basic needs and not on commercial terms. Many do not see the financial potential their animals have. Low investment in the livestock sub-sector linked to harsh environmental conditions makes it harder to attract pastoralists into expanding livestock marketing as a means of trade. However, selling livestock before dry periods could mitigate the impact of droughts on livelihoods. With no established area where buyers from other regions could come and trade, people of Ol-Turot village were hardly interested in livestock marketing and soon the villagers resigned to their local areas.

With support from the European Union's Strengthening the Horn of Africa's Resilience (SHARE) Programme, VSFG is supporting marketing of livestock and livestock products to increase productivity and profitability. In collaboration with the livestock department of Marsabit county, VSFG has established the Ol-Turot livestock market and empowered pastoralists to form groups – commonly



Being part of the VSFG team that helped build the livestock market, I was able to raise capital for my business. I am very excited because there are many traders from different areas flocking to the market. This job has allowed me to save and buy a mattress as well as other items which I could not afford before. The market has given me a chance to sell my goods and earn money to send my children to school and buy household items.”

Ado Munyette, a 28 year old mother of three, was involved in the construction of the livestock market as a day guard earning KES500 a day. She saved her earnings to establish a food kiosk once the market was open.

referred to as Livestock Marketing Associations – and linking these groups to markets such as Arapal, Kargi, Laisamis, Merille, Illaut, Arge and Jirime in Marsabit town. This has led to more local livestock off-take. The Ol-Turot livestock market has also attracted other income generating activities such as wholesale of maize flour, sugar, and clothes. Women are now also able to sell tea and other products through the stalls and market infrastructure provided.

ETHIOPIA: SOUTH OMO IMPACT OF IAS PROJECT BUILDING RESILIENCE IN SOUTH OMO VALLEY

Like the majority of pastoralists and agropastoralists in Ethiopia, Dasenech communities of South Omo valley have been suffering from the effects of both natural and man-made disasters. Although cultivable land in the Dasenech district is available, crop cultivation is low due to low precipitation and unreliable rainfall. Livestock is the main source of food and income and contributes to social standing and a person's ability to accumulate wealth. However, frequent droughts, pasture shortage and livestock diseases among other factors have been challenging the livestock sector. Smallholder pastoralists and agropastoralists lack working capital which limits options to diversify sources of livelihoods.

VSFG started a project called Improve Agropastoralist Resilience supported by the Improved Agriculture Solution (IAS). Its main goal is to help pastoralists, agropastoralists and/or farmers to cope with constant changes, adapt their livelihoods, manage the ecosystem and diversify their livelihoods in order to withstand future shocks.

VSFG AIMS TO:

- » Improve food security and intensify sustainable crop production of the local community through strengthening appropriate technologies
- » Improve preparedness for, and effective response to food and agricultural threats and emergencies through strengthening livelihood diversification
- » Improve the income of poor communities with special focus on women-led households through appropriate income generation activities

THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES WERE CARRIED OUT:

- » Supporting farming technologies
- » Livelihood options to pastoralists and agropastoralists
- » Income generation support for women in Dasenech

SOUTH SUDAN: CHILD SOLDIERS' REINTEGRATION IN PIBOR GOATS BASED LIVELIHOODS, NOT GUNS!

For South Sudanese boys in the Cobra rebel movement in Pibor, guns meant food: joining the Cobra Faction and taking up arms, poor young boys gained access to food. Many of the boys were from families too poor to own goats or cattle and hence had no access to livestock before. These children who had suffered hunger before, now gained access to food and even a livelihood through the military: they saw the army as a way to become a respected, grown-up member of the community. Others joined the army to rise in social status as guns and uniforms represent authority and command respect.

In 2015, over 1,300 formerly armed children left the Cobra Faction through a national disarmament and demobilization exercise in Pibor administrative area. Yet, without the gun, how would they get food without any livelihood asset, how do they join the normal community life, the very community they are accused of “terrorizing”? Would they be tempted to return immediately to the Cobra Faction so they could eat and be respected?

It became clear that a plan B had to be worked out to make leaving the army a viable option for these boys. VSFG provided the children's families with two goats or sheep per

child to ultimately replace their guns with goats. The animals underwent health checks and general treatments by VSFG trained community health workers and were de-wormed before given to the families. The children and their care-takers were also trained in small ruminant best care practices and linked up with the nearest community animal health worker for future consultations.

Now it was the goats that provided food and milk for the children and their families. Through breeding both the number of livestock and the related milk supplies have further increased. The multiplier effect has been marvellous: some boys now hope they will have enough goats to sell and afford education, start a business or even buy a cow. Already today, they sell some of their goats when the need for more food or medical care arises. Not the gun, but the goat now protects the family from hunger, illiteracy and diseases. The goats have also allowed them to imagine a better economic future and to gain respect in their communities as livestock owners, and no longer need the military to survive.

*All names were changed to protect the privacy of the children





The picture shows VSFG staff during home visits to beneficiaries. Thanks to the community health workers, most goats have reproduced and are in good health.



Korok Gain* is one of the children who was part of the Cobra armed faction in Pibor. In 2015, he surrendered his gun and uniform. Through the support of a UNICEF grant, VSFG provided children like Korok Gain with civilian clothing as well as managed the interim care centre. In total over 1,300 children were demobilized and reunited with their families.



Lokoli Oleo* is one of the demobilized children who received two goats from VSFG. The goats were treated and beneficiaries trained in basic care.

SOUTH SUDAN: POULTRY ACTIVITY IN WARRAP EMPOWERING WOMEN THROUGH CHICKEN

If you walk through the villages of Warrap State, wandering between the mud huts, you see women working hard to prepare the soil, plant the seeds and harvest their crop. In Warrap State, as elsewhere in South Sudan, women shoulder the burden of providing food for their families through farming while the men herd the cattle. Despite their hard work, harvests are often limited because of poor agricultural practices and equipment. At the same time, South Sudanese women are often the most vulnerable in times of food insecurity when crops fail. Women rarely have the right to sell cattle to buy food, even in times of need. When the harvest is not enough, women have to borrow to feed their children. This creates debt, and with it bigger challenges. Little hope remains of having money to invest in a better diet for their children, let alone for education or health care.

In its 2012-2016 strategic plans, VSFG decided to support local households to increase their own production and diversify their livelihood opportunities. We are consciously focusing our support on vulnerable women. In 2015, 770 women were supported with 3,500 improved chickens through trained village based poultry auxiliaries. All of these women were trained so that they could better care for their chickens and know how to trade the chickens' meat and eggs in the market.



“

VSFG gave me eight chicken in early 2015 which have now multiplied. I used to have very few who took a long time to mature, and even then remained very small or died due to predators and disease. During dry seasons, my family and I would often suffer from hunger. I would then be forced to borrow to feed my family. Thanks to the chicken provided by VSFG, I now get around ten eggs per day. They even cross-bred with the local chicken and now I have 19 of them in total. Chicken and eggs are now our main source of survival and income. They even made it possible to finance my children's education and medical treatments! In the wet season, I sold two chicken and bought one goat. I am really proud: I had never owned a goat before and never imagined that I could. Now, I will not need to get into debt to feed my family this dry season and even am planning to expand my flock by the end of the year.”

Abul Moe, pictured, is from Titchok Village (Pathuon West Payam, Gogrial East County of Warrap State) and has five children. She is one of the women supported with inputs and advisory services on poultry. Prior to VSFG support, Abul had only three local small bodied birds. During a discussion with the project team on a routine monitoring visit, she expressed how the support has helped her household (above).



SUDAN: CHEESEMAKING IN SOUTH KORDOFAN IMPROVED ANIMAL PRODUCT CHAIN

Recently, the South Kordofan state was divided into southern and western Kordofan states which increased the competition over natural resources in particular over pasture. This crisis intensified further as conflict forced refugees from South Sudan to settle in those areas.

In the Kordofan region, cheesemaking is a seasonal activity: during the wet season (August to December) milk production is plentiful. It even goes as far of having to dispose excess milk due to a saturated markets and poor roads. Traditionally, it is women who are in charge of milk and dairy products.

Through training, the project empowered these pastoralist women and taught them on how to make cheese, a way of making from milk a storable product which can be sold later to preserve it. The by-product of cheese (whey protein) can be used as feeding supplement for sheep as it is rich with proteins that effectively and quickly build up body muscles. The women received cheese-making start-up kits and were trained on milk hygiene, food safety and cheese processing methods, packaging as well as transport.

As a result of the demonstrated benefits, his intervention has grown in popularity and demand and more and more women are requesting cheese making training and equipment.

DETAILS ON THE CHEESEMAKING TECHNIQUE

During a 3-day training on cheesemaking, women are trained on how to use the start-up kits, hygienically handle and store the cheese. After the women complete the training, VSFG provides them with cleaning and packaging materials and start-up kits. To ensure minimum standards for storage, the materials distributed include shelving units.

Trainees then conduct practical sessions and start making their own cheese. VSFG will monitor the sessions to ensure that cheese-making hygiene standards are maintained. At this stage, VSFG will also identify if any of the trainees require additional training.





SOMALIA: CASH FOR WORK COMMUNITY WORK FOR BETTER LIVELIHOODS

VSFG has partnered with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) on the intervention "Supervision Services of community activities through Cash for work (CFW) approach". In particular, VSFG was in charge of activities in Jariban, Galkaio, Galdogob and Burtinle districts in the Puntland State of Somalia.

This intervention provided households with alternative work opportunities whilst rehabilitating and constructing productive and rural infrastructure (water catchments, roads, river embankments and secondary canals), as well as infrastructure that help mitigate the impact of floods and droughts, making communities more resilient to future shocks.

The CFW approach also improves food access in the short-term. It ensures that the poorest do not fall further into poverty and improves how the vulnerable cope with shocks, for example by aiming to limit the sale of productive livestock assets and avoiding large debts in a time of crisis. This approach further supports the immediate needs of the affected population; with better infrastructure and training, farmers can increase yields and have stronger connections to markets, while becoming more resilient to future shocks.

CFW PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

- » Increase food availability and food access for drought-affected communities.
- » Enable 7,800 beneficiaries to sufficiently meet their minimum food requirements.
- » Increase livelihood resilience through the CFW activities by rehabilitating 13 productive infrastructures.



Picture (above) show camels on a field in Somalia

Pictures (right) show beneficiaries of cash for work digging a water catchment area in Bursalah





Asha Ahmed (pictured above, middle) is from the Jallam village and heads a family of seven. She benefits from the CFW programme and is very grateful for the FAO and VSFG: before CFW, she was earning USD 60/ month from selling milk at the village, but the money was not enough for her family's upkeep. She earned a total of USD 330 after working for 60 days in a water catchment infrastructure. With this money she was able to clear all her debt, put more food on the table for her family and increase her business stock.

INTERVIEW WITH YOHANA TONG

WE SPOKE TO THE SOUTH SUDAN PROJECT OFFICER FOR AGRICULTURE YOHANA TONG, WHO FIRST JOINED VSFG IN OCTOBER 2010.

YOHANA, TELL US ABOUT WHY YOU WORK IN THIS FIELD AND WHAT YOUR EXPERIENCE IN THIS AREA IS?

I studied agriculture in high school and also did trainings in nutrition programming. I worked in the food security, livelihoods and nutrition with World Vision International from 2009 to July 2010 before I joined VSFG.

WHAT SKILLS HAVE YOU GAINED OVER TIME AND HOW DO YOU TRANSFER YOUR KNOWLEDGE TO FARMERS?

I have gained great assessment skills – I have assessed community needs and identified training needs through the design of assessment and feedback tools. It has also helped me in understanding the learning process of adult farmers, ultimately leading to more targeted trainings for them.

Regarding project and staff management, I also know how to design distribution tools (inputs distribution, vouchers and

other financial records for payment involving large number of suppliers) as well as how to recruit and manage staff.

When it comes to project planning, management and monitoring/evaluation, I have learnt immensely from working with others. Working with experienced managers and experts, I have gained skills in how to design successful projects, minimize risks and how to plan activities. I have also learnt about monitoring and evaluation of programmes and how to ensure projects are implemented as planned and benefit farmers the most.

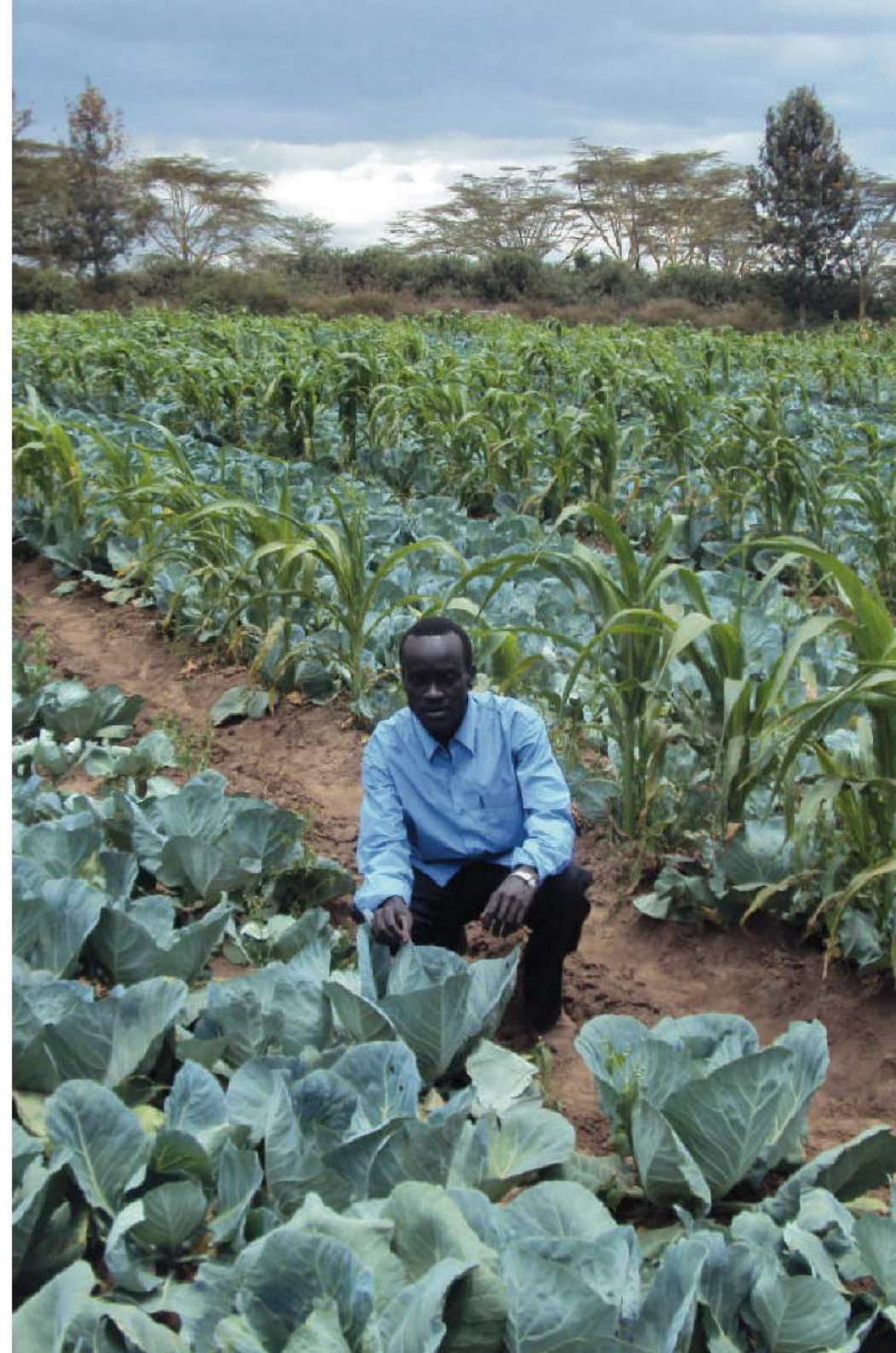
WHAT ARE THE MAJOR CHANGES IN WARRAP IN REGARDS TO FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS?

There are three main changes I have witnessed: for one, there is vegetable farming. Before, farmers were depending on wild varieties and practiced rain-fed horticulture, planting vegetables like qudhra and okra which grew around their homes and had to be consumed immediately. Today farmers in Warrap grow exotic vegetables that were introduced by organizations (tomatoes, onions, melons...). Secondly, using animals for ploughing is

a new technique. Initially, farmers did not use their animals in farming nor transport, but with VSFG introducing the idea in one of our projects, more and more farmers started using the concept. Thirdly, farmers have opened up to vet services and actively seek them, which leaves behind misinformed assumptions that vaccination and medical treatments would interfere with milk production.

WHAT MOTIVATES YOU, WHAT DO YOU THINK IS THE STRENGTH OF VSFG AND HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY?

Empowering staff is incredibly motivating to me. Letting them take charge ensures we all contribute most effectively and deliver successful projects. Additionally, I really enjoy training and learning from my advisor, work with locals and government representatives. I also enjoy working for VSFG – an expert in animal health, food security and livelihoods. Being part of a very professional organization that serves and has strong ties to the communities it operates in, employs staff that respect human dignity and diversity is extremely rewarding.



EL NINO IN ETHIOPIA

Ethiopia is suffering its worst drought in more than five decades. A situation aggravated by El Niño, the water-warming phenomenon in the Pacific Ocean that has affected weather patterns and reduced rainfall levels across large areas of Africa as well, hitting Ethiopia particularly hard. More than 80% of Ethiopians depend on agriculture to make a living, but this year their crops have withered. By late 2015 it was recognized that, as a result of the failed belg rains and the El Niño impact, Ethiopia was facing the worst drought for 50 years based on government and UNOCHA information: the estimated number of food insecure people jumped from 2 million (early 2015) to 8.2 million (October 2015) and on to 10.2 million (end of 2015). Ethiopia has made a lot of progress since a combination of civil war and drought caused the Great Famine of 1983-85 that cost at least 400,000 lives. Since coming to power in 1991, Ethiopia's government has worked to boost economic growth, improve infrastructure and create a work-for-food programme that feeds the hungry between January and June each year.

Since July, Ethiopia's government has released USD 192 million for emergency food aid and other assistance. That is

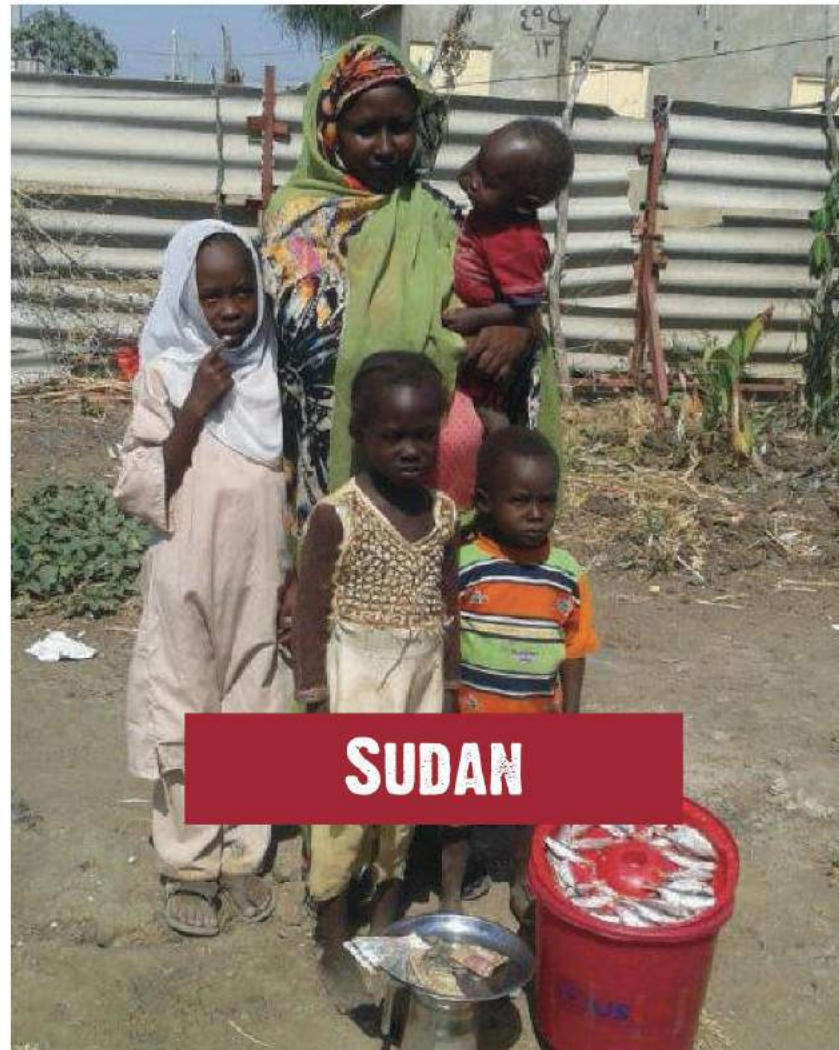
not nearly enough: the government says it needs an additional USD 596 million in international assistance to cope with the current emergency. (Source: TsegayWolde-Georgis Post-doctoral Research Fellow)

To respond to the current humanitarian crisis in Ethiopia, particularly in Afar region, VSFG has designed different livelihood and nutrition projects and mobilized additional donor funding. As a result, VSFG received funding from UNOCHA to implement nutrition and livelihood interventions (e.g. animal health, goat feeding and nutrition based livestock destocking) in six drought-affected areas of Afar region (Aba'ala, Berehale, Erebt, Megale, Mille and Dalifage). Additionally, VSFG received support by the development department of the European Commission (Humanitarian Aid & Civil Protection or ECHO) to implement a resilience project that allows for an immediate project roll-out during a time of crisis. Key activities of this project include animal health, milking goats feeding, rehabilitation of strategic water points and rangeland and restocking of milking goats to destitute households.

VSFG PROJECT COUNTRIES



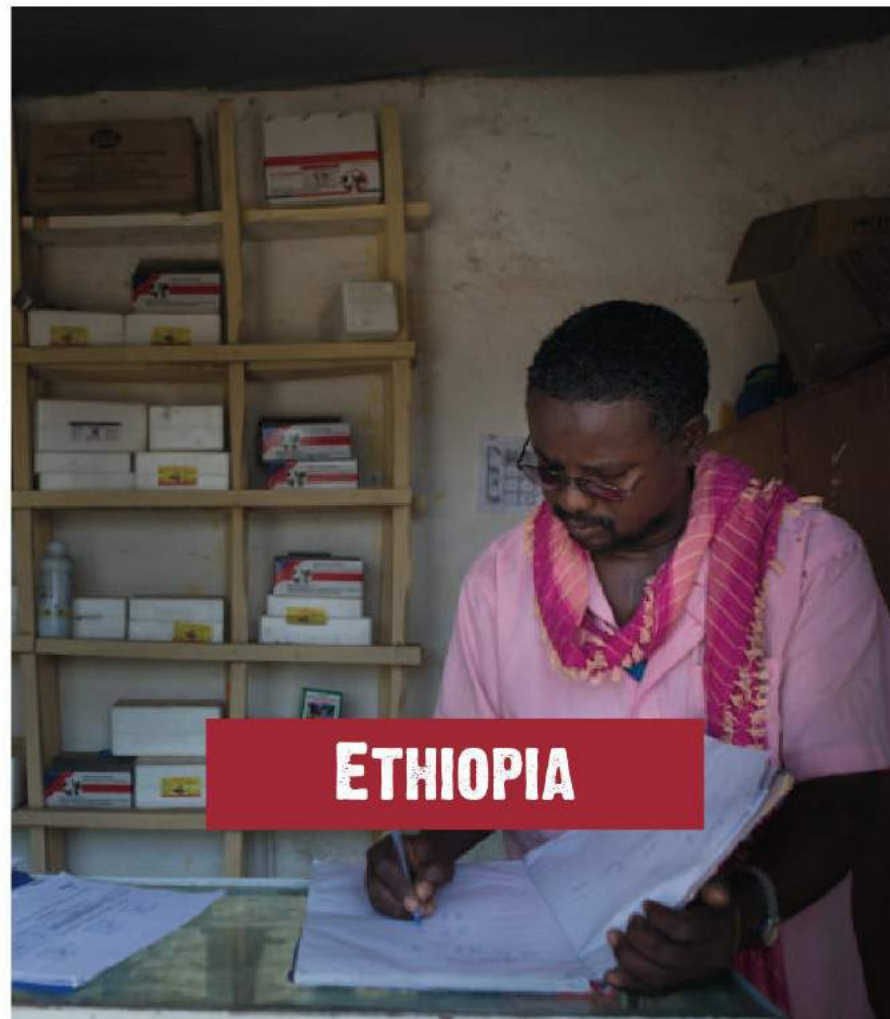
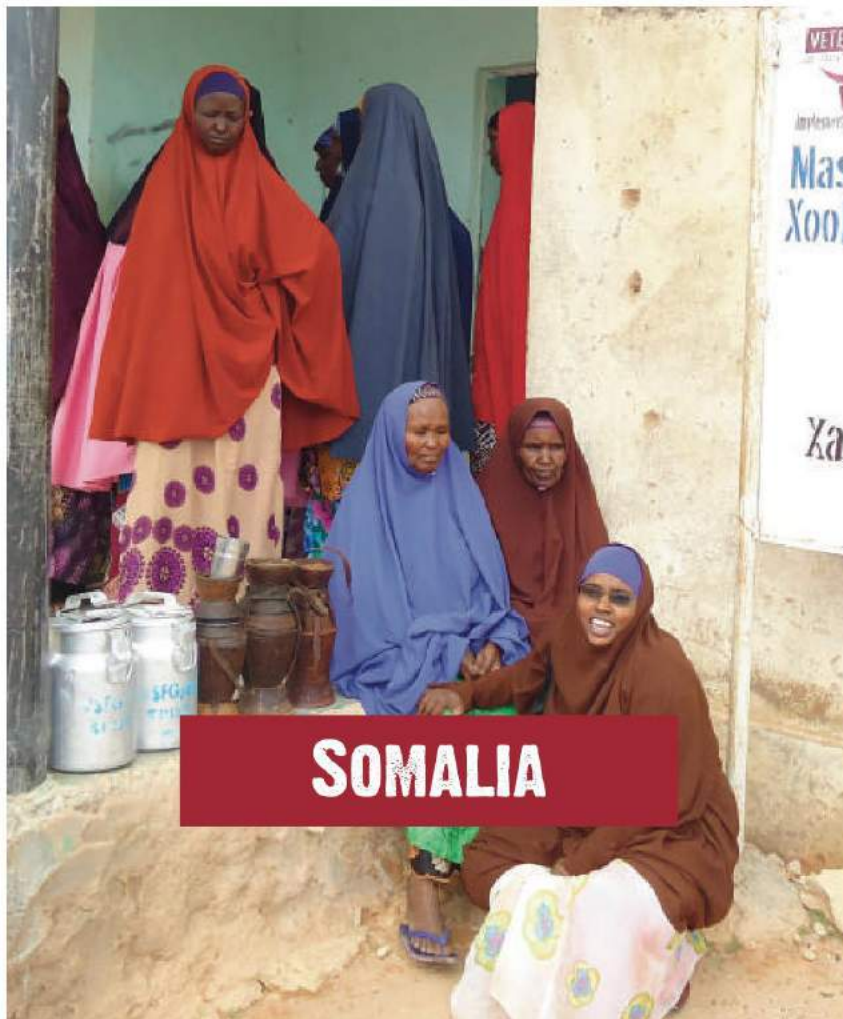
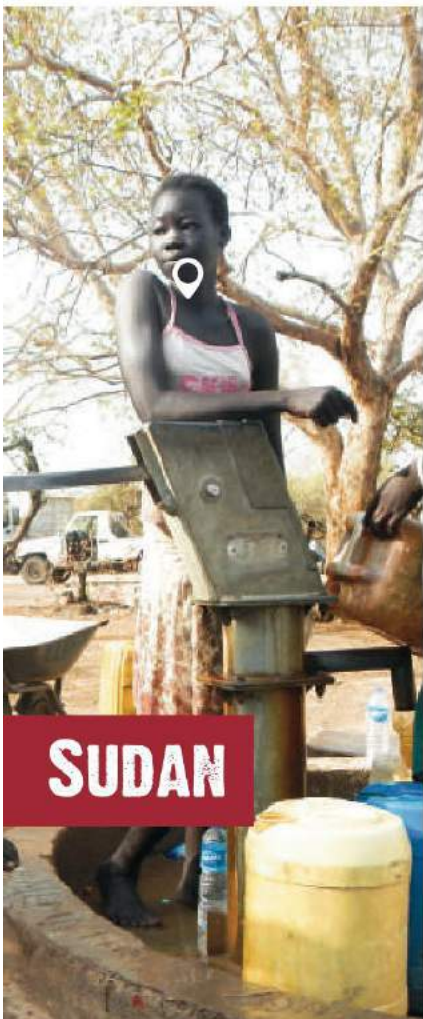
KENYA



SUDAN



SOUTH



COUNTRY PORTRAIT: KENYA

Kenya's dry-land areas (also called ASAL – arid and semi-arid lands) make up for more than 80% of the country. Dry-lands are mainly found along the Northern Borders and are home to around 4 million pastoralist who constitute more than 10% of the Kenya's population. ASAL areas are characterized by environmental degradation, negative effects of a fluctuating climate and climate change, extreme poverty, institutional weaknesses, limited infrastructure and services, high vulnerability to food and nutrition security, resource-based conflicts and high per capita cost of service delivery.

In ASAL areas, drought poses the biggest threat to pastoral livelihoods. With support from various donors, VSFG is employing a series of innovative methodologies and approaches such as Community Managed Disaster Risk reduction, Holistic Natural Resources Management, Pastoral Field Schools and 'Do no Harm' in improving food and nutrition security as well as livelihoods development through enhanced response and resilience to drought. All VSFG interventions are aligned to drought risk management and Ending Drought Emergencies programmatic framework. Main activities include:

animal health, livestock value chain development, cash transfer programming, Risk assessment and analysis, drought contingency planning, drought preparedness, planning and early warning systems (EWS), holistic rangeland management, economic empowerment through support to saving groups, improved water hygiene and oasis management, conflict mitigation, policy influence and advocacy. Activities are implemented in collaboration with other partners such as local and International NGOs, UN agencies, research institutions (such as KALRO and ILRI), county and national governments as well as national drought management authorities.

VSFG sees unprecedented potential in supporting governance system to advance equity in distribution and public resources between national and county governments and allow them to develop based on their needs not by imposed virtue. VSFG continues to support community and government members through training as well as to advocate for including local priorities into county planning efforts.

PROJECT OVERVIEW



Projects
4



Donors
ECHO, EC, PRIVATE FUNDS



Beneficiaries reached
751,600+



Animals treated
95,500+



Community Disease Reporters trained
90+



COUNTRY PORTRAIT: SUDAN

In Sudan, livestock production makes up 21% of national exports and more than 28% of total agricultural exports. However, the sector is constrained by competition over land and conflicts over natural resources between pastoralists and farmers. Access to quality inputs and technologies are scarce. Conflicts with sedentary people along pastoral migration routes have become frequent.

Together with other actors and supported by its donors in the livestock sector, VSFG rolled out several projects targeting pastoral communities. Animal health, livestock marketing and farming production, fisheries, capacity building and peace building were amongst the main activities.

The programmes serve vulnerable families of returnees, livestock dependant resident pastoral communities and nomads affected by natural disasters and conflict. VSFG is one of a few iNGOs that primarily provide livestock and animal health interventions in the country. Over the years, VSFG has built a strong partnership with federal and state ministries of animal resources, fisheries and rangeland.

THROUGH ITS INTERVENTION IN SUDAN, VSFG AIMED AT:

- » Strengthening productive capacities and widening pastoralist and agro-pastoralist opportunities and generating income.
- » Supporting vulnerable, crisis-affected communities by encouraging diversified livelihood systems, providing essential inputs, training and livestock asset protection.
- » Empowering women through income-generating activities.
- » Strengthening the preparedness and response capacities of communities and institutions against natural resource degradation.

PROJECT OVERVIEW



Projects
3



Donors
OFDA/USAID, CHF, PRIVATE FUNDS



Beneficiaries reached
255,500



Animals treated
1.8 MILLION



CAHWS trained
80+



COUNTRY PORTRAIT: SOUTH SUDAN

After the peace agreement with the North, peace prevailed for 8 years. South Sudan's internal civil war broke out in December 2013 and continued, escalating acute food insecurity into emergency and crisis status in almost 90% of the country and provoked an imminent famine in one of the most affected areas in Unity State. Nearly 250,000 children in South Sudan are at significant risk of malnutrition.

One of the key milestones for 2015 in South Sudan's year long civil war was the signing of the peace agreement in Ethiopia's capital Addis Ababa between the Government of South Sudan and Sudan's People Liberation Army (SPLA) in August 2015. The international community is eagerly supporting the realization of the peace agreement, hoping for an immediate end to violence and reconciliation.

VSFG continued and expanded its response to the unfolding humanitarian crises in Greater Upper Nile States (GUN; Jonglei, Upper Nile and Unity). Longer term development programs continued in the Greater Bahr el Ghazal (Lakes, Warrap and Western Bahr el Ghazal States) supporting individuals to increase food production. The GUN response

programme reached over 640,000 individuals with various interventions such as food aid, animal health, crop agriculture and reintegration of former child soldiers in Greater Pibor.

Operations in the country continue to face huge challenges due to the national conflict that trickled down to local ethnic conflicts. Due to safety issues, most locations remained hard to reach by humanitarian aid. The cost and complexity of operations continued to rise due to challenging environment and inflation affecting access, transportation and supply costs. Plans for 2016 include further expansion of interventions, especially in the GUN areas. They will also look to support communities and how they can regain their productivity. This is very important to ensure that aid dependence is gradually reduced as communities rebuild their livelihoods. A lot of efforts have gone to understanding the changed "landscape" in food security and livelihood: as teams have supported communities to withstand the shocks of 2014 and 2015, major livestock research has produced further lessons learnt. These insights, lessons and practices are now the base for the programming strategy for 2016, especially in supporting returning and host-communities in settling down.

PROJECT OVERVIEW



Projects
15



Donors
EC, BMZ ESUH, BMZ BONGO, OFDA/USAID, GAC,
UNICEF, CHF/UNDP, GIZ, AECOM/VISTAS, FAO,
PRIVATE FUNDS



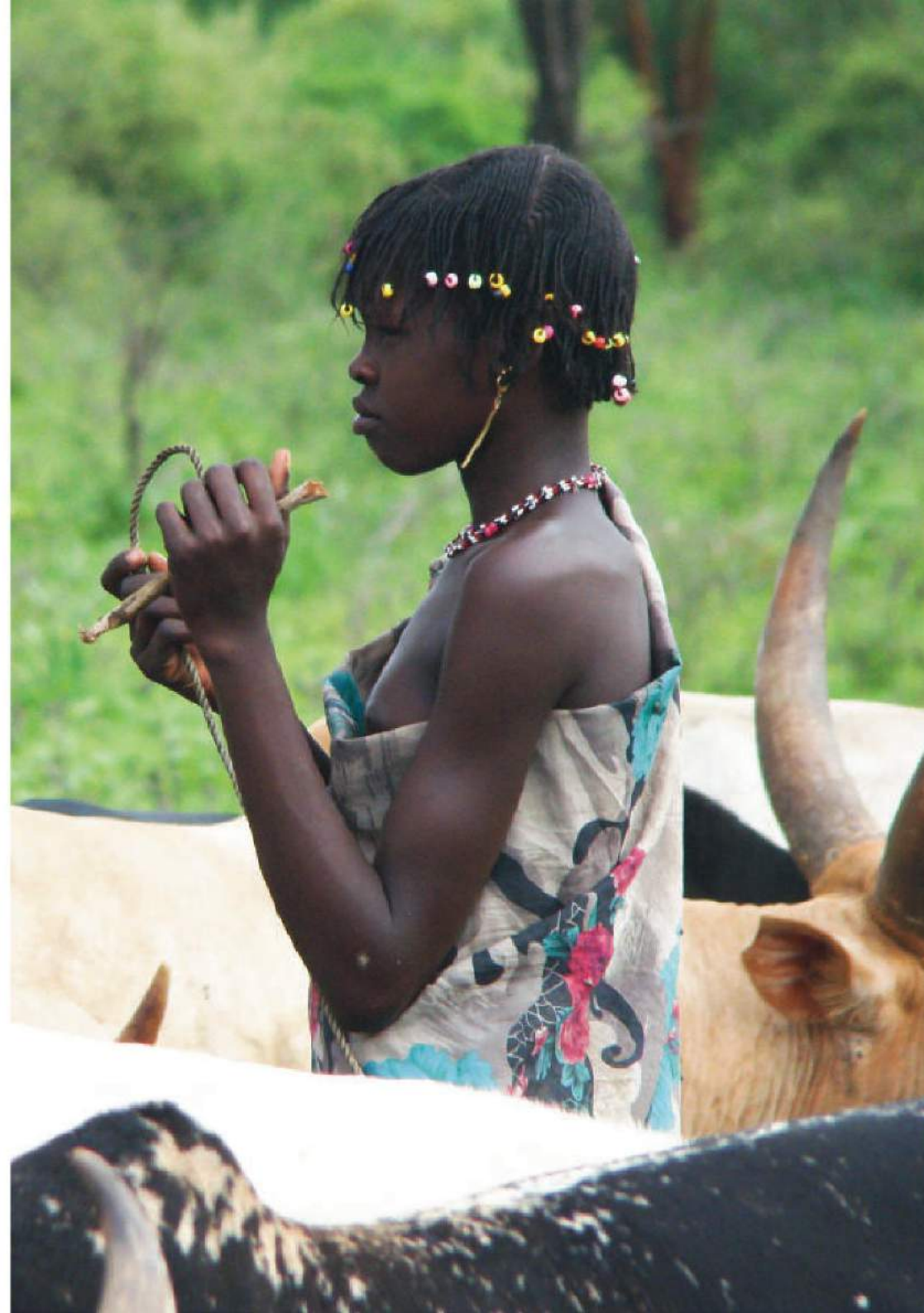
Beneficiaries reached
666,200



Animals treated
2.9 MILLION



CAHWS or CADS trained
730+



COUNTRY PORTRAIT: SOMALIA

The prolonged civil conflict and insecurity have characterized Somalia for over two decades. Protracted crises have caused enormous damage to human livelihoods and socio-economic structures. The provision of social services such as health, education, water, sanitation, food and nutrition has considerably deteriorated and caused Somalia to have some of the worst human development indicators in the world

However, Somalia is currently at a “turning point” after all: political and security developments as well as the commitment of the international community for a sustainable resolution of the protracted crisis in the country have been positive. Somalia has entered a new phase of peace building, stability and recovery, after the end of the political transition on 2012. Yet, the situation remains extremely fragile. Massive influx of Somali returnees mainly from Kenya, Ethiopia and more recently Yemen, worsens the situation in urban and rural areas where resources are already scarce and undermined by recurrent adverse natural and political turmoil. Emergency interventions keep following one another, while rehabilitation and development actions have difficulties in

leaving their marks because heavy bureaucracy prolongs processes, and thus is not effective enough in such a volatile situation.

VSF with support from the EU and the German Government has been working in Somalia to promote gender equality and women empowerment for an inclusive, transparent and accountable society. In 2015, VSFG implemented the second phase of “Promotion of gender equality and women’s empowerment project” in Galkaayo Town. The project aimed to promote the economic empowerment of survivors of violence against women through micro-financing of group-based income-generating activities. Gender inequality has denied women access to resources and opportunities perpetually increasing their vulnerability to the effects of poverty. VSFG has been working with women who survived violence and those who are involved in small businesses to hone their business skills through training. VSFG also implemented a FAO-funded CFW project to help IDPs in Galkaayo, gain access to food through cash and overcome negative effects and hunger due to prolonged droughts.

PROJECT OVERVIEW



Projects
4



Donors
EC, GIZ, FAO, PRIVATE FUNDS



Beneficiaries reached
16,500+



COUNTRY PORTRAIT: ETHIOPIA

Ethiopia is Africa's oldest independent country and its second largest by population. Its unique cultural and historic heritage is fascinating. As the only African country that upheld its sovereignty, Ethiopia served as a symbol of African independence throughout the colonial period. As an active member of the United Nations since 1945, it is also base to many international organisations and headquarters to the African Union and UN agencies. The main challenge for Ethiopia is to continue the progress made in recent years toward the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and to address the causes of poverty among its population.

VSFG has been working in South Omo since 2009, where it is currently implementing the FAO- and DFID-funded "Improve agricultural solution (IAS) project in Dassanech district" since May 2014. In 2012, VSFG expanded its implementation region to Afar where it carries out three nutrition sensitive livelihood based emergency response projects funded by UNOCHA. In 2015, VSFG has also been implementing similar UNOCHA-funded emergency response projects in six districts. VSFG is also member of RESET I Afar cluster implementing multi-sectoral and Integrated community based resilience building

projects in three districts with consortium members SCI, AMREF and LVIA. In Mille, GIZ funded an intervention titled "Strengthening drought resilience through fishing practices around Tendaho reservoir in Mille district of Afar region". In collaboration with FAO and Afar region Pastoral Agriculture Development bureau, VSFG will also start the long-term and state-wide "EC-SHARE animal health project (PPR)" in early 2016 in Afar.

MAIN ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY VSFG IN 2015 TO:

- » Improve agropastoralists' (small holder farmers) resilience through improved farming practices of small scale irrigation and fishing in Dassanech Woreda of south Omo Zone SNNPR.
- » Improve multi-sectoral and integrated community-based resilience in Afar Region.
- » Provide emergency response for nutrition sensitive livelihoods in Berehale, Aba'ala, Erebt.
- » Provide emergency response for drought-affected areas in Mille, Megalle and Dalifagi.
- » Strengthen pastoralist resilience in the Lowland pastoral areas of Ethiopia, Afar region.

PROJECT OVERVIEW



Projects
4



Donors
ECHO, FAO, GIZ, UNOCHA, PRIVATE FUNDS



Beneficiaries reached
68,700



Animals treated
384,700



Community Disease Reporters trained
80+



VSFG IN GERMANY & EUROPE

In January 2015, the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) convened the second of two meetings of the ad-hoc expert group on disaster risk reduction on animal health and welfare as well as veterinary public health. VSFG was invited to participate in both events in Paris. Maurice Kiboye, our Kenyan livestock expert, attended.

Given the emerging problem of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in animals and humans, VSF was invited to participate at the Wilton Park, GB, meeting on AMR in humans and animals in low- and middle-income countries and on how knowledge and action can be strengthened to address this issue. The conference was organized by the Commonwealth Foundation and was attended by Dr. Mario Younan and Prof Gerald Gerlach, both members of VSFG.

In April 2015, VSFG participated the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE) conference on natural disasters and the One Health approach in Brussels.

FVE is a Federation of 42 veterinary organizations in 37 European countries. It has a membership representing

approximately 200,000 veterinarians. VSFG was invited to share its experiences in the field and on behalf of VSF International. Maurice Kiboye attended.

From September 16-18, 2015 VSFG participated at the “Tropentag” in Berlin. The Tropentag is an internationally renowned conference about tropical agriculture, animal husbandry and natural resource management. VSFG spoke on how to improve dairy value chains and on participatory epidemiology.

During the conference, and as a member of the Coalition of European Lobbies on Eastern African Pastoralism (CELEP), VSFG organized a photo exhibition about pastoralism and informed about the networks activities. Nicoletta Buono from our Nairobi Regional Office and several members of our HQ office attended. In the same week, VSFG was also invited to speak at the Platform for International Zoonotic Diseases, at the Bernhard Nocht Hospital in Hamburg, about the problems of zoonotic diseases in the project regions. Wilhelm Duehnen attended.

MD Wilhelm Duehnen also attended an all-African conference on veterinary para-professionals and their importance for service delivery, organised by OIE and GALVmed. He was a key speaker in the conference that took place in Pretoria, South Africa in September.

VSFG is an active member of VSF International, and as such participated in its annual and board meeting in Lyon in October. Prior to this meeting, VSFG also participated in an international Workshop on Proximity Animal Health Services organized by VSF France and attended by both OIE and FAO. This was done by the board member Olaf Bellmann and Conny Heine from HQ.

The VSF International network is more visible than ever. Another proof of that is that VSFG was invited to present VSF International and its work at the World Healthcare Student Symposium in Skopje, Macedonia where it held a workshop about the One Health approach in development work. Board Member Boaz Abraham attended.

PUBLICATIONS

VSFG had the opportunity to publish articles about its work in the internationally renowned journals "Rural 21" and "Development and Cooperation" as well as in German journals focused on veterinary medicine. In addition, the Global Alliance for Rabies Control (GARC), presented the work of VSFG in their publications. The Director of the Board Daniel Zaspel attended an international meeting on the eradication of Rabies, a goal for this century.





VACCINATING FOR AFRICA!

Nearly 1,300 veterinarian practices in Germany took part in the 2015 “Vaccinating for Africa! (VfA)” fundraising campaign and even surpassed the initial fundraising goal of EUR 222,222.22 for VSFG’s projects in Kenya. One of the funded project is the annual rabies campaign in the Mara, now expanded to Kajiado. This would not have been possible without the support of our corporate sponsors: Animal health company Merial GmbH (as main sponsor), pet food manufacturer Royal Canin and laboratory services provider synlab.vet. The campaign received public support by two prominent German figures: Federal Minister of Food and Agriculture Christian Schmidt, acted as the campaign’s patron and journalist, TV moderator and author Dunja Hayali supported the day of action. VSFG thanks all its supporters who have made “Vaccinating for Africa!” such a success in 2015!

VOLUNTEERS AND STUDENT GROUPS

VSFG was able to strengthen their bonds with students at the five veterinary universities all over Germany. Just like in

2014, the groups represented VSFG at numerous events and fairs, such as the Berlin Company Run where VSFG was represented for the first time. These events increased public awareness of VSF Germany and its important work across the great Horn of Africa.

In May VSFG hosted a 2-day workshop in Berlin targeting young students and volunteers who learnt about VSFG’s work and humanitarian assistance.

STRONG CORPORATE FUNDRAISING

Once again VSFG proved to be a good sponsoring partner to various German corporations. The company Vetoquinol launched their new “Achieve More Together” corporate identity with a charity campaign for VSFG.

The companies DACTARI and Praxisdienst-VET both created their own Christmas donation campaigns for VSFG. DACTARI donated a part of sold animal drawings and Praxisdienst-VET encouraged their customers to put up virtual Christmas tree ornaments on their website and let them decide to which of three chosen organisations they wanted their EUR 1 donations

to go. Over 40% of their customers chose VSFG, a total of EUR 4,060!

NEW HEAD OF THE BOARD

In 2015, Dr. Frajo Siepelmeyer, who served VSFG as head of the board for many years, stepped back and was followed by Dr. Daniel Zaspel who took over his position. VSF Germany would like to express their gratitude for Dr. Siepelmeyer's involvement, commitment and leadership.

REGIONAL AND GLOBAL INTERVENTION WITH IFAD

In August 2015, a consortium of VSF International members and led by VSFG started a new project to strengthen pastoralists' civil society capacity to contribute to the design of policies and programmes at regional and international level.

It is estimated that today nearly 200 million nomadic pastoralists around the world generate food and income for their communities, contribute to biodiversity conservation and to climate change mitigation. Pastoral systems are sustainable and extremely adaptable to the particular environment and to the specific socioeconomic conditions. Yet, pastoral communities are often marginalized, lacking political recognition and proper political and institutional support. As a result, they are often confronted with difficult access to natural resources and with insecure land and water tenure rights, not seldom leading to conflicts. Often, people in pastoral areas

lack proper infrastructure and have limited access to markets and basic services. Despite efforts made in recent years by researchers, civil society and development practitioners, the gap between policymakers and pastoralists remains. This project built on existing initiatives and tried to close this gap by offering practical recommendations for effective policies and programmes, and strengthening local networks to more effectively advocate for their cause. A stronger participation to policymaking and better designed policies will contribute to the support of prosperous pastoralists' livelihoods and to their wellbeing

THE PROJECT AIMS AT:

- » Identifying a pro-pastoralists political agenda, which includes evidence of the value of sustainable pastoralism, and sets out challenges and opportunities at local, regional and international level, as well as provides recommendations for policymakers and international organisations
- » Strengthening networks and alliances of pastoralists CSOs in each of the identified sub-regions
- » Putting forward the pastoralist agenda in national, regional and international debates and forums through a coordinated advocacy and awareness-raising campaign
- » The project, co-financed by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), spanned across the three continents Africa, Asia and Latin America

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT US

VACCINATING FOR AFRICA!

“Vaccinating for Africa!” is an annual event during which animal owners can easily provide vital assistance for Africa. Veterinarians all over Germany vaccinate animals on this day as usual and donate half of this income to VSF Germany. The vaccination on this day doesn't cost a cent more than usual.

More information: www.impfenfuerafrika.de



DONATIONS AND MEMBERSHIP

Anyone can help. No matter how much or little, your contribution strengthens people in their efforts to lead lives of self-determination. Your support of people in eastern Africa is especially effective when you become a sustaining member. Your regular donation provides long-term support for our projects and helps us plan sustainably. More information: Single donations are used to help families in African build self-determined lives in harmony with their animals and the environment.

More information: www.togev.de/spende

DONATIONS AND GIFTS

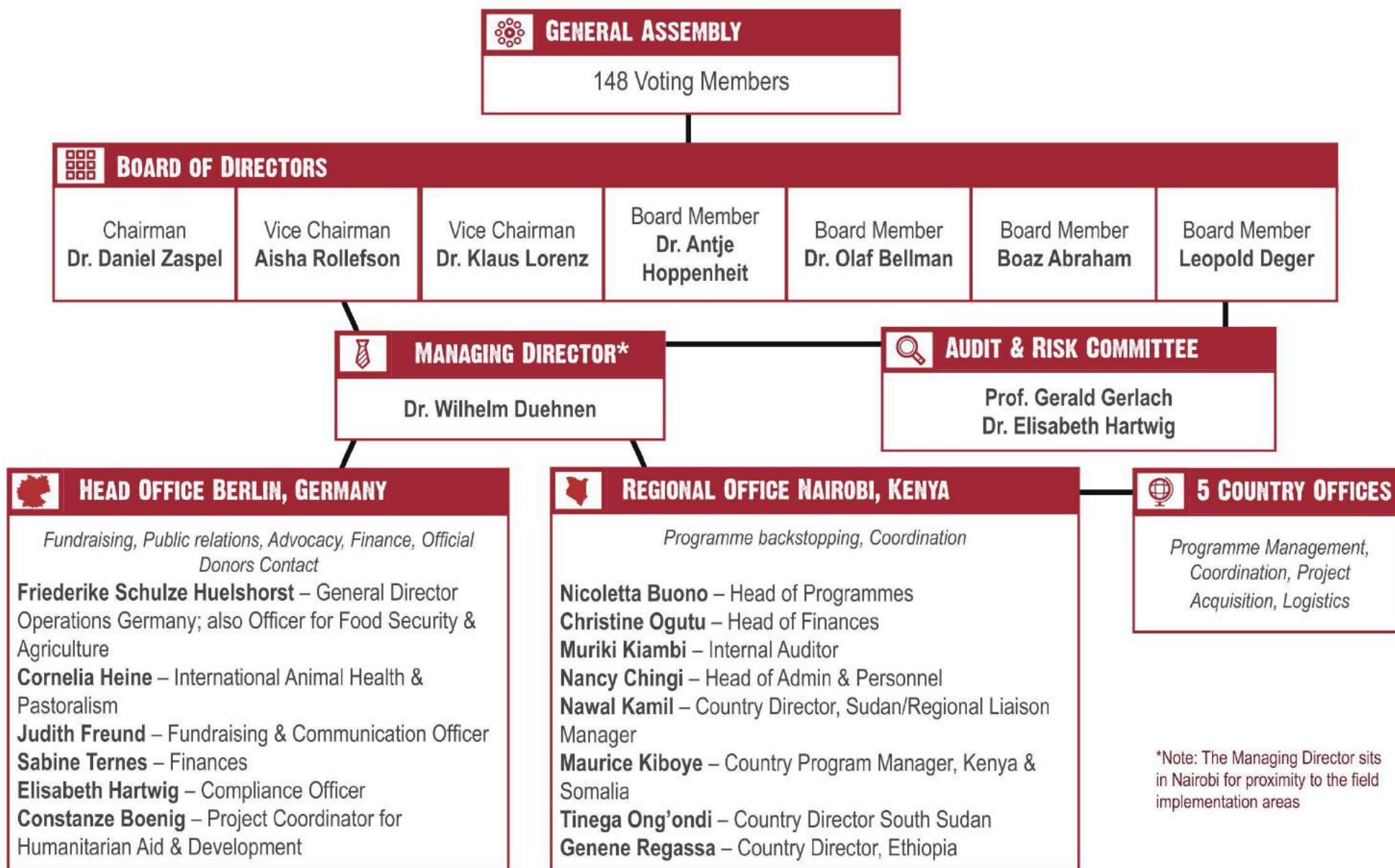
Looking for an unusual gift? VSF Germany has ideas for original gifts that bring joy in two ways: give a goat, a seedling fruit tree, or a steel plough.

More information: www.togev.de/schenken

MAKE A GIFT OF A SHEEP OR A STEEL PLOUGH!



ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

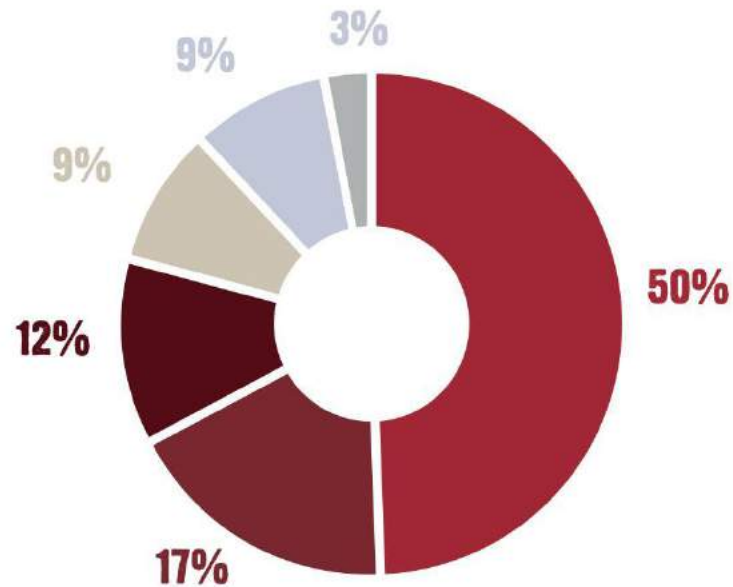


FINANCE OVERVIEW



PROJECTS PER COUNTRY

Total Number of Projects: **34**



SOUTH SUDAN

ETHIOPIA

SOMALIA

KENYA

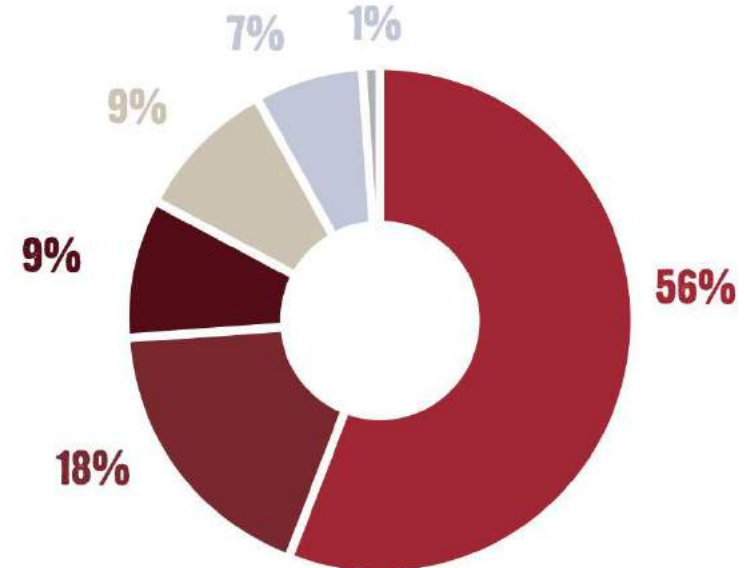
SUDAN

EASTERN AFRICA REGIONAL



BUDGET PER COUNTRY

Total Budget (in €): **6.3 MILLION**



SOUTH SUDAN

KENYA

SUDAN

ETHIOPIA

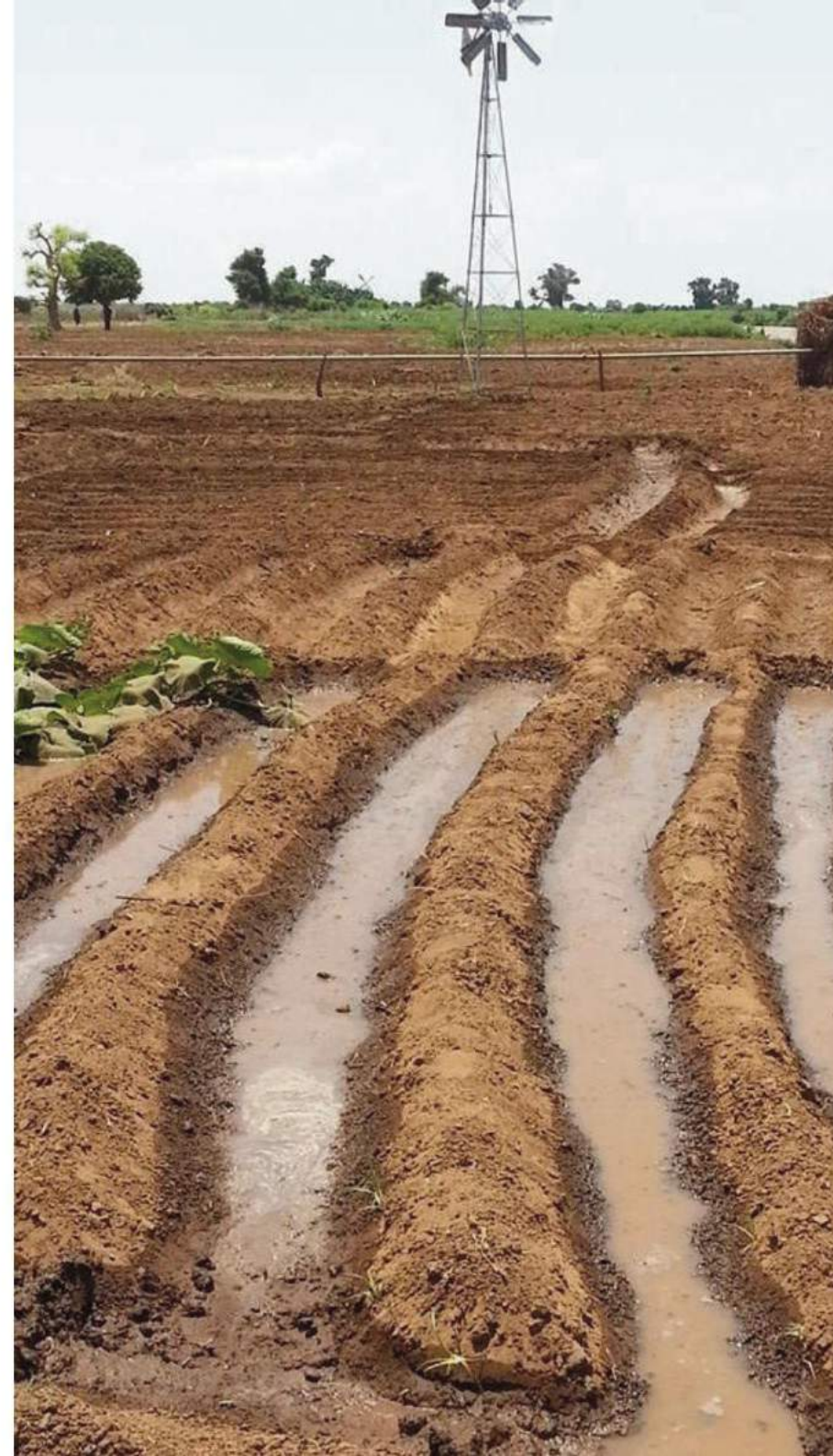
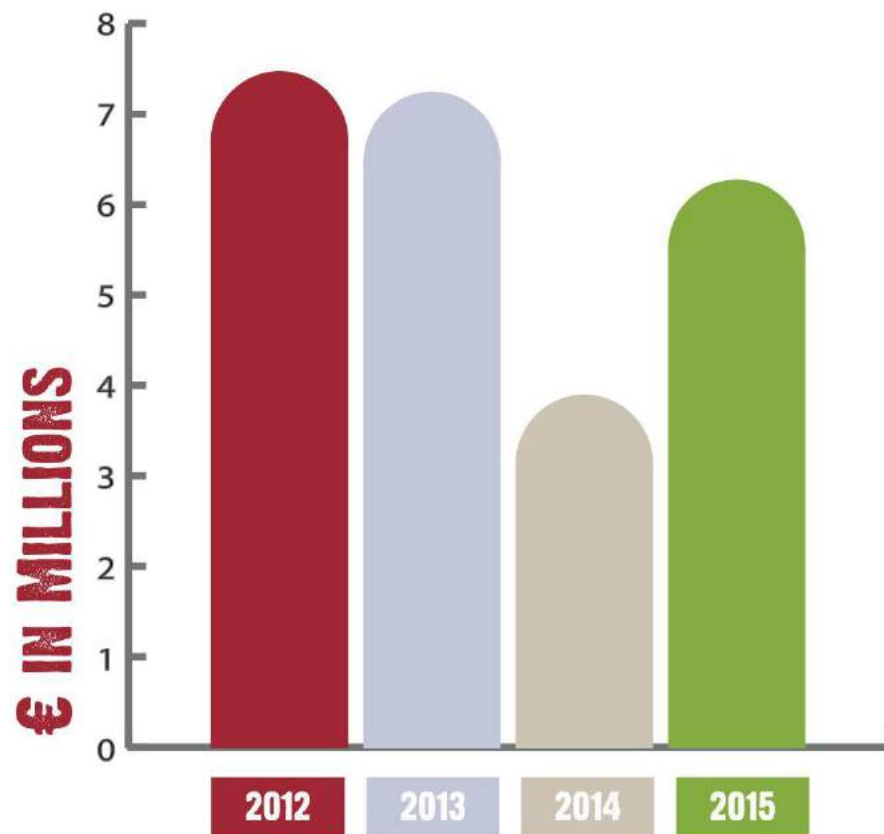
SOMALIA

REGIONAL OPERATIONS



ANNUAL INCOME

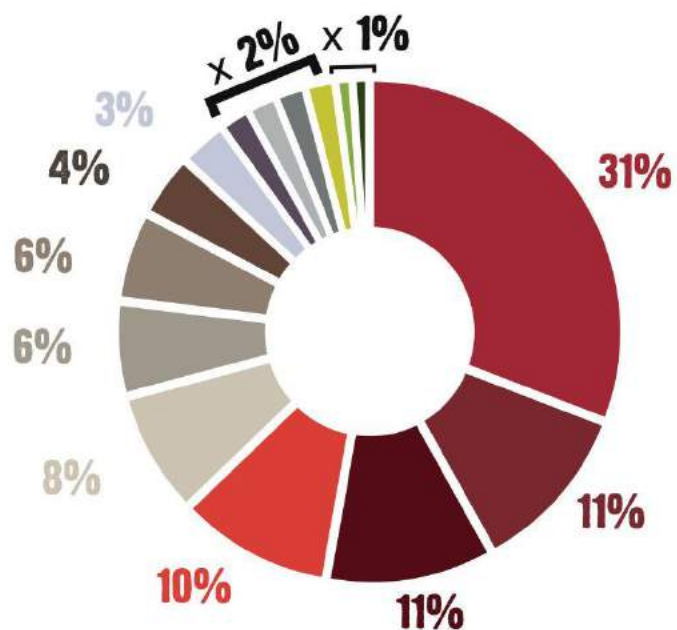
Total Annual Income for the years 2012-2015





SOURCES OF FUNDING

Total Budget (in €): **6.3 MILLION**

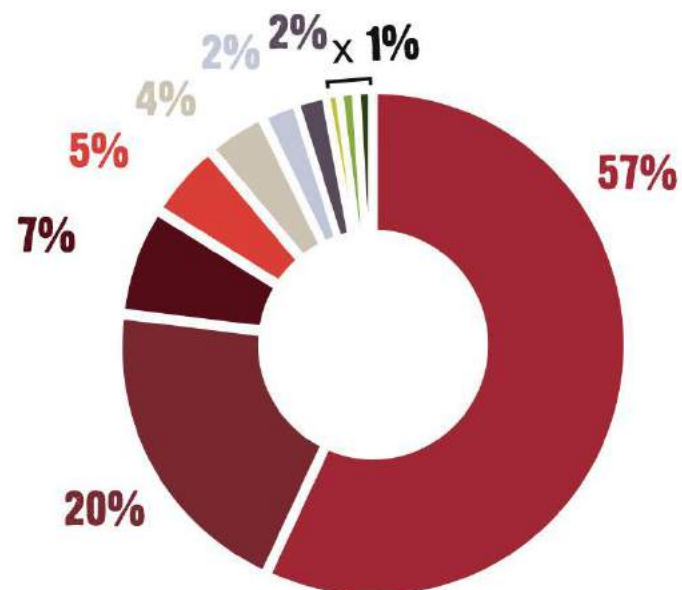


EC	BMZ	USAID	GAC
UNICEF	ECHO	FAO	AECOM
Dutch Government	UNDP	UNOCHA	
GIZ	CHF	AHT	IFAD



SECTORS OF INTERVENTION

Total # of Interventions: **107**



FOOD & NUTRITION SECURITY/LIVELIHOODS		DRR	
GENDER		COORDINATION & ADVOCACY	
WASH	HEALTH	NUTRITION	PROTECTION
CHILD PROTECTION		CONFLICT MANAGEMENT	

COLLABORATIONS

COLLABORATION WITH INTERNATIONAL LIVESTOCK RESEARCH INSTITUTE & FREIE UNIVERSITÄT BERLIN

In 2015, VSFG has started a formal collaboration with the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) and the Freie Universität Berlin within the framework of collaborative research. The research was funded by Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) called "mPig: Mobile SMS learning for pigs – An innovative information sharing platform for smallholder pig value chain actors in Uganda".

The Memorandum of Understanding signed in May 2015 established a long-term relationship to explore further research, institutional development and capacity building skills and further advance both VSFG's and ILRI's missions.

Find more information about the project, please visit

<https://smspig.wordpress.com/>

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE JOINT CONFERENCE: STVM & AITVM

September 4-8, 2016, the first joint international conference by the Association of Institutions for Tropical Veterinary Medicine (AITVM) and the Society of Tropical Veterinary Medicine (STVM) will take place at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. The conference will bring together animal health and production experts, senior and junior career researchers and students from the North, South, East and the West.

Participants will address the holistic concept of "One World – One Health". In plenaries, parallel sessions and seminars they will contribute to finding possible solutions for the improvement of human health and quality of life in tropical regions. They will also look into how research, training and education at local, national and global levels can be improved in the field.

The conference is organised by the Institute for Parasitology and Tropical Veterinary Medicine and the FAO-Reference Center for Public Veterinary Health of the Freie Universität Berlin. VSFG is a co-organiser and proud to announce its keynote speaker from Nairobi, Dr. Nicoletta Buono.



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