

VÉTÉRINAIRES
SANS FRONTIÈRES GERMANY



ANNUAL REPORT
2016



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DR. WILHELM DUEHNEN
MANAGING DIRECTOR

EDITORIAL

2016 was an eventful year. The 25th anniversary celebration, was accompanied by a rapid growth and increase of projects. Our jubilee year coincided with the first Joint International Conference of the Association of Institutions for Tropical Veterinary Medicine (AITVM) and the Society of Tropical Veterinary Medicine (STVM) held at

the Humboldt University of Berlin/Germany from September 4-8, 2016. Many animal health and production experts, senior and junior researchers and students came together for the occasion. The event was led by the Freie Universität Berlin in cooperation with the Friedrich Loeffler Federal Research Institute for Animal Health (FLI), the Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR), the German Research Foundation (DFG) and Vétérinaires sans Frontières (Tierärzte ohne Grenzen e.V.).

VSFG contributed with expertise from our projects, and also invited project staff from all our host countries to attend. The participants addressed the holistic concept of “One World–One Health” in all its facets through plenaries, parallel sessions and seminars. VSFG staff also had the pleasure to show Germany’s beauty to its guests from Eastern Africa. A visit to the German Parliament was facilitated by the Honorable Dr. Wilhelm

Priesmeyer, and the project staff was also invited to the Animal Research Institute in Dummerstorf.

Our African staff were impressed by the hospitality of our country and the well-organised trip. They went home with good impressions and inspiration for their work.

It was a great pleasure to invite our colleagues to Germany, who have worked many years for us and face many difficulties performing their jobs in our challenging project areas.

We would like to extend our gratitude to all of you who supported us in trying to make the world a better place. Many beneficiaries in our host countries, in Kenya, Somalia, Ethiopia, Sudan and South Sudan have benefitted from your help.

On behalf of the team and all of the beneficiaries we would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all institutional and individual donors who have supported us.

Sincerely,
Dr. Duehnen & Dr. Zaspel
April 2017



DR. DANIEL ZASPEL
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

VSFG AT A GLANCE

Vétérinaires sans Frontières Germany (VSFG) is the international name for the German non-profit organization 'Tierärzte ohne Grenzen e.V. (ToG e.V.)'.

VSFG is an international non-governmental organization (INGO) who has been working in the Greater Horn of Africa since 1998. It has its headquarters in Berlin, Germany, and a regional office in Nairobi, Kenya. VSFG is 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.

To translate these beliefs into action, VSFG works together with the local populations (especially pastoral- and agro-pastoral communities), refugees and/or internally displaced people, and local authorities. As an expert in the field of veterinary medicine and food hygiene, VSFG implements projects on animal health, livestock production and marketing (including fisheries), agriculture and vegetable gardening, natural resource management, disaster risk reduction, water sanitation and hygiene (WASH), as well as nutrition and health with a focus on the interface between human and animal health ('One Health'). In order to support people in food crisis, VSFG also implements emergency aid such as school-feeding programmes, unconditional cash transfer and cash-for-work programmes.

PROJECT OVERVIEW



Project countries

5



Projects

41



Beneficiaries reached

3.2 MILLION



Animals treated

6.5 MILLION



Community animal health workers trained

1,308

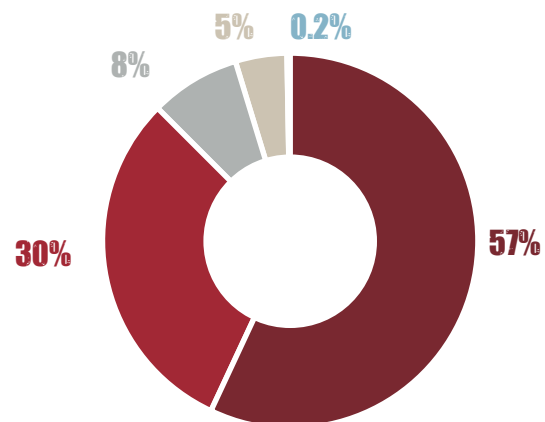


Photo: Juozas Cernius



BENEFICIARIES PER COUNTRY

Total # of Beneficiaries: **3.2 MILLION**



KENYA

SOUTH SUDAN

SUDAN

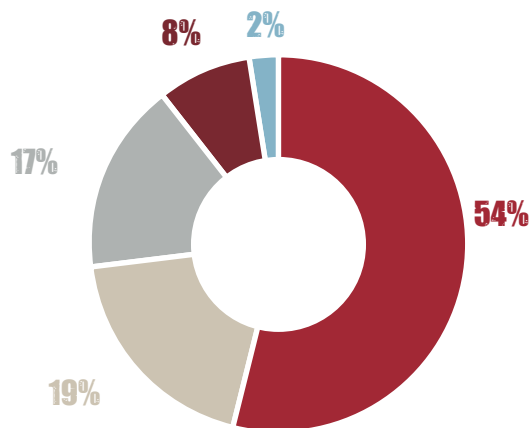
ETHIOPIA

SOMALIA



CAHWS/CDRS SUPPORTED

Total # of Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs) & Community Disease Reporters (CDR) Supported: **1,308**



SOUTH SUDAN

ETHIOPIA

SUDAN

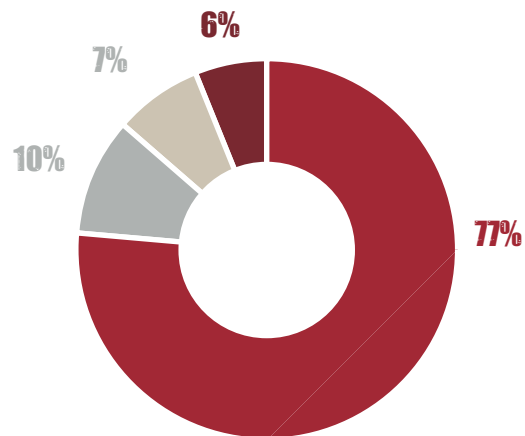
KENYA

SOMALIA



ANIMALS TREATED/VACCINATED

Total # of Animals Treated: **6.5 MILLION**



SOUTH SUDAN*

SUDAN*

ETHIOPIA

KENYA

*vaccinations against more than one disease

VOICES FROM THE PROJECTS

“ I encourage more women to go into growing dura (sorghum grains) and khudra (greens) then sell them to pay for food, hospital and school fees. I dropped out of school too early due to poverty and ignorance by my parents and culture. By growing and selling dura (sorghum grains) and khudra (greens), I have bought four market plots and goats.”



Angelina Kur, Farmer



Udici, Jur River County/South Sudan



We thank VSFG and GIZ for giving priority to peace dialogues: all the communities in Mt. Kulal have had honest, serious talks amongst themselves on peace and sharing the scarce pasture and water resources. We met all other communities in Loiyangalani and discussed issues of resource sharing and friendly co-existence.”



Lepalo Lendungu, Environmental Management Committee (EMC) Member



Larachi/Kenya



“ Being the breadwinner in my house with no income, I was selected to benefit from VSFG’s ‘Access to Food’ project. It saved us from hunger and the difficulties of harsh climate conditions.”



Khalif, 42-year-old widow & mother of seven & care-taker of her mother



Alle-amin, IDP camp, Galkayo/
Somalia



“ Four months ago, I received three female goats from VSFG. Only two months after I received them all three of them had twins: now I own nine goats that are providing milk to the entire family!”



Asma Hassan, Pastoralist



South Kordofan State,
Abbasia/Sudan



“ As a result of the 2015 drought, I lost 45 goats, 12 camels, all 20 cattle I owned and was only left with 15 goats and three camels. Had it not been for the support of VSFG, the goats and camels that survived then would have eventually died, too.”



Abraham Abanugus, pastoralist



Erebt District/Ethiopia





SOUTH SUDAN

1. **2014 FESAP:** Food Security Thematic Program (FSTP) – Food Security through Enhancing Sustainable Agriculture Production in Warrap State
2. **2014 ESÜ:** Integrated Food & Nutrition Security Program in Jur River County, Western Bahr El Ghazal
3. **2015 ELVT FAO:** Emergency Livestock Vaccination & Treatment
4. **2015 PROWAS:** Identification & Training of Community Animal Health Workers (Existing & New) & Establishment of a Private Sector Veterinary Drugs Supply System under the Water for Lakes Program in Lakes State
5. **2015 DFATD:** Strengthening Food Security & Livelihoods of Vulnerable Populations in South Sudan
6. **2015 PRS FAO:** Establishment of Agro Pastoral Field Schools to Improve Livestock Productivity through Improved Access to Animal Health Services, Water & Pasture/Fodder Production & Conservation in Gogrial East and Tonj North Counties of Warrap State
7. **16 SS BRAP:** Building Resilient Agricultural Production
8. **2015 LERP OFDA:** Livestock Emergency Response Program
9. **16 SS LERP OFDA:** Livestock Emergency Response In Greater Upper Nile States
10. **16 SS CAHW FAO:** Emergency Livestock Treatment to Support Gogrial West
11. **2015 SSERAC II:** Supporting Social Economic Reintegration of Children Affected by Conflict
12. **16 SS SSERAC:** Supporting Social Economic Reintegration of Children Affected by Conflict
13. **16 SS DKH PRO:** Reducing Hunger & Malnutrition & Promoting Resilient Food Production in Cueleib County
14. **16 SS GIZ PRANA:** Regional Transitional Aid Programme for Food & Nutritional Security in Sub-Saharan Africa (PRANA)
15. **16 SS GIZ TDA:** Transitional Development Assistance Climate Project (TDA) in South Sudan
16. **2016 INK-169 Contribution In-Kind (LOA – FAO 097-16):** Distribution of Fishing & Vegetable Kits to support 5,000 HHs & Training of Two Groups in Fish Preservation & Two Groups in Improved Production, Post-Harvest Management, Preparation and Utilization of Vegetables in Western Bahr-Ghazal State

VSFG PROJECT MAP

VSF GERMANY IS ACTIVE IN 5 PROJECT COUNTRIES



SUDAN

1. **16 SUD USAID:** Emergency Relief Response to Newly Displaced People & Destitute Vulnerable Host Communities in Blue Nile State
2. **16 SUD CHF:** Emergency Food Security & Livelihood Support for the DPs & Destitute Vulnerable Host Communities in North, Central & East Darfur & South Kordofan States
3. **2015 FSL CHF – UNDP:** Improving Household Food & Livelihoods Security of IDPs & Host Populations in Central Darfur State



REGIONAL

1. **2015 IFAD:** Regional Consultation with Pastoralist & Livestock Breeder CSOs – Towards Better Policies in Support of Pastoralism, in Eastern & Southern Africa



SOMALIA

1. **SO 2016 CHF CASH:** Access to Food Galkaayo
2. **16 SO BMZ/ESÜH:** Securing Livelihoods of Agro-Pastoralists through Setting Up & Strengthening of Livestock Sector Value Chains Promoting Infrastructure & Generating Income
3. **16 SO FO GEDO:** Food Security & Rapid Response in Gedo



KENYA

1. **2014 SHARE KENYA:** Community Action for Improved drought response Resilience in Marsabit County
2. **2016 Rabies Control Project** in Kajiado West & Central Sub-Counties
3. **16 KE SPERC:** Acting Together Differently – Strengthening Preparedness & Emergency Response Capacities by Vulnerable Communities in Northern Kenya (Marsabit, Isiolo, Turkana, Samburu and Mandera Counties)
4. **16 KE ICIDRR II:** Community Initiatives to Drought Response & Enhanced Resilience in Marsabit County (Mt. Kulal)
5. **16 KE BENGU Kenya:** Strengthening of the Drought Risk Response & Resilience Capacities of Pastoral Communities in Marsabit County
6. **16 KE CARITAS SWISS:** Response to Humanitarian Needs of Communities Affected by Climate Impacts in Marsabit County
7. **La Nina V:** Strengthening Resilience of the Population Living in the Arid Lands of Kenya through Emergency Preparedness & Early Response
8. **ICIDRR I:** Community Initiatives to Drought Response & Enhanced Resilience in Marsabit & Turkana Counties



ETHIOPIA

1. **16 ETH ECHO I:** Reducing the Impact of El Niño Phenomena through Livelihood & WASH Emergency Response in the Drought Affected Areas of Kilbati/Zone 2, Afar Region
2. **16 ETH ECHO AFAR II:** Multi-Sectoral Emergency Response for Vulnerable Communities of Five Woredas (Districts) of Afar Region, Ethiopia
3. **16 ETH USAID/ OFDA:** Drought Emergency Assistance through Livelihood & WASH Sector Harmonization (DEAL-WASH) in Aba'ala, Berehale and Kuneba Districts of Afar Region
4. **16 ETH SHARE PPR:** Pursuing Pastoral Resilience through Improved Animal Health Services in Pastoral Areas of Ethiopia
5. **16 ETH RESET AFAR:** Improving Livelihoods & Building Resilience in Afar Regional State
6. **16 ETH RESET South Omo:** Resilience Building for Sustainable Livelihoods & Transformation (RESULT) in South Omo Cluster
7. **16 ETH Aura project:** Enhancing Resilience against Climate Change-Induced Food Insecurity of Pastoralist & Agro-Pastoralist in Aura Woreda of Afar Region
8. **2015 IAS FAO II:** Improved Agriculture Solutions – 2nd Phase
9. **16 ETH HRF UN-OCHA:** Nutrition Sensitive Livelihood Intervention in Aba'ala, Berehale districts of Afar Region in Ethiopia
10. **2015 ETH HRF UN-OCHA:** Drought Emergency Response in Three Drought-Stricken Woredas (Districts) of Afar Regional State





Photo: Juozas Cernius

PROJECTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

KENYA: LIVESTOCK & ENVIRONMENT – AN IMPORTANT RELATION IN ARID AREAS

VSFG successfully implemented both phases of the ICIDRR project (Increased Community Initiatives to Drought Response and Enhanced Resilience) funded by GIZ and implemented in two phases between January and December 2016. It was implemented in Marsabit County, which is in the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs) in Northern Kenya, an area affected by climate change as recurrent droughts and floods show. These climatic shocks have had a devastating impact on people's lives, livelihoods and their capacity to adapt to changing climates. Recurrent droughts have continuously eroded natural resources of pastoralist communities, notably pasture, water and soil, compromising their recovery from and resilience to shocks.

The major outcomes of the project are Holistic Natural Resource Management (HNRM) action plans, by-laws and micro-projects implemented by the Environmental Management Committees (EMCs) with funds from GIZ. These achievements have empowered the communities to enhance the sustainable

use and management of key natural resources that support their livestock. This is a key step towards improving community and household livelihoods through better access to pasture and water resources and in turn better livestock feeding, health and productivity. Through the project all communities in Mt. Kulal and its surrounding areas have developed natural resource management action plans and by-laws that promote a holistic approach to natural resource management. This is a first step towards sustainable pasture and water resource management at community level that will contribute to reducing conflict within communities and between neighboring communities. In addition, all communities were involved in intra- and inter-community dialogue sessions through their peace committee and EMC members and leaders. Another significant milestone was achieved, when 40 acres (four plots/10 acres each) were cleared for pasture reseeding. These areas were closer to homesteads, meaning that when other herds would migrate further out in search for additional pasture, milking animals can remain near the village with women and children whose nutritional intake will improve with the newly ensured access to milk.

ENGAGING IN PARTNERSHIPS TO SCALE UP IMPACT

In collaboration with our two partner INGOs ACTED and ACF and with support from ECHO, VSFG secured funding to implement a project across five counties in Northern Kenya, namely Samburu, Isiolo, Mandera, Turkana and Marsabit. The consortium has been working to strengthen preparedness and emergency response capacities. This is done through developing capacities of vulnerable communities and their institutions as well as strengthening linkages between community institutions, county and national structures. Using a multi-sectoral approach which allows for a quick response to emerging crisis, the project activities cut across the following sectors: disaster risk management, livestock and animal health, gender, conflict and governance. Building on the gains of the six previous phases of ECHO investment, the consortium partners have combined their different sectoral expertise in the last nine months to facilitate anticipatory, absorptive, and transformative capacities of target communities and institutions with remarkable success.





ETHIOPIA: LIVESTOCK FOR NUTRITION

Drought hazards in 2015 were especially severe and impacted many countries including those in the Horn of Africa. Ethiopia in particular was one of the worst hit countries: here, the drought, exacerbated by El Niño, impacted the lives and livelihoods of over 10 million people.

Afar National Regional State (ANRS) is situated in the arid lowlands of Ethiopia to the north-eastern part and was one of the badly hit areas from the 2015/16 drought in Ethiopia. It is about 100,000 km² wide and has a population of approximately 1.4 million. It covers about 10% of the country and almost 30% of its pastoral lowlands. Afar pastoralism is heavily dependent on rainfall, which is why the lack thereof quickly and surely leads to a food security emergency.

The 2015 kerma rain (March–April) was poor and the subsequent 2015 Sugum rain (July–September) was delayed by more than five weeks and when it did finally arrive it was well below average with an uneven distribution. Consequently, pastoralists and agro-pastoralists experienced water shortages, children and lactating mothers were seriously malnourished and livestock died because of water shortages and other drought effects.

Following the emergency appeal by the Federal Government of Ethiopia in 2015 and through direct funding from UN-OCHA, VSFG designed an emergency support project in Erebt, Aba'ala and Berehale districts of ANRS. The project “Nutrition Sensitive Livelihood Intervention” has been implemented from July 2015 to March 2016 in the three districts.

The project focused on different good practice elements such as emergency goat feeding, animal health and water resource rehabilitation.

THE INTERVENTION ACHIEVED THE FOLLOWING:

- » 4,000 goats (lactating/pregnant) owned by 800 households (HHs) were provided with 23.5t of nutritious feed for 156 days. 2,400 children received milk and milk products to improve dietary requirements;
- » 6,000 HHs benefitted from voucher based animal health service. 173,394 goats and sheep, 38,081 cattle and 39,101 camels were treated against different types of diseases;
- » 10 cisterns and 3 ponds were rehabilitated, 2,230m water pipeline were installed/rehabilitated, 3 livestock water troughs were constructed, a hand pump was renovated and a water tank (10,000l capacity) was supplied to the community;
- » 255 HHs benefitted from cash for work scheme.

SOUTH SUDAN: DRY SEASON VEGETABLE GROWING, FEEDS FAMILIES & BRINGS CASH HOME

Like most people in South Sudan, the residents of the Greater Bahr el Ghazal region have lost many livelihood assets due to recurrent conflicts and other disasters like floods and long dry spells. On the other hand, market traders continue to scale down their food supply chains. This is due to high operation costs and runaway inflation fuelled by insecurity in a region where locals have limited or no access to affordable quality farm inputs as well as modern farming technologies. This has resulted in low agriculture production, crop failure, long hunger gaps and chronic food insecurity. During 2016, VSFG supported local farmers (IDPS, returnees and host communities) and other actors to improve food production. One approach focused on dry season vegetable growing technologies with two goals in mind: 1) to ensure a steady supply of green leafy vegetables during the long dry seasons, and 2) to facilitate good income returns to vegetable farmers as they sell the much needed commodity off-season.

To this end, VSFG mobilized various groups of women into vegetable growing associations and equipped them with basic skills, tools and farm inputs such as spades, hoes, wheelbarrows, and watering cans. A good example is the Tit Achor Vegetables Group in Kuac North, Gogrial West.

The group started with just five members, all of which were women, to work together on food security and other activities that would improve livelihoods. Top on their minds was the burning need to make income from farming and reduce dependence on their husbands for financial support in meeting basic needs. Initially when the group started it was just focused on growing staple crops like sorghum.

However, when VSFG saw their zeal, determination and potential we decided to further support them by giving them essential tools. We also trained them on basic crop best practices covering crops of interest such as cow peas, tomatoes and okra amongst other local vegetables. One of the group members, Ms. Adeng Majok, says “whether it is during the rainy season or dry season our gardens are always safe. We are the main suppliers of vegetables in the local market. Before VSFG our yields were low because we weren’t aware of planting practices that we could use to maximize harvests”.



Photo: Juožas Cernius



REGIONAL: SPECIAL SESSION OF THE FARMERS FORUM (FAFO) WITH PASTORALISTS & LIVESTOCK BREEDERS

We carried out a consultative process in five regions across three continents under the framework of the IFAD-funded project “Regional consultation of pastoralist and livestock breeder CSO – Towards better policies in support of pastoralism” in collaboration with the VSF International. The intervention culminated in a global event held in February 2016 in Rome: the ‘Special Session of the Farmers Forum with Pastoralists and Livestock Breeders’. 18 representatives from the five regions involved in the consultation as well as IFAD staff, VSF staff and a selected number of observers attended the special session. Among the observers, there were several members of the FaFo 6th Farmers Forum Steering Committee. The session demonstrated an active involvement and participation of the pastoralists delegates. The main output was the Statement of the Special Session with Pastoralists and Extensive Livestock Breeders.

Five pastoralist representatives (one delegate from each region) also participated in the Farmers Forum on February 15-16, 2016. Some main messages of the Special Session’s Statement were included in the Statement of the Farmers Forum, which was presented to the IFAD Governing Council on February 18. During the FAFO, the pastoral constituency

also required to integrate the FAFO Steering Committee. The request was approved, and it was agreed that one pastoralist representative would be part of the FAFO Steering Committee. Analysis of the data collected in the five regions, a systemic survey, a wide literature review and cross-checks of the information, opinions and facts gathered in the consultative process formed VSFG’s global report and technical brief: ‘The path to the greener pastures – Pastoralism, the backbone of the world’s drylands’ available online on VSF International’s website <http://vsf-international.org/project/pastoralism-report/>.



Pastoralism is more than livestock production; it is a way of life, a culture and an identity.

We pastoralists are citizens and our rights, culture and customary institutions should be recognized and respected. International organizations and policymakers should recognize the uniqueness of our livelihoods that need tailored approaches and investments.”

Statement of the Special Session of the Farmers Forum
with Pastoralists and Livestock Breeders Rome, February 2016

KENYA: VSFG PLAYS A MAJOR ROLE IN RABIES CONTROL IN NAROK COUNTY, KENYA

Every year, more than 15 million people worldwide receive a post-bite vaccination against rabies. An estimated 99% of human cases of rabies virus is transmitted by domesticated dogs. About 40% of people bitten by a suspected rabid animals are children under 15 years, (WHO, 2016). In Africa, too, dog bites and scratches are the most common cause of rabies infections in humans. The cost associated with post-exposure prophylaxis in humans is high and exceeds the cost of rabies control in animals through dog vaccinations; hence focus should be given to control and elimination of the disease.

In Kenya, rabies is among the top five priority zoonotic diseases and is estimated to cause 2,000 deaths annually. In an effort to control rabies menace, Kenya has embraced a multi-sectoral and collaborative approach aiming at the full elimination of human rabies, conducts continuous vaccination campaigns and also mobilizes all stakeholders to undertake annual rabies vaccination of dogs and cats during World Rabies Day.

VSFG has been partnering with Talek Veterinary Services (TVS), a private veterinary service provider in Narok County that has been working in rabies control since 2010. The majority of county residents are pastoralists who keep dogs

for protection of their livestock and consequently are prone to bites from rabid animals.

VSFG and TVS have been conducting regular vaccination campaigns which have been running very successfully. In 2015/2016 the organization vaccinated 11,944 cats and dogs in Narok county, and Kajiado West & South Sub county. To mark World Rabies Day 2016, VSFG teamed up with Kenyan veterinarians, conservationists, the Narok County Government, local businesses, and the community and vaccinated domestic dogs and cats in Enonkishu Conservancy and the town of Emarti in Masai Mara.

“

We sometimes borrow each others' dogs when migrating or when searching for lost livestock, so it is crucial to vaccinate as many dogs as possible to safeguard their own as well as our health and safety.”

Elder during the vaccination campaign

Teams of veterinarians and members of the local community walked from one home to another to vaccinate as many domestic dogs as possible. The vaccines used on this campaign were donated by Serengeti Health initiative through VSFG and Enonkishu conservancy. Owners of vaccinated dogs and cats were issued with certificates for documenting purposes. A total of 181 dogs and 33 cats were vaccinated and some were also treated for injuries.



SUDAN: JOINING FORCES FOR BROADER EMERGENCY RESPONSE IN DARFUR & SOUTH KORDOFAN

The El Niño phenomena and aftermath thereof in North Darfur state in 2015, in South Kordofan state in 2011, the protracted conflict in Central Darfur State, ongoing conflicts of rebels and inter-ethnic groups in East Darfur State all led to massive displacement of people, food insecurity and lack of basic services.

With funding from Sudan Humanitarian Funds (SHF-UN), VSFG led a consortia project of 12 INGOs and national NGOs working in the food security and livelihood cluster sector (FSL). The project aimed at improving the food security and nutritional status and saving the lives of targeted IDPs, returnees and vulnerable host communities in Darfur states and South Kordofan.

VSFG and its partners provided 24,000 targeted farmer households with 220t of different types of agricultural crop seeds (sorghum and groundnuts), 3.5t of assorted vegetables seeds (okra, tomato and water melon), 42,000 pieces of agricultural hand tools and trained the beneficiaries on crop production technology. The latter was conducted in order to raise farmers' knowledge and engage them in the cultivation season to support improved crop production and cultural

practices. As a result, they will be able to produce their own food, diversify their household diet and improve their nutrition. In collaboration with our partners, we vaccinated 600,000 animals belonging to 24,000 households and treated 264,000 animals against prevailing endemic diseases, strengthening productive capacities of the animals and reducing the death rate.

Through this project, 170 Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs) were trained and their knowledge on animal health issues refreshed. They were also equipped with kits and drug packages to sustain animal treatment and to report cases in remote project areas. 450 women-led households in four targeted states were restocked with 1,350 does (female goats) to empower those women and improve nutrition of their children through milk. Beneficiaries were highly appreciative as the goats contributed positively to their food security and livelihood.



Photo: Juožas Cernius



Photo: AMISOM / Tobin Jones

SOMALIA: UNCONDITIONAL CASH TRANSFER TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO FOOD

VSFG partnered with UN-OCHA on the 'Somalia Humanitarian Pooled Fund Mechanism' to implement the Access to Food Project (AFP) in Galkayo town and surrounding IDP camps of Mudug region in Puntland.

The unconditional cash transfer (UCT) improved beneficiaries' access to many food and non-food items and the protection and economic empowerment of women in the IDP camps. UCT has rapidly become an important and widely preferred assistance mechanism for humanitarian organizations working in Somalia, as the approach allows beneficiaries to govern their own spending, prioritize their family needs, become less dependent and hence preserve their dignity.

This approach is also effective in reducing the implementation and operational costs and provides more cash in hand to beneficiaries and improves transparency. UCT can provide more comprehensive feedback on people's needs, vulnerabilities, and coping strategies in addition to the humanitarian impact on local contexts and communities.

THE PROJECT WAS CARRIED OUT WITH THE FOLLOWING OBJECTIVES:

- » Improving food access for most vulnerable households in IDPs and host community;
- » Providing emergency food assistance through cash vouchers to vulnerable and displaced urban groups (IDPs and host community), majority of which were women and children;
- » Supporting 756 IDP households (84%) and 144 host community households (16%) to meet their food and other needs;
- » Providing unconditional cash transfers of \$60 for the duration of four months to 900 selected beneficiaries through Dahabshiil Bank.

Through BMZ funding, VSFG is currently also implementing a livelihood project in Maroodijeex region, in Somaliland. This three-year project started in June 2016 and ends in April 2019. The project aims at improving livelihoods of agro-pastoralists through setting up and strengthening of livestock sector value chains, promoting infrastructure and generating income.

INTERVIEW WITH ANTENEH HAILU

WE SPOKE TO OUR ETHIOPIA-BASED VETERINARIAN ANTENEH HAILU, WHO FIRST JOINED VSFG IN FEBRUARY 2016.

ANTENEH, TELL US ABOUT WHAT MOTIVATES YOU TO WORK IN THIS FIELD AND WHAT EXPERIENCE YOU HAVE?

I saw a big humanitarian need and wanted to address this challenge. I followed my personal interest, but also built on previous experience, such as my training in microbiology and my work at the BoPAD animal health department. There, I was planning, organizing and implementing vaccination of livestock against trans-boundary diseases like PPR (Peste des Petits Ruminants) and SGP (Sheep and Goat Pox), developed livestock disease surveillance and reporting guidelines as well as livestock disease control strategies for the Afar region. I also conducted trainings on different animal health issues and monitored the status of animal health interventions.

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

Over the years, I have acquired solid skills in analyzing technical issues, writing clear and concise reports, presenting

effectively and facilitating trainings. I have built teams ensuring gender equity and managed to address sensitive HIV/AIDS related issues in a culture-appropriate manner. I have learnt a lot from working with communities and I am also proud to say I have been able to transfer my know-how during community gatherings at livestock markets, cash for work sessions, aid distributions and through information campaigns.

WHAT ARE THE MAJOR CHANGES IN AFAR IN REGARDS TO ANIMAL HEALTH AND LIVELIHOODS?

Veterinary services have improved overall: understanding of trans-boundary livestock diseases has significantly improved through better disease surveillance and disease reporting rates, as has the diagnostic capacity of veterinarians.

IN YOUR OPINION, WHAT IS VSFG'S STRENGTH AND HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY?

What instantly comes to mind as a great strength are the good management structures that ensure excellent and timely implementation of activities. The working relationships with

governmental organizations, partners and others stakeholders are also worth mentioning.

Besides animal health, production and marketing, VSFG also tackles broader issues such as food security, livelihood diversification, WaSH (Water, Sanitation, Hygiene) by encouraging community participation, an approach that has proven successful in ensuring activities receive community buy-in and are therefore sustainable.

WHAT CHALLENGES DO YOU ENCOUNTER IN YOUR DAY TO DAY PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION AND HOW DO YOU OVERCOME THEM?

As in other regions, El Niño's impact has been wide reaching here in the Afar region too and has made project implementation quite cumbersome at times. Another challenge was low awareness of the importance of livestock vaccination which led some members of the pastoral community to refuse vaccinations. As much as there are challenges though, we continue to preach lifesaving animal health messages and increase the awareness of communities on these matters so they can spread messages and report disease incidences.

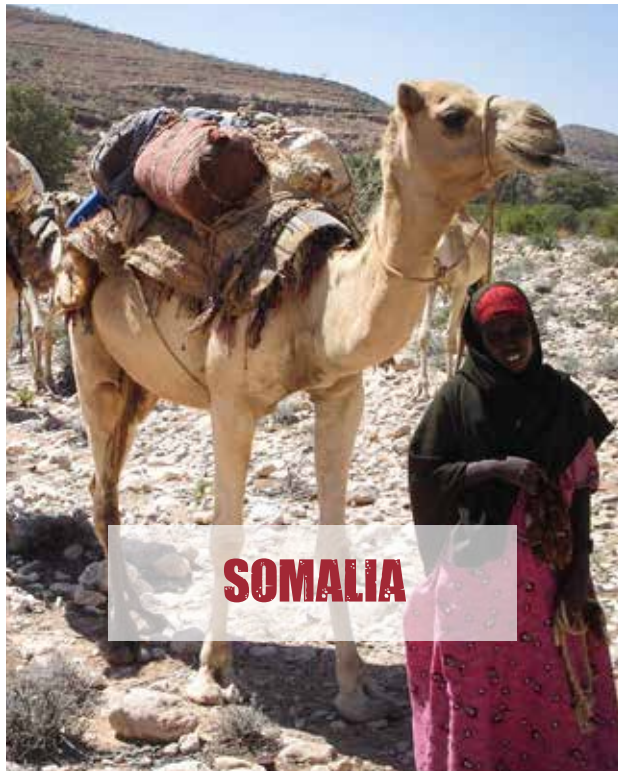


VSFG PROJECT COUNTRIES





SUDAN



SOMALIA



ETHIOPIA

COUNTRY PORTRAIT: KENYA

Kenya's dry land areas (also called ASAL, arid and semi arid lands) cover more than 80% of the country. They are mainly found along the Northern Rift Valley and are home to around 4 million pastoralists who make up more than 10% of the country's population. ASAL areas are characterized by negative effects of climate change, environmental degradation, extreme poverty, institutional weaknesses, poor infrastructure, pastoralism as a way of life, high vulnerability to food insecurity, resource-based conflicts and high per capita cost of and limited service delivery. Yet, it is drought that poses the biggest threat to sustainable food security and livelihoods in ASAL areas.

With support from our donors and in collaboration with different partners, VSFG is employing a variety of innovative practices in delivering humanitarian and resilience building interventions. These include: emergency food aid and veterinary services, community-managed disaster risk reduction, holistic natural resource management, pastoral field schools and 'Do No Harm' principles, as well as employing livelihood diversification to improve food and nutrition security to enhance resilience to drought.

VSFG supports gender mainstreaming and strengthens governance systems to enhance equity in distribution of resources at household levels as well as public resources between national and county governments. VSFG continues to train communities and government staff on social audit and advocacy in order to promote inclusivity and accountability at all levels of development.



Photo: Juozas Cernius

PROJECT OVERVIEW



Projects
8



Donors
**ECHO, EC, GIZ, BMZ, CARITAS
SWISS, PRIVATE FUNDS**



Beneficiaries reached
1.8 MILLION



Animals treated
387,400



Community Disease Reporters trained
107



COUNTRY PORTRAIT: SUDAN

Sudan is traversed from north to south by the Nile. Administratively Sudan includes eighteen states: Al Jazira, Al Qadarif, Blue Nile, Sennar, White Nile, Central Darfur, East Darfur, North Darfur, South Darfur, West Darfur, Kassala, Red Sea, Khartoum, North Kordofan, South Kordofan, West Kordofan, Northern and River Nile.

The humanitarian situation in Sudan is complex and characterized by various drivers. Socio-economic conditions are fragile or even deteriorating. Multiple areas have been affected by a resumption of hostilities especially in Darfur, Blue Nile and South Kordofan states. Chronic under-development and wide-spread poverty, exacerbated by natural disasters or climate shocks, are also negatively impacting the coping capacities of vulnerable populations. With access to basic services remaining largely insufficient, the population's resilience to shocks is being further eroded.

VSFG has been operating in Sudan since 2010. Currently, it operates in Central Darfur, North Darfur, East Darfur, South Kordofan and Blue Nile states. In these areas, VSFG provides

agriculture support services to 35,000 households including seeds, tools and extension services on crops production technology for each crop. It also provides livestock assets protection services including vaccination and treatment services as well as refresher trainings for CAHWs to 1,1 million animals belonging to 38,170 households. VSFG interventions also include goat restocking, monitoring of seasonal progress, post-harvest assessments, logistics support, distribution of relief commodities, protection, WASH (Water, Sanitation, Hygiene) and fishery activities. The current projects of VSFG are funded by SHF and OFDA/USAID. These projects contribute significantly to improving food and livelihood security of vulnerable households in the targeted areas.

PROJECT OVERVIEW



Projects
3



Donors
OFDA/USAID, CHF



Beneficiaries reached
246,700



Animals treated
652,400



CAHWS trained
215



Photo: Juozas Cernius

COUNTRY PORTRAIT: SOUTH SUDAN

The Republic of South Sudan faces the dual challenge of dealing with the effects of more than 50 years of conflict (compounded by recurrent civil strife) and huge development needs. Formal institutions are being built from scratch and the capacity of government is constrained.

With the independence, thousands of South Sudanese returned to their homes with the hope and determination to re-build their country. Those hopes were put to the test ever since 2013. Yet despite initial set backs, returnees continued to exhibit hope, determination and resilience.

The political fallout and the ensuing civil conflict in South Sudan in December 2013 changed the landscape completely and left behind shattered hopes of independence. Only through 2014 and 2015, concerted efforts locally and internationally saw the country embark in an all inclusive peace process. The negotiations gave way to a transitional government formation ushering new hopes to the people of South Sudan.

The violence in July 2016 turned a staggering 1.3 million citizens into refugees in addition to the 1.8 million internally

displaced, pushing humanitarian needs to an all time high with a projected 5.1 million people in need of food assistance. Despite all these constraints, VSFG continued its programmatic operations in different locations across the country. The locations include the Greater Bahr el Ghazal 'GBG' (Lakes, Warrap and Western Bahr el Ghazal), Greater Upper Nile States 'GUN' (Upper Nile, Jonglei and Unity), and Pibor.



PROJECT OVERVIEW



Projects
16



Donors
EC, BMZ ESÜH, UNICEF, OFDA/USAID, FAO, GIZ, CANADIAN GOVERNMENT, EUROCONSULT MOTT MACDONALD, BREAD FOR THE WORLD, JOHANNITER UNFALL-HILFE



Beneficiaries reached
969,200



Animals treated
4.9 MILLION



CAHWS trained
708



COUNTRY PORTRAIT: SOMALIA

Ever since the new internationally-backed government was installed in 2012, Somalia has been inching towards stability. However, the country still faces challenges from Al-Qaeda-aligned Al-Shabaab insurgents who continue to launch deadly guerrilla attacks against the Somali government and African Union peacekeeping mission.

To date, Somalia's humanitarian situation continues to be of serious concern. An estimated 5 million people (40% of the population) are currently in need of life-saving and livelihood assistance. Almost 1.1 million people are internally displaced and another 1 million are living as refugees in neighboring countries.

In 2016, VSF Germany implemented three projects in Somalia: Securing livelihoods of agro pastoralists through setting up and strengthening of livestock sector value chains, promoting infrastructure and generating income. The project is currently being implemented in three districts in Somaliland: Salaxlay, Cadaadlay and Dacarbudhuq. The project aims at developing the human capacity in the dairy and meat sectors through skills

development, organisational capacities, and strengthening of linkages between producers and consumers.

The Access to Food project funded by UNOCHA through the Common Humanitarian Funds (CHF) in Galkayo district provided emergency food assistance to vulnerable households of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and urban poor (host community), majority of whom were women and children.

VSF Germany is also currently implementing an Emergency Response activity dubbed "Food Security and Rapid Response in Gedo" funded by the Foreign Office. The project seeks to address the current food insecurity in south central Somalia through provision of food coupons, cash for work and improvement of livelihood through activities within the animal sector and the fishery sector in Dollow and Luuq.

PROJECT OVERVIEW



Projects

4



Donors

UN-OCHA, FAO, BMZ



Beneficiaries reached

7,600

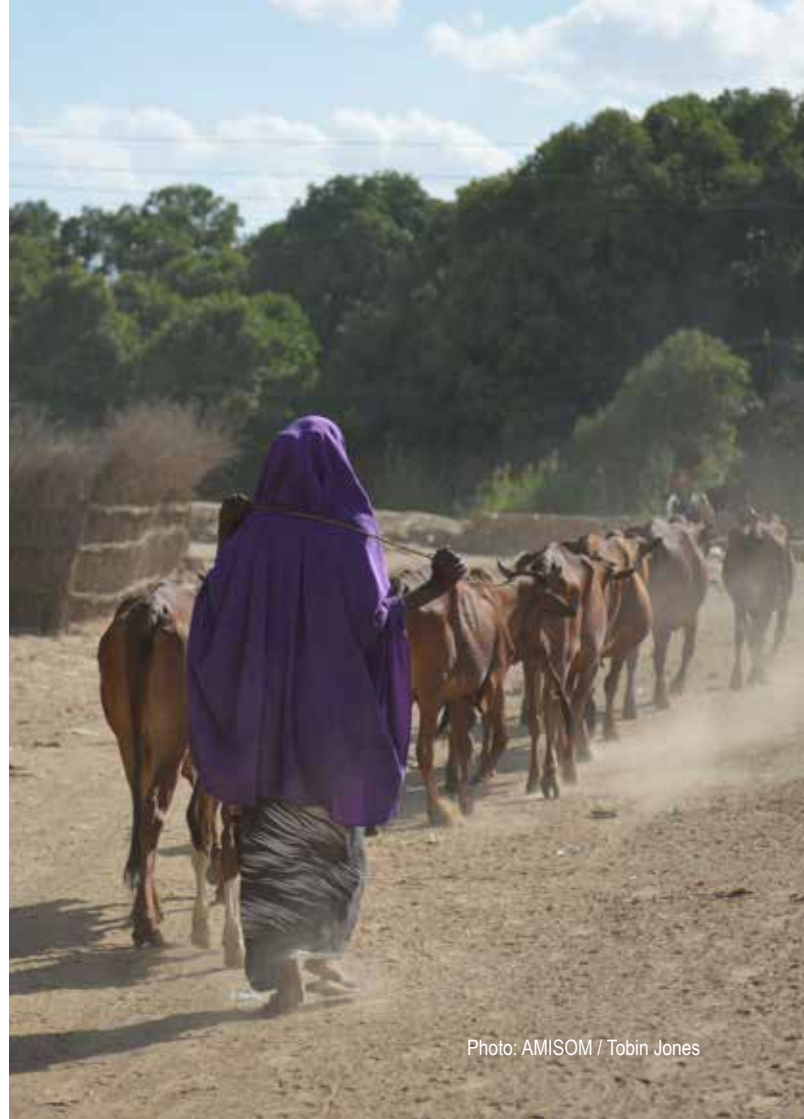


Photo: AMISOM / Tobin Jones

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 United Nations since 1945, it is also base to many international organizations and headquarters to the African Union and UN agencies. The main challenge for Ethiopia is to continue progress made in recent years towards the Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs) and to address the causes of poverty among its population.

Before it officially registered in Ethiopia, VSFG partnered with the local NGO EpaRDA on a cross border project in South Omo in 2009 (the project was titled 'Improved Community Response to Drought Phase I' and was funded by ECHO). We then registered as an international charity in May 2010 and began implementing the SNNPF project in two woredas (districts) of South Omo Zone, namely Hamer and Dassanech.

VSFG also implemented the project 'Improving Agricultural

Solution (IAS)' in Dassanech district with funding from DFID through FAO from May 2014 to August 2016. Currently VSFG and its partners Vita, Amref Health Africa, International Development Enterprise (IDE) and Action for Development (AFD) secured EU funding for the second phase of the 'Resilience Building in Ethiopia Program (RESET II)' in South Omo cluster in three woredas. Here, VSFG has been in charge of implementing the livelihood (livestock) component of the project across the three districts (Hamer, Dassanech and Nyagatom) since September 2016.

VSFG has been operational in Afar since 2012 and has been implementing different emergency and resilience building projects on livelihood and WASH (Water, Sanitation, Hygiene) sectors in zones 1, 2 and 5 of Afar region (namely Afdera, Berehale, Aba'ala, Megale Erebt, Mille, Dalifage, Ada'ar, Telalak and Dewe). In collaboration with FAO and Afar Region Pastoral Agriculture Development Bureau, VSFG is implementing the so called PPR (Peste Petits Ruminants) project since January 2016 as part of the long-term EC-funded 'Supporting Horn of Africa Resilience (SHARE)' initiatives

PROJECT OVERVIEW



Projects
10



Donors
ECHO, EU, UN-OCHA, FAO



Beneficiaries reached
141,900



Animals treated
476,400



CAHWS trained
248

across all districts of the Afar region. As a response to El Niño induced drought emergency in Afar region, VSFG is also implementing an ECHO-funded project in five districts (Aba'ala, Erebt, Ada'ae, Dewe and Telalak) since March 2016 for a period of one year. Additionally, we have been implementing an OFDA-funded project in three districts (Aba'ala, Bereale and Kuneba) for a period of one year since October 2016. VSFG and its partner SCI, Amref Health Africa and La Volontiers International Association (LVIA) also secured again EU funding for a second phase of the 'Resilience Building in Ethiopia program (RESET II)' in Afar cluster in eight districts. For this project, VSFG is responsible for implementing the project in three districts of zone 1 (Asayita, Afambo and Elida'ar) since October 2016.



Photo: Juozas Cernius

VSFG IN GERMANY & INTERNATIONAL

2016 marked VSFG's 25th anniversary, and a particularly eventful year over all. A pleasant introduction to this jubilee year was the award ceremony in January that acknowledged Dr. Flachsbarth, Parliamentary Secretary of State at the Federal Ministry for Food and Agriculture, for her contributions to and her support of our organisation. The International Green Week, in which VSFG has been participating for years, provided a highly appropriate setting for the award.

The premises for the 25th Annual General Meeting in June were appropriately selected for the special occasion. Many members and representatives of volunteer groups from Berlin, Leipzig and Hanover came together in chateau 'Schloss Friedrichsfelde' in the Berlin 'Tierpark' (a zoological garden), which allowed reports on projects and finances to be followed by an exclusive guided tour in the zoo by the responsible veterinarian.

September certainly marked one of the year's highlights, when 14 East-African team members from our project regions visited our headquarters. Managing Director Dr. Wilhelm Duehnen,

along with senior management and project staff from Kenya, South Sudan and Ethiopia, had travelled to the German capital. For some of the employees this was their first trip to Germany and presented an ideal opportunity to get to know and understand VSFG's Berlin office, volunteer groups in Berlin and other university cities, as well as the social environment in which VSFG operates and advocates in to support rural East African communities.

International and German staff of VSFG participated in and contributed to the international conference at the Humboldt University 'Tropical Animal Diseases and Veterinary Public Health: Joining Forces to Meet Future Global Challenges', organized by the Association of Institutions for Tropical Veterinary Medicine and the Society of Tropical Veterinary Medicine (September 4-8, 2016). We were proud to introduce our African friends to German universities, research institutions, our capital and German hospitality. The visit has strengthened bonds within our organization and introduced many of our African employees to a very positive first impression of our country.

In connection with the Berlin visit and as an active member of the network, VSFG also organised this year's annual meeting for VSF International. Olaf Bellmann, a member of VSFG's Board of Directors, was re-appointed vice-president of the network.

VSFG also participated in the 'Tropentag', which took place in Vienna this time. The 'Tropentag' is an internationally renowned conference on tropical agriculture, animal husbandry and natural resource management. VSFG introduced the results of a VSF International consortium project, as well as the study results obtained by VSFG in Southern Sudan on East Coast Fever, an animal disease occurring in some of our project areas causing severe economic problems. Numerous events and conferences took place where VSFG was invited to contribute to: an international conference of chief vet officers from many countries on the contribution of veterinary paraprofessionals to vet services, organised by the O.I.E. and GALVmed in Pretoria/South Africa; an international conference on the control of Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) in Naivasha/Kenya, organized by FAO and O.I.E.; numerous periodic meetings in the East African Region on livestock development and disease control, organized by IGAD; and one conference on the sustainability of pastoralism at the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA) in Nairobi/Kenya. In addition, our staff also participated in countless other meetings with UN agencies and Government departments where our expertise and advice was requested.



From left to right: Dr. Wilhelm Priesmeier (member of the German parliament and member of honor of VSFG); Friederike Schulze Hülshorst (Director-Operations Germany); Dr. Petra Sindern (First Vice President of the Executive Committee of the Association of Veterinary Practitioners in Germany); Dr. Frajo Siepelmeyer (former Chairman of the Board of Directors of Tierärzte ohne Grenzen and now member of honor); Dr. Iris Fuchs (First Vice President of the Executive Committee of the German Federal Chamber of Veterinarians/Bundestierärztekammer); Dr. Daniel Zaspel (Chairman of the Board of Directors of Tierärzte ohne Grenzen); Dr. Leopold Deger (Board Member of the Board of Directors of Tierärzte ohne Grenzen)



Photo: Ms. Breustedt-Muschalla

VACCINATING FOR AFRICA!

This year, our annual fundraising campaign 'Vaccinating for Africa!' has supported three projects in South Sudan targeting the causes for flight and migration by improving the living conditions in the respective places of origin. The campaign received public support by the TV veterinarian Dr. Wolf and Federal Minister for Food and Agriculture Christian Schmidt, who just like in the previous year was the campaign patron. The campaign would not have been possible without the support of our corporate sponsors: animal health company Merial GmbH (as main sponsor) and the laboratory service provider synlab. vet. - and all the veterinary practices who enthusiastically supported us by promoting the campaign.

VSFG is grateful to all the supporters who have made 'Vaccinating for Africa!' a success in 2016 again.

VOLUNTARY SERVICE

More and more students of German veterinary faculties are joining in to support VSFG. As in previous years, volunteer groups were tirelessly and actively supporting VSFG at trade fairs and congresses such as the congress of the German Veterinary Association (DVG) in Berlin, the EuroTier trade fair and the congress of Veterinary Practitioners (bpt) in Hanover. Volunteer groups collected substantial donations during these often self-organised campaigns and events. Following

a successful networking event, a new volunteer group was founded at the University of Leipzig.

A big 'thank you' to all our committed supporters, who increase the visibility of VSFG and thus participate in the important work of our organization!

At the end of the year, at the congress of Veterinary Practitioners (bpt) in Hanover, VSFG also presented their review, insights and outlooks on the 25 working years. Dr. Frajo Siepelmeyer, a long-time member and former chairman of the board of directors, moderated the event and, thanks to his experience, was able to enrich the lecture with numerous anecdotes. We were very pleased to welcome important German veterinary representatives, such as Dr. Iris Fuchs, Vice-President of the German Federal Chamber of Veterinarians as well as Dr. Petra Sindern, Vice-President of the Federal Association of Practicing Veterinarians. Dr. Frajo Siepelmeyer and Dr. Wilhelm Priesmeier, member of the Bundestag and the spokesman for agriculture for the SPD party, were granted an honorary VSFG membership acknowledging their life commitment and great support over many years.

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT US

VACCINATING FOR AFRICA!

Vaccination for Africa is an annual event during which animal owners can provide vital assistance for Africa without spending anything additionally. On this day, veterinarians all over Germany vaccinate animals as they do every other day of the year, yet with one difference: half the income from vaccinating animals will be donated to VSFG.

More information: www.impfenfuerafrika.de



DONATIONS & MEMBERSHIP

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

More information: www.togev.de/foerdermitglied

DONATIONS & GIFTS

Why not symbolically give five chickens or a prophylaxis treatment for goats in our project areas as a gift to your friends – all in the name of your chosen recipient? Find out how it works: www.togev.de/schenken

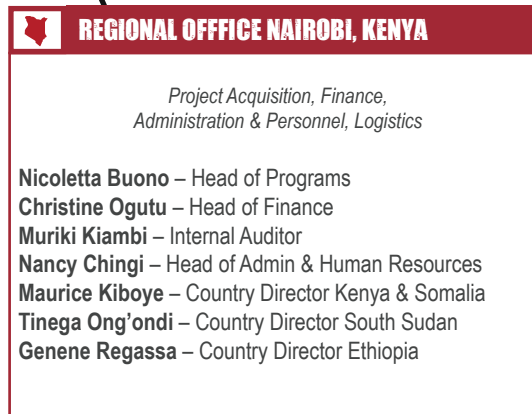
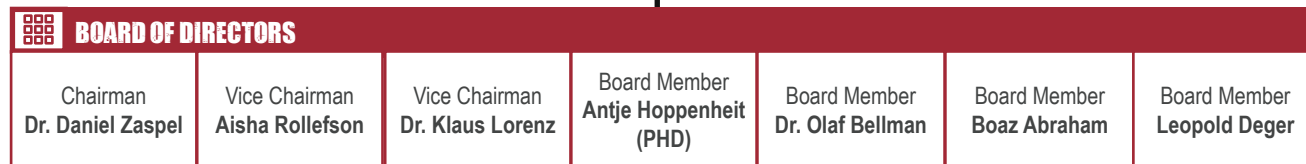
MAKE A GIFT OF A CHICKEN OR A GOAT TREATMENT





Photo: Juozas Cernius

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



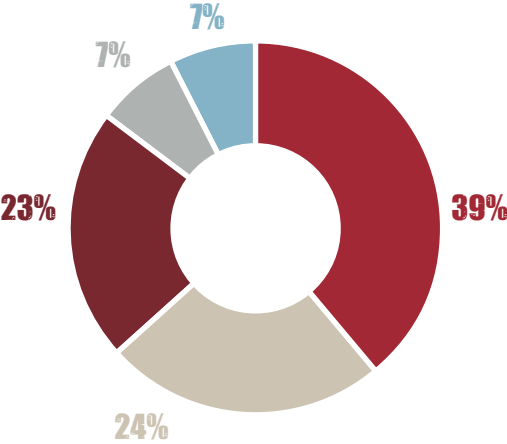
*Note: The Managing Director sits in Nairobi for proximity to the field implementation areas

FINANCE OVERVIEW



PROJECTS PER COUNTRY

Total Number of Projects: **41**



SOUTH SUDAN

ETHIOPIA

KENYA

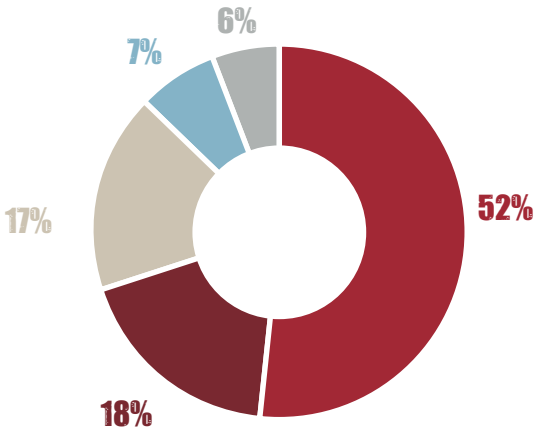
SUDAN

SOMALIA



BUDGET PER COUNTRY

Total Budget (in €): **6.2 MILLION**



SOUTH SUDAN

KENYA

ETHIOPIA

SOMALIA

SUDAN



ANNUAL INCOME

Total Annual Income for the Years 2012-2016

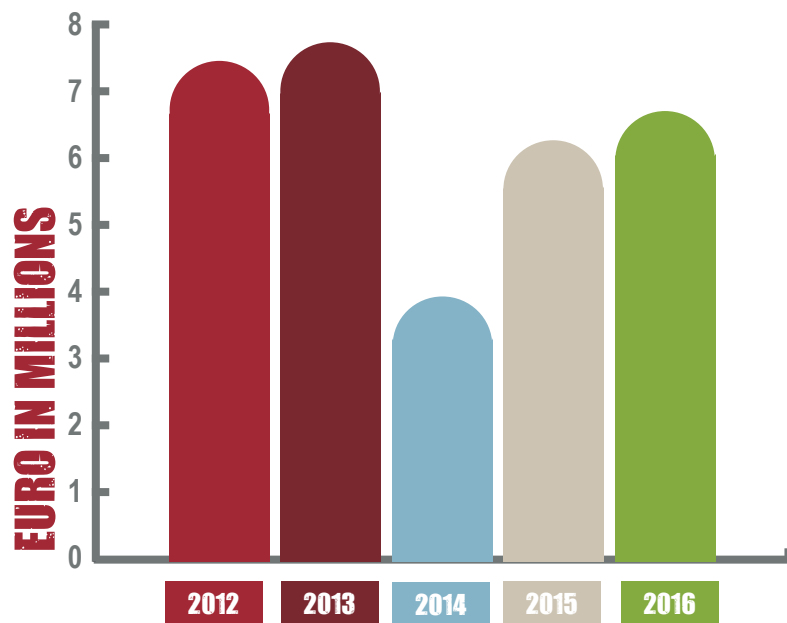


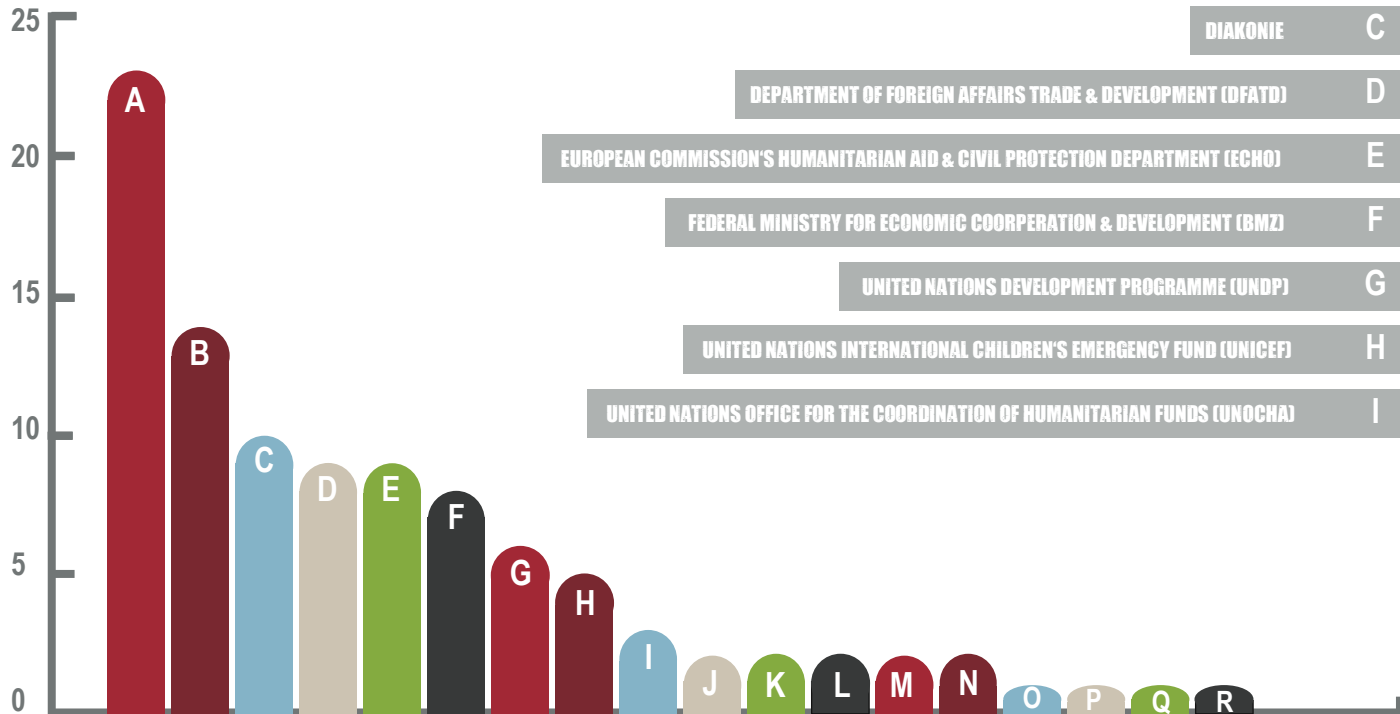
Photo: Juožas Cernius



SOURCES OF FUNDING

Total Budget (in €): **6.7 MILLION**

KEY



J ARCHITECTURE, ENGINEERING, CONSULTING, OPERATION & MAINTENANCE (AECOM)

K COMMON HUMANITARIAN FUNDS (CHF)

L FOOD & AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATION (FAO)

M GERMAN FOREIGN OFFICE

N INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (IFAD)

O CARITAS SWISS

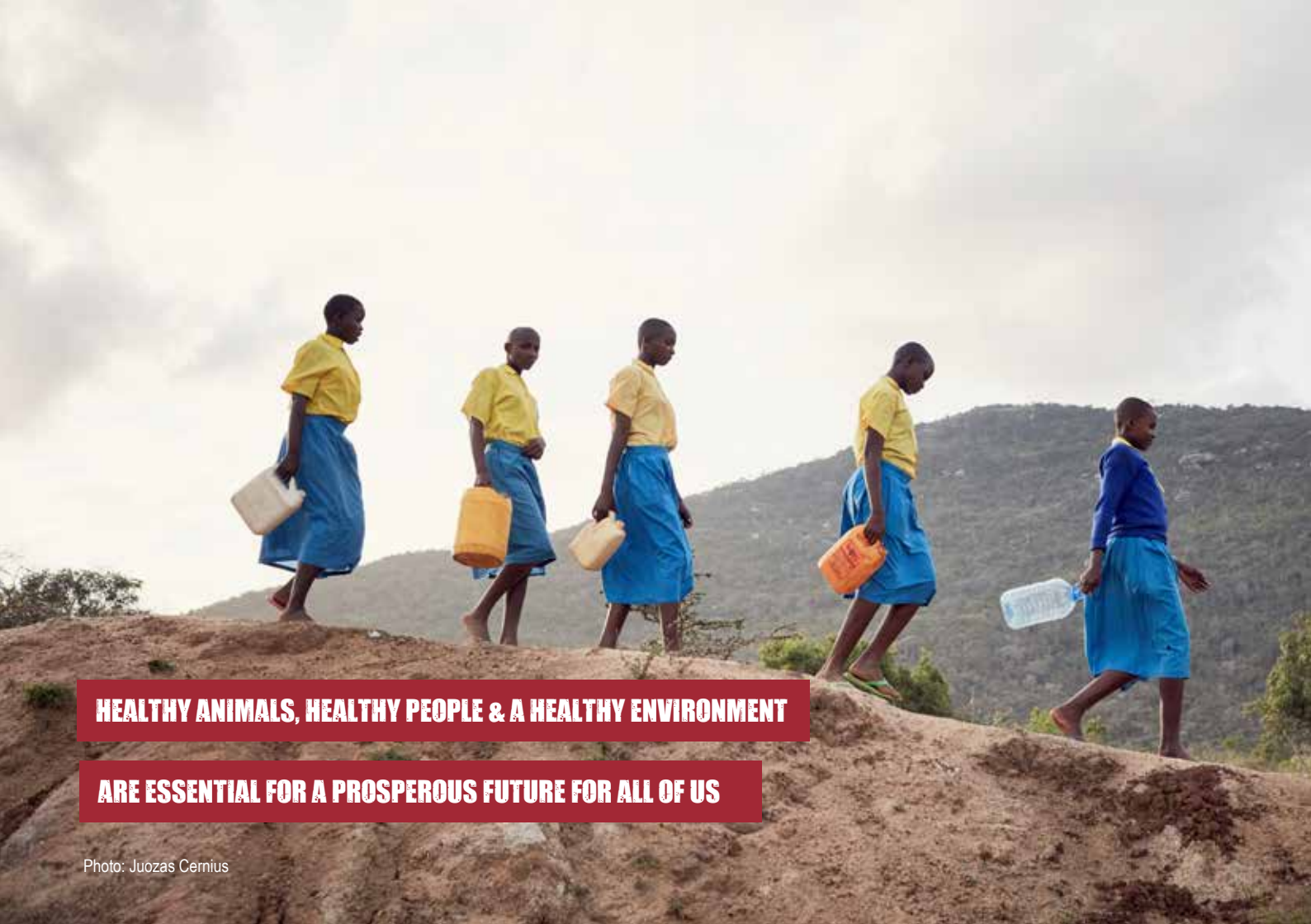
P FOOD & AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATION/EUROPEAN UNION (FAO/EU)

Q GESELLSCHAFT FUER INTERNATIONALE ZUSAMMENARBEIT (GIZ)

R EURO CONSULT



Photo: Juozas Cernius



HEALTHY ANIMALS, HEALTHY PEOPLE & A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

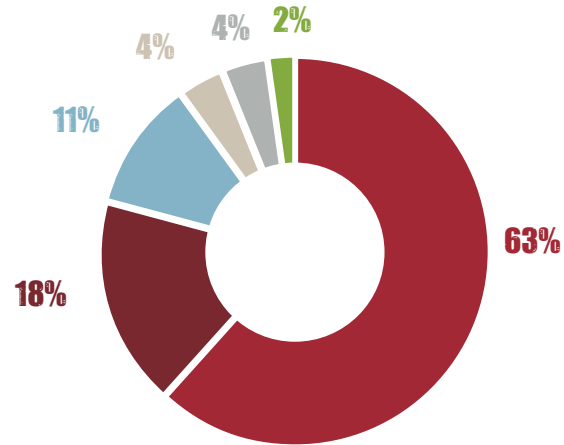
ARE ESSENTIAL FOR A PROSPEROUS FUTURE FOR ALL OF US

Photo: Juozaš Cernius



SECTORS OF INTERVENTION

Total # of Interventions: **56**



FOOD & NUTRITION SECURITY/LIVELIHOODS

CHILD PROTECTION

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

HEALTH

NUTRITION

GENDER

COLLABORATIONS

COOPERATION WITH GERMAN UNIVERSITIES

The first joint international conference of the 'Association of Institutions for Tropical Veterinary Medicine' (AITVM) and the 'Society of Tropical Veterinary Medicine' (STVM) was held at the Humboldt-University Berlin from September 4-8, 2016. The conference was the place to be for internationally renowned animal health and animal production experts, experienced scientists and young researchers, as well as interested students.

The conference was organised by the Institute for Parasitology and Tropical Veterinary Medicine and the Veterinary Public Health Center of the Freie Universität Berlin. VSFG was the co-organiser and also provided one of the key note speakers, Nicoletta Buono, who spoke during the rural development session.

The cooperation with the Freie Universität Berlin and the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) on a project on pig health in Uganda continues to be very constructive. The cooperation with the other four veterinary faculties in Germany

was further intensified. Following a successful networking event, a new volunteer group was established at the University of Leipzig, which has already successfully implemented its first activities. In addition, an official cooperation with supporters of the Veterinary Medicine Faculty in Leipzig is planned, which will strengthen the presence of VSFG in Leipzig.

VSFG also confirmed the cooperation with the German Federal Association of Veterinary Medicine Students (bvvd) through a cooperation agreement. Together with the International Veterinary Association (ivsa), VSFG organised the 'One Health Day' at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in Berlin. Future projects are also in the making, such as an international event to bring together interested student groups.

Together with the Akkon University of Human Sciences in Berlin, which offers a course in international emergency and disaster relief, VSFG will strengthen and further develop cooperation in the field of one health and veterinary emergency. Plans to introduce an elective subject and organise joint activities for the 'One Health Day' are also underway.





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