



VÉTÉRINAIRES
SANS FRONTIÈRES GERMANY



**ANNUAL
REPORT
2017**



Publisher: Tierärzte ohne Grenzen e.V. / VSFG
Marienstr. 19-20, 10117 Berlin

Information as of: August 2018

Responsible for content: Dr. Daniel Zaspel, Chairman of the Board

Editing / Coordination: George Tinega, Abigael Chebet Melly, Shoshanna Hillmann-Breuer,
Vivian Cherotich Malit

Photos: VSFG Staff and Partners or Public Domain (unless otherwise indicated)

Currencies/Amounts: All currency exchanges referred to in this publication are based on the
respective OANDA currency exchange rate of August 21, 2018

CONTENTS

EDITORIAL	4
VSFG AT A GLANCE	6
VOICES FROM THE PROJECTS	10
VSFG PROJECT MAP	12
PROJECTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT	14
INTERVIEW WITH VSFG STAFF	26
VSFG PROJECT COUNTRIES	28
Country Portrait: Kenya	30
Country Portrait: Sudan	32
Country Portrait: South Sudan	34
Country Portrait: Somalia	38
Country Portrait: Ethiopia	40
VSFG IN GERMANY & BEYOND	42
VACCINATING FOR AFRICA!	46
HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT US	48
ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE	51
FINANCE OVERVIEW	52



DR. DANIEL ZASPEL
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD



CHRISTIAN GRIEBENOW
MANAGING DIRECTOR

EDITORIAL

What an eventful year 2017 has been for Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Germany (VSFG). Our organization has gone through strategic and organizational restructuring to be best prepared for the coming years. With the restructuring, we have also seen some personnel changes.

On the downside, our organization fell victim to a cyber-attack in spring 2017. The criminal investigation by the German State Criminal Police Office is still ongoing, but it became evident very early on that this had been an attack by a transnational gang of organized fraudsters. Fortunately, we were able to reclaim some of the monetary damage from the banks involved. On December 16, 2017 we provided comprehensive information about all these processes and documented this in writing.

VSFG's most significant challenge continues to be how to increase its share of own funds in our association's

budget. We have achieved both small as well as notable progress in this regard. What's great is that more and more of our supporters request donations instead of gifts for milestone birthdays – thus donating three and even four-digit amounts to our work. This is always a great success and spurs us on in our work!

We are also delighted that many highly-qualified and very charismatic new colleagues have joined our headquarters in Berlin, the regional office in Nairobi, as well as some other country offices. We are excited about the great interest in joining our organization, and excited what the year 2018 will bring. With the new strategy, which was adopted by our Board in 2017, we will continue to strengthen our profile as an animal and human health organization in the Horn of Africa over the next five years. We will also look beyond the horizon to new regions with a high demand for veterinary care, emergency relief and development.

Indeed, such endeavors are only possible with the support from our members. Critical voices are essential, too, especially when evaluating decisions thoroughly. We want to extend our heartfelt gratitude for all your support. It is vital that we do not stop here: Together with you, as well as our partners in the veterinary profession, humanitarian aid, development, science, research and industry, we will expand our activities for the benefit of humans, animals and the environment. To this end, 2018 will see another joint event and exchange with our colleagues from the human medicine and neglected tropical diseases field around One-Health-Day.

As always, we look forward to meeting you at our booths during multiple veterinary conferences in Germany, the Tropics Day in Ghent, or in our Berlin and East Africa offices.

**Warm regards,
Christian Griebenow & Dr. Daniel Zaspel**



A South Sudanese woman is milking her cow to improve her family's nutrition.

VSFG AT A GLANCE

Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Germany (VSFG) provides humanitarian aid and development assistance to pastoralists and vulnerable communities in areas where livestock is the base for their livelihoods and food security. VSFG has a presence in Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan and South Sudan, and has nascent operations in Uganda. Its headquarters is in Berlin (Germany) with a regional office in Nairobi, Kenya, which provides strategic oversight to country offices in the Greater Horn of Africa region.

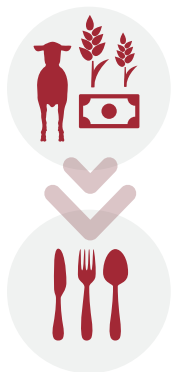
The desired impact of VSFG's interventions in the Greater Horn of Africa Region is to increase agricultural and livestock productivity and related incomes significantly, which in turn lead to improvements of food security and livelihoods for millions of people in each country of intervention. The key stakeholders and partners of VSFG include host governments, private sector players (like veterinary services), farmers, livestock owners, foundations and donor institutions amongst others. VSFG adopts a flexible approach to programming to enable it to deliver both development and emergency aid. This is a critical attribute that helps VSFG remain relevant, useful and competitive in an ever-changing and fragile ecosystem.

VSFG is a member of VSF International – a network of non-profit organizations with a strong global footprint and high-level expertise through its vast projects in animal health, livestock production, animal welfare, agribusiness, natural resource management, climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction. Other activities include gender empowerment, capacity development of communities and governmental institutions, and peace and conflict resolution with the ultimate aim of food security and stronger livelihoods of pastoralist communities.





Members of a local community attend to their livestock in Somalia.



VSFG's goal
**INCREASE AGRICULTURAL/
LIVESTOCK PRODUCTIVITY &
RELATED INCOMES**

VSFG's desired impact
**IMPROVED FOOD SECURITY &
LIVELIHOODS**

PROJECT OVERVIEW



Project countries

5



Projects

40



Beneficiaries reached

2.6 MILLION



Animals treated and/or vaccinated

4.3 MILLION



Community animal health workers (CAHWs) trained

1,345

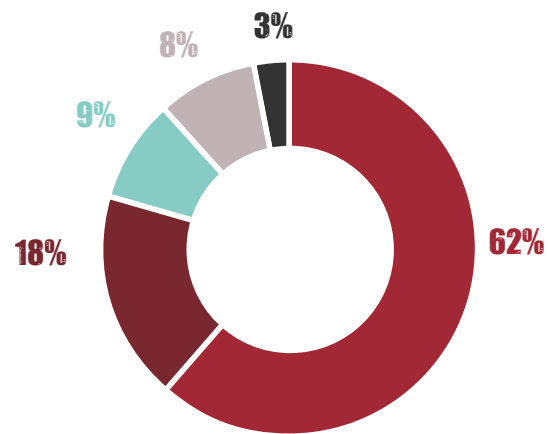


A herd boy in search of pasture for his camels in Ethiopia.



BENEFICIARIES PER COUNTRY

Total # of Beneficiaries: **2.6 MILLION**



SOUTH SUDAN

KENYA

ETHIOPIA

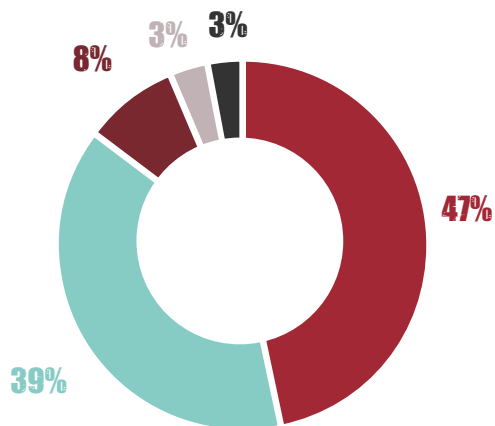
SUDAN

SOMALIA



CAHWS/CDRS SUPPORTED

Total # of Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs) & Community Disease Reporters (CDR) Supported: **1,345**



SOUTH SUDAN

ETHIOPIA

KENYA

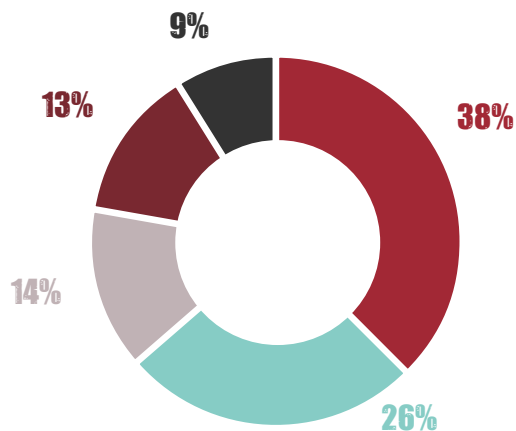
SUDAN

SOMALIA



ANIMALS TREATED/VACCINATED

Total # of Animals Treated/Vaccinated: **4.3 MILLION**



SOUTH SUDAN

ETHIOPIA

SUDAN

KENYA

SOMALIA

VOICES FROM THE PROJECTS

“

Alany increased her household income by selling her weak goat for KSH 3,000 (USD 30/EUR 25). The goat was slaughtered and the meat distributed to the community including to Alany. She divided the meat she received into three portions to feed her family three times a day. With the money earned, she bought school uniform for her children and used the remaining amount for food. “As you can see, our area is arid and we mostly depend on help from NGOs for our basic needs. We are very thankful to VSFG for the help and request them to come again.”

Alany Ekolese Tepesile, a beneficiary of destocking and meat distribution

Namon, Turkana County/Kenya



“

Through VSFG’S training on manufacturing fuel-efficient stoves, I made three stoves for myself. Before that, I used three-stone fires for cooking. As a result, my trips to fetch firewood reduced from three trips per week to only one, and the time I saved I invest in making other stoves for sale from affordable local materials.” Omama intends to expand her small business and reach other markets in Roseries and Damazine Towns.



**Omama Abdelrahman (in red), a mother of twelve children
Alazaza IDPs Settlement, Roseries Locality, Blue Nile State/Sudan**

“ I benefitted from VSFG’s voucher system that gave me access to livestock treatment. It allowed me to treat all my goats and sheep. Before the treatment mortality rate was at 40% due to starvation and endemic diseases. After, the mortality rate reduced to 10% and the animals coped well with the drought.”

Aden Omar Muhumed, livestock owner

Abdilohow Village, Dollow District, Gedo Region/Somalia



“ I saw the general health of vaccinated cows in the cattle camp was much better than non-vaccinated cows in other cattle camps. Better health also led to increased milk yields. Our cows are now producing enough. My children do not go hungry anymore. They are healthy and make me a happy mother.”

Simon, Community Animal Health Worker and ‘Aluel’ (local mother and cattle owner)

Twic East County, Jonglei State/ South Sudan



“ During the drought, we lost our livestock and my family was eating forest leaves. I participated in rangeland rehabilitation of pasture and development activities for one month and was paid a total of 1,505 birr (USD 55/EUR 47). I purchased two goats, grain and salt for my family. Currently one of the goats is pregnant, the other one has already given birth and my children are getting milk.”



**Alo, a mother of four children
Bena Community/Ethiopia**



SOUTH SUDAN

1. **16 SS TDA:** Transitional Development Assistance-Climate project (TDA-Climate) - (dry season)
2. **17 SS TDA:** Transitional Development Assistance-Climate project (TDA-Climate) - (wet season)
3. **2014 ESUH BMZ:** Integrated Food and Nutrition Security Programme in Jur River County-ESUH
4. **16 SS BRAP:** Building Resilient Agriculture Production
5. **2014 FESAP:** Food Security Thematic Program (FSTP) - Food Security through Enhancing Sustainable Agriculture Production in Warrap State
6. **16 SS PRANA:** Regional Transitional Aid Programme for Food and Nutritional Security in Sub-Saharan Africa-PRANA
7. **17 SS PRANA:** Regional Transitional Aid Programme for Food and Nutritional Security in Sub-Saharan Africa-PRANA
8. **17 SS DSR FAO:** Distribution of Fishing and Vegetable Kits to support 5,000 HHs and Training of 2 Groups in Fish Preservation and other 2 Groups in Improved Production, Post-Harvest Management, Preparation and Utilization of Vegetables in Western Bahr-Ghazal State
9. **17 SS FAO SEED:** Distribution of Crop Seeds through Seed Fairs (SFs) to 1750 HHs, and Direct Distribution of Crop, Vegetable and Fishing Kits to Support 4,750 HHs in Warrap State
10. **16 SS LERP OFDA:** Livestock Emergency Response In Greater Upper Nile States
11. **17 SS LERP OFDA:** Livestock Emergency Response In Greater Upper Nile States
12. **17 SS SSERACAC IV:** Supporting Social Economic Reintegration of Children Affected by Conflict
13. **17 SS JFFS FAO:** Strengthening Resilience of Communities through Improved Management for Livelihood Diversification, Establishment of Junior Farmers Field School (JFFS) and Livestock Activities in Boma State
14. **16 SS DIAKONIE:** Reducing Hunger and Malnutrition and Promoting Resilient Food Production in Cueibet

VSFG PROJECT MAP

VSF GERMANY IS ACTIVE IN 5 COUNTRIES

SUDAN

1. **18 SUD EFSL:** Emergency Food Security and Livelihood Support for the DPs and Destitute Vulnerable Host Communities in North Darfur, East Darfur, Central Darfur and South Kordofan States
2. **17 SUD SHF:** Improving Food Security and Livelihood Assets for IDPs, Returnees and Vulnerable Host Communities in the Areas of Golo and Nertiti in Central Darfur, Otash and Dereig Camps in South Darfur and Kebkabiya and Tawila in North Darfur
3. **17 SUD ECOCOL:** Economic Empowerment through Capacity Building Community Based Livelihood Program to Support the Return and Reintegration Process in Central and West Darfur States
4. **17 SUD CERF:** Restoring Crop and Livestock Based Livelihood Productive Capacity of Malnourished Pastoral and Farming Communities in West Jabel Marra Locality, Central Darfur State
5. **16 SUD USAID:** Emergency Relief Response to Newly Displaced People and Destitute Vulnerable Host Communities in Blue Nile State

REGIONAL

1. **2015 IFAD:** Regional Consultation with Pastoralist and Livestock Breeder CSOs-Towards Better Policies in Support of Pastoralist in Eastern and Southern Africa

ETHIOPIA

1. **16 ETH ECHO I:** Reducing the Impact of El Niño Phenomena through Livelihood and WASH Emergency Response Project in Drought Affected Areas of Zone 2, Afar Region
2. **16 ETH USAID:** Drought Emergency Assistance through Livelihood and WASH Sector Harmonization in Abaala, Berehale and Kuneba Districts of Afar Region
3. **EHF 2018:** Livelihood Based Drought Emergency Response in Hamer, Dassenach and Nyagatom Woredas of South Omo Zone, SNNPR
4. **16 ETH PPR:** Pursuing Pastoral Resilience through Improved Animal Health Services in Pastoral Areas of Ethiopia
5. **16 ETH AURA:** Enhancing Resilience against Climate Change-Induced Food Insecurity of Pastoralist and Agro-Pastoralist in Aura Woreda of Afar Region
6. **16 ETH RESET SOUTH OMO:** Resilience Building for Sustainable Livelihood & Transformation (RESULT) Project in South Omo Zone of Hammer, Dassenech and Nyangatom Woreda
7. **17 ETH ECHO SO:** Emergency WASH and Livelihood Response to Extreme Drought Affected and Water Insecurity in South Omo
8. **ECHO HIP:** Emergency Response Project in Afar Region
9. **16 ETH RESET AFAR:** Improving Livelihoods and Building Resilience in Afar Regional State (RESET II)

SOMALIA

1. **16 SO BMZ/ESUH:** Securing Livelihoods of Agro-Pastoralists through Setting-Up and Strengthening of Livestock Sector Value Chains Promoting Infrastructure and Generating Income (SLA-LI)
2. **2017 KE ELFP:** Emergency Livestock Feeds Project (ELFP)
3. **KE SOM FO:** Food Security and Rapid Response in Gedo

KENYA

1. **2014 SHARE KENYA:** Community Action for Improved Drought Response Resilience
2. **16 KE SPERC:** Acting Together Differently - Strengthening Preparedness and Emergency Response Capacities by Vulnerable Communities in Northern Kenya
3. **16 KE BONGO Kenya:** Strengthening of the Drought Risk Response and Resilience Capacities of Pastoral Communities
4. **16 KE CARITAS SWISS:** Response to Humanitarian Needs of Communities Affected by Climate Impacts in Marsabit County, Kenya
5. **17 KE SCOS:** Emergency Response to Strengthen Coping Strategies of Vulnerable Communities in Northern Kenya
6. **17 KE FO:** Supporting Livelihood Assets for Pastoralists in Northern Kenya
7. **17 KE EWEA:** Early Warning Early Action (EWEA) Initiation of Co-Management Model of Livestock Marketing and Support to Destocking and Accelerated Livestock Off-Take in Wajir, Marsabit, and Counties

PROJECTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

KENYA: SUPPORTING LIVELIHOOD ASSETS FOR PASTORALISTS IN NORTHERN KENYA

Turkana remains dry and prone to violence. It is also the poorest county in Kenya, with unmitigated droughts causing large-scale suffering, loss of lives and livelihood assets. Decades of political and economic marginalization have curbed development on all fronts, which led the county to have the lowest development indices nationally. Challenges for people and livestock living here were intensified when drought struck again in 2017.

This is the context that VSFG has been working in for more than fifteen years. From its field office in Lokichoggio, VSFG continues to implement a diverse portfolio of development and emergency response projects with a particular presence in Turkana North and Turkana West. The broad areas of intervention include, among others, natural resource management (NRM), disaster risk reduction (DRR) and conflict mitigation. To ensure sustainable outcomes, these interventions are largely carried out in partnership with state and non-state actors in Turkana and the transboundary

landscapes connecting Kenya with Ethiopia, South Sudan and Uganda.

VSFG implemented a seven-month (July 1, 2017 to January 31, 2018) project titled 'Supporting Livelihood Assets for Pastoralists in Northern Kenya'. The project was implemented in Turkana West and North Sub Counties with an overarching objective to protect livelihood assets, improve food security and water access as well as enhance conflict mitigation. Overall, the project aimed at reinforcing the recovery from adverse effects of drought on the livelihoods and wellbeing. While this was a relatively short project it achieved three results:

- » It protected key livelihood assets and improved food security of 28,000 pastoralists;
- » It increased the availability of water for both human and animal consumption to 17,500 direct beneficiaries and their livestock;
- » It promoted peaceful sharing of pasture and water resources. We hope that the results of our work will not only inspire more informed intervention in Kenya but also other Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs) of Kenya and beyond.



Lokaale Loolia, a water technician in Matukul Village, Turkana.



Livestock treatment in Turkana.



Livestock drinking water from a cemented water trough.



Beneficiary group members are bailing hay for storage harvested from a rehabilitated rangeland.

ETHIOPIA: RANGELAND REHABILITATION IN SOUTH OMO

VSFG implemented an ECHO-funded project titled 'Emergency WASH and Livelihood Response to Extreme Drought and Water Insecurity in South Omo' with PIN (People in Need). The proposed interventions were a response to the emergency situation caused by extreme and prolonged drought, targeting three most affected 'woredas' (districts) in South Omo Zone, Ethiopia. Insufficient rains were reported from 2015, which resulted in limited access to water both for people and livestock and groundwater not being recharged. This led to scarce pasture for livestock, leaving cattle herds in desperate situations and thus impacting the households, which primarily depend on livestock. The few animals that survived were not productive anymore, especially the milking cattle. Rangeland rehabilitation is one of the key interventions implemented by VSFG. Objectives of the rangeland rehabilitation are:

- » Cash injections to drought-affected communities enabling them to survive through the drought season;
- » Rehabilitation of rangelands to produce, harvest and store grasses for the subsequent drought seasons.

VSFG selected public rangeland by integrating indigenous knowledge with science. Before the intervention, the land had been highly degraded and

invaded by bush. VSFG continued to mobilize the community and engage them in bush clearing, fencing and soil and water conservation activities, which led to a quick regeneration of the rangelands.

After working with the local communities and other key stakeholders to rehabilitate the rangelands, VSFG also constructed a large shed that was used to store 5,800 bales of harvested grass valued at 1.1 million Ethiopian Birr (USD 39,500/EUR 35,000).

During their visits, Alemayehu Bawudi (the local government Zonal Administrator) and Seifu Ayele (the local government Head of Livestock and Fisheries Development Department) said that VSFG had made history in South Omo Zone because no other organization had even rehabilitated rangeland with such success and to such a high-level of harvesting, baling and storing. VSFG is thus a pioneer in the area and a model to follow by the government and other development agencies in the South Omo Zone. "We would like to say thank you very much; VSFG is our real development partner. We are proud of the work of the organization," one government official said.



South Sudan has a strong culture of keeping livestock.
Photo: CC0 Public Domain

SOUTH SUDAN: GENDER AND LIVESTOCK IN SOUTH SUDAN

South Sudan's culture of keeping livestock has survived recurrent periods of civil war that even pre-dates Sudan's independence over sixty years ago. The wars have had dramatic implications for gender relations. An average household in South Sudan comprises of 7.1 people and 43% of the households are female-headed. Although farming is the main source of livelihood, crop yields can only meet about 3 months of household annual food needs. The deficit is acquired from the markets (or from other households with surplus food items mostly using barter trade mechanisms). The cash required for food purchases is usually obtained from the sale of farm produce, cattle, sheep, goats, fish, poultry and forest resources in that order of importance.

In South Sudan, up to 80% of the sheep and goats die each year of infectious diseases. In 2017, VSFG intensified vaccination of small ruminants, significantly reducing mortality from infectious diseases in most of the war affected areas, leading to significant reduction in mortality rates. It also doubled household herd sizes in a number of counties. VSFG also undertook cattle vaccination in some areas, an important livestock category especially for men.

Furthermore, VSFG introduced improved breeds of chicken with high growth vigor and superior productive and reproductive efficiencies. They produce up to four times more eggs compared to local chicken and weigh three times more. These improved chickens were given to women farmers to empower them socio-economically and also to improve their household food nutrition. Mass vaccination of chicken also ensured that approximately 80% of the chicken survived despite the presence of infectious diseases. Additionally, all farmers received livestock extension training, which equipped them with the necessary skills for improved livestock keeping. This was done through the Pastoralist Farmer Field Schools.



Community animal health workers treating shoats in Blue Nile State, Sudan.

SUDAN: SUPPORTING IDPS IN SUDAN

South Sudan's culture of keeping livestock has survived. The conflict in Blue Nile State has resulted in large-scale displacement. It has also had a multifaceted impact on displaced and host populations, such as losing their belongings and productive assets and destroying basic infrastructure. The latter exposed the affected communities at risk to an even higher vulnerability, including severe food insecurity.

VSFG is implementing a project titled 'Emergency Relief Response to Newly Displaced People and Destitute Vulnerable Host Communities in Blue Nile State' that was funded by USAID/OFDA. The project addresses emergency life-saving and humanitarian needs of conflict-affected communities in Blue Nile State by enhancing access to safe water, protection services, improving sanitation conditions and nutrition status of the target population. This project targets the conflict-affected population of Blue Nile State particularly internally displaced people (IDPs) and their host communities in four localities (Roseries, Damazine, Wad-Almahi and Tadamon). The target communities in these areas suffer from a lack of sufficient food, portable water, hygiene and sanitation infrastructure.

The project adopts a holistic approach to address diverse immediate and longer-term priority needs of the affected communities by implementing activities in four sectors: 1) Agriculture and Food Security, 2) Logistic Support, 3) Relief Commodities (non-food items) and 4) Protection, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH). The implementation of this action took place in partnership with the government line ministries and national non-governmental organizations at the state level. VSFG employed community participation and protection mainstreaming approaches to achieve the project goals. So far, the project has reached 80,223 individuals through the distribution of non-food items such as kitchen sets, blankets and soaps to both IDPs and the targeted vulnerable host communities.

In addition, VSFG established two women and girls multipurpose centers within the IDPs settlement to training women and girls on gender-based violence and the production of fuel-efficient stoves. Vulnerable women and girls also received personal hygiene kits (in-kind contribution from UNFPA).

A total of 33,417 people also benefitted from the rehabilitation of water supply ('Algari Hafirs') and sanitation infrastructure ('Damazine Slaughter Slab'), the provision of latrine slabs to IDP households, trainings of schoolteachers and community motivators on proper

sanitation and hygiene promotion and provision of donkey carts for cleaning campaigns.

The rehabilitation of the water scheme has increased the water supply for domestic use by almost 50% for IDPs and host communities at Algari Village. Fishery interventions have benefited some 4,799 beneficiaries from affected fishing communities.

These interventions included training on boat building, provision of fishing gear to poor fishermen, training on fish processing and net-making for women and girls from fishing communities. IDP farming households were targeted with agricultural support activities,

such as providing them with seeds and tools. This enabled them to practice vegetable home gardening, which contributed to their food security and dietary diversification. Female-headed households and orphans also benefited from a goats restocking program. The milk of lactating goats has significantly contributed to the nutrition of small and vulnerable children.

In addition, the project has also implemented wide-scale animal vaccination and treatment programs in targeted areas through trained and equipped CAHWs and vaccination campaigns. This has contributed to controlling different disease outbreaks in the state.



Distribution of Non-Food-Items (NFIs) to IDPs in Blue Nile State.



VSGF supported IDP women and girls by training them to develop fuel-efficient stoves.



Vendors in Gedo Region weighing goods for sale.
Photo: AU UN IST PHOTO / Mahamud Hassan



Trained Community Animal Health Workers treating shoats in Gedo region.



VSEG is increasing household incomes through cash-for-work activities like these.



The construction of a road in Somalia, another cash-for-work activity.

SOMALIA: FOOD SECURITY RAPID RESPONSE PROJECT IN GEDO REGION

The Gedo region of Southwest Somalia has not received reliable rainfall in recent years. Consequently, households in the region continue to suffer from the effects of prolonged dry seasons that resulted in the depletion of pasture, successive crop failure and forced livestock migration to other areas. This also reduced the availability of livestock products for children and women who were unable to migrate with the livestock; bringing about severe food crisis to the majority of households in the region. Additionally, it lowered labor opportunities (mainly in the agricultural sector affected by the drought) and forced many households to employ stress-coping strategies. Most of these strategies are destructive and would not be sustainable in the long-term. Low livestock and high food prices in the local markets further aggravated the situation. The purchasing power of many households was compromised and people could hardly afford to feed their families.

Another consequence was increased malnutrition rates in children under five (5) years of age and an overwhelming influx of desperate IDPs in both rural and urban areas of Dollow and Luuq districts.

With funding from the German Foreign Office, VSFG stepped in to implement a 15-month project (from October 2016 to February 2018) in Dollow and Luuq districts of Gedo region. The project aimed at improving access to food through direct food aid, raising incomes through cash-for-work measures and improving livelihoods through veterinary support in livestock farming and improved fisheries. The overall project targeted 6,524 households (or 39,144 people).

To this end, VSFG partnered with the South West Livestock Professional Association (SOWELPA), a local institution mandated to undertake and oversee animal health services in the Gedo region. Together, they carried out disease surveillance, identified and trained active CAHWs and monitored livestock treatment activities targeting beneficiary households who received food aid vouchers.

The implementation of the project came at the right time and saved many lives during a severe food crisis. The project increased incomes for households engaged in cash-for-work activities and fishing. This enabled them to meet their basic subsistence needs, reduced mortality rates, improved the health status of livestock and enabled the same to cope with drought. The project restored dignity among beneficiary households as the intervention spared them from begging from

relatives and engaging in other degrading coping mechanisms.

The project also benefited a total of 6,057 indirect beneficiary households (or 36,342 people) through food aid (1,630 households), cash-for-work (1,280 households) and livestock treatments (3,147 households). This indirect impact happened because the targeted beneficiary households shared food, cash and veterinary drugs with neighbors and relatives. Besides, an additional 299,544 livestock were covered and treated, as opposed to the directly targeted 90,000 by the project.

SOMALILAND: STRENGTHENING LIVESTOCK SECTOR VALUE CHAINS

VSFG is also present in Somaliland, where it implemented a BMZ-funded project titled 'Securing Livelihoods of Agro-Pastoralists through Setting-Up and Strengthening of Livestock Sector Value Chains, Promoting Infrastructure and Generating Income'. The project has contributed to the improvement of livelihoods of the dairy and meat producing agro-pastoralists and members of milk and meat value chain processors, vendors, CAHWs, and drug suppliers. It has done so by increasing incomes and guaranteeing access to hygienically improved animal proteins

that ensure the high-quality supply of approximately 110,000 consumers. The intervention involved trainings, supply of equipment and capacity building of the private and public sector to improve the quality and quantity of animal protein available to the population. Better sales in meat and milk have increased incomes of actors in the milk and meat value chains and ultimately contribute to people's resilience to food crises.



Milk vendors attending training on hygienic practices in milk processing.



Members of a local community attend to their livestock in Somalia.
Photo: AU-UN IST PHOTO / Tobin Jones

INTERVIEW WITH ZACHARY AKIDONG SANGET

WE SPOKE TO OUR PROJECT MANAGER IN GEDO, SOMALIA, ZACHARY AKIDONG SANGET WHO JOINED VSFG IN FEBRUARY 2014.

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

I get immensely motivated and satisfied by being an agent of change in ending the suffering of people. We do so by delivering much-needed food aid and other livelihood support to vulnerable households in Gedo region. Previously, I worked with another international organization for over six years. During that period, I implemented both emergency and livelihoods support projects in Middle Juba, Lower Juba, Bay, Hiran, Galgadud and the Gedo regions of Somalia.

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

Overall, I have been able to learn about community dynamics in Somalia and that has greatly helped me to adopt a 'Do No Harm Approach' as well as impartiality when dealing with the communities and stakeholders. I have been consistent and firm in adhering to the

organization's principles and donor requirements and that has earned me respect and trust from the beneficiaries. Besides my job duties, I have also participated in training, monitoring and mentoring of CAHWs to deliver animal health services at the village level. The community-based animal health system enhances accessibility to essential veterinary extension services. Improving the disease control and management capacity at the grassroots also allows remotely located pastoralists to reduce livestock deaths.

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

Over 80% of the population in Gedo region depends on livestock as their main livelihood asset. Sadly, widespread disease outbreaks and persistent droughts have affected the health and productivity of livestock. In the face of such insurmountable odds, livestock owners have had no one to turn to for help. Instead, they were exploited by ruthless businessmen who stock and sell fake drugs to them for profit. However, through VSFG's training and support to CAHWs, communities are now able to access quality drugs and services from

people based in their villages. This approach has not only reduced livestock mortality but also improved how they cope with the drought. There is a great hope for the sustainability of a community-based animal health service delivery system as a good number of VSFG trained CAHWs are running drug stores in their villages and are offering extension services. Since global warming and climate change have had a greater impact on livestock farming and enterprise, the time is ripe to adopt alternative livelihoods to improve food security and livelihood wellbeing, such as dryland farming, pasture production and income generating activities among others for improved food security.

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

Impartiality, consistency and commitment to the delivery of aid on time have earned VSFG respect and confidence from both the beneficiaries and the wider community. The relationship between VSFG and the community is consistently cordial and supportive, and this has enabled us to deliver projects successfully.



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

The incessant demand for food aid and cash-for-work, especially by desperate IDP-households in main settlement areas, has been a challenge. However, with the support from the community and local administrative authorities, we have been able to select and register only the most vulnerable households using set criteria. Al-Shabaab also makes the aid delivery and routine monitoring in some of our target areas like Luuq District difficult. However, in cases like that, we try and organize distributions to safer areas, so that beneficiaries from affected villages can still collect deliveries.

VSFG PROJECT COUNTRIES

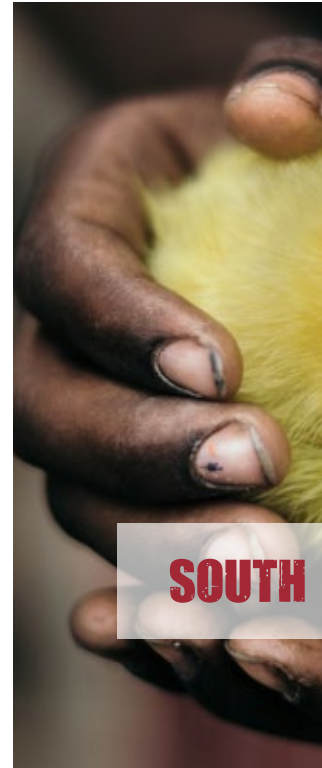




Photo: CCO Public Domain

SUDAN



SOMALIA



ETHIOPIA

COUNTRY PORTRAIT: KENYA

Kenya has approximately 44.2 million inhabitants and an annual growth rate of 2.6%. It is rated as the seventh-most populated country in Africa. Kenya is very young: more than half the country's population is under 25. Kenya's Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs) cover 23 of the 47 counties with about 10% of the country's population (4 million people) residing there. Under Kenya's New Constitution (2010), governance has been devolved to each of the counties with the intention of strengthening political accountability and enhancing delivery of public services at the local level.

The country's major challenges include frequent drought episodes, low GDP rates of 5.5%, and high inflation rates at 7.9%, the latter due to ever-increasing food and energy prices. Income inequality remains persistent amid significant security concerns, which have lowered tourism numbers and foreign currency reserves. The agriculture sector (crops and livestock) remains the most important contributor to the country's food security and economic growth at over 26% of the total GDP. However, the sector faces major and recurrent setbacks from drought that affect

production of livestock and crops. This causes conflicts over resources and forces the government to spend significant portions of its budget on supporting millions affected by drought each year. For example, in 2017 at least KES 21.5 billion (USD 21.2 million/EUR 18.5 million) was spent to support 1.3 million people who were facing drought and hunger.

Over the years, VSFG has received support from different donors and implemented interventions that support vulnerable communities in need of humanitarian and development assistance as well as resilience-building using innovative methodologies and approaches. Such interventions include emergency responses to improve food and water access, protection of livelihood assets such as veterinary services, activities to diversify livelihoods, work on disaster risk reduction, holistic natural resources management, as well as capacity building of public and community institutions using 'Do No Harm' approaches.

The main operation areas of VSFG in Kenya have been in ASAL areas, where livestock are the main

PROJECT OVERVIEW

source of livelihoods. These are areas chronically affected by drought, environmental degradation, poor infrastructure, extreme poverty, institutional weaknesses, high vulnerability to food and nutrition insecurity, resource-based conflicts and high per capita cost of and limited service delivery. In ASAL areas, negative effects of climate change pose a serious risk to the sustainability of pastoralism, food security and livelihood wellbeing.

The VSFG programming in Kenya is aligned to the Government's disaster risk management and ending drought emergencies framework. Program interventions include emergency response, recovery and development in animal health and cash transfers, drought preparedness, value chain approaches, risk assessment and mitigation, capacity building, Early Warning Systems (EWS), natural resources management, economic empowerment through support to saving groups, WASH, conflict mitigation and advocacy at all levels of development.



Projects

7



Donors

**EC, ECHO, BMZ, CARITAS SWISS,
GERMAN FOREIGN OFFICE, FAO**



Beneficiaries reached

461,000



Animals treated and/or vaccinated

581,000



Community animal health workers trained

113

COUNTRY PORTRAIT: SUDAN

With a total area of about 1.8 million km², Sudan is the third largest country in Africa. The country has an estimated population of 40.2 million.

The humanitarian situation in Sudan remains critical with an estimated 4.8 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. Sudan faces two overlapping humanitarian challenges: one triggered by conflict leading to wide-scale population displacement; and another due to climatic and socio-cultural conditions leading to crisis levels of food insecurity and malnutrition. People living in protracted displacement in Darfur since 2003, or those displaced or affected by conflict in South Kordofan and Blue Nile State since 2011, account for most people in need of humanitarian aid. Lack of access to basic services, natural assets and sustainable livelihoods in areas of return is not conducive to voluntary return.

At the same time, displacement has overstretched the capacity of host communities and aid partners to meet the needs of vulnerable displaced people. Displaced people are more vulnerable due to their reduced

access to natural resources such as land and water, and a chronic shortage of basic services. Tensions between host and displaced communities, and between farmers and herders, have eroded community cohesion and resilience, with women and youth being excessively affected as a result of traditional cultural norms.

In light of the above-mentioned context, VSFG provides immediate life-saving services as well as long-term humanitarian support to displaced and vulnerable host communities to ensure that their immediate needs are met, and their resilience is built to withstand future shocks. Through support of community livelihoods development, economic empowerment of women and young people, capacity building of communities and local partners, dissemination of awareness messages (e.g. protection and hygiene), VSFG aims to contribute to the sustainable recovery of affected populations in Sudan. Currently, VSFG is operational in four states (South Kordofan, Central Darfur, West Darfur and Blue Nile), where it is implementing different projects funded by SHF, OFDA, FAO and UNDP.

PROJECT OVERVIEW



Projects
5



Donors
SHF, UNDP, FAO/CERF, USAID/OFDA



Beneficiaries reached
220,600



Animals treated and/or vaccinated
607,900



Community animal health workers trained
45



Left: Conflicts have caused large-scale displacements in Sudan.
Photo: CC0 Public Domain



Bottom: Boys carrying beddings and household items during livestock migration.

COUNTRY PORTRAIT: SOUTH SUDAN

VSFG launched programming in South Sudan in 1998, implementing Community-Based Animal Health Service (CAHS) in one county in the Bahr el Ghazal region. VSFG's work in South Sudan has continued to grow over the last two decades. In 2017, VSFG implemented projects covering 10 thematic areas in 40 of the 86 counties and 6 of the 10 states in South Sudan. The country has suffered intermittent civil wars and internal conflict since its independence in 1956. An internal civil war set off the crisis that started in 2013. By 2017, out of a population of 12 million people, 3.1 million had been displaced (1.9 internally displaced and 1.2 million as refugees in the neighboring countries). Another 7.5 million were in need of humanitarian aid. Tragically, famine was declared at the beginning of 2017, which affected two project counties. Another 1 million people in other counties slid into catastrophic food insecurity. Our analysis established that from all those households falling into a catastrophe phase had lost all their livestock, whilst also facing other vulnerabilities.

The strategic goal for VSFG's Sudan operations in 2017 was to improve food and nutrition security and incomes

for smallholder farmers. Three objectives helped to achieve this goal, namely:

- » Increased farm productivity and diversity – through disease control (both livestock diseases and zoonoses), improved land use, pre- and post-harvest management, and increased diversity;
- » Enhanced opportunities for women and youth – through production of marketable foods for income and home consumption, mobilization of savings, micro-enterprise and processing, and small-scale infrastructure;
- » Nutrition-focused support to emergency/ disaster affected groups – through provision of animal source and nutritious foods, cash and voucher-based food provision, healthy interaction between animal, humans and their environment, protection of livestock assets through emergency vaccination and treatment, and provision of small ruminants, poultry and other small animals for re-establishment of livestock based livelihoods.

With a total budget of approximately EUR 4.5 million, VSFG was able to respond to the humanitarian needs of 252,760 households that included 1,516,558

individuals. This was made possible through a number of generous donors:

- » The United States Agency for International Development through the office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) supported emergency livestock animal intervention with EUR 962,253 in the most war-affected Greater Upper Nile region, relieving 172,737 pastoral households in 19 counties.
- » The German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development through Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe (DKH), The Johanniter, and the German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ) supported food and nutrition security interventions in two counties of Greater Bahr el Ghazal region at EUR 1,618,080 (8 grants), enabling provision of daily meals to 13,000 schoolchildren, and improving own production at household level for 12,358 households.
- » The Dutch Government through Euroconsult Mott MacDonald supported animal health service development and provision with EUR 387,128 to 38,663 households in 5 counties in the Lakes State of Greater Bahr el Ghazal region.
- » The Global Affairs Canada through Vétérinaires sans Frontières Canada (VSF Canada) and AGRITEAM CANADA enabled the provision of Food and Livelihood Security support to 15,216 households in 4 counties in the Greater Bahr el Ghazal region with

PROJECT OVERVIEW



Projects
15



Donors
GIZ, BMZ, AGRITEAM CANADA, EU, FAO, OFDA, DIAKONIE, UNICEF, GAC



Beneficiaries reached
1.6 MILLION



Animals treated and/or vaccinated
1.6 MILLION



Community animal health workers trained
629

EUR 650,576 (2 grants).

- » The Food Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) enabled the provision of emergency food production (vegetables and fish) in one county in Greater Bahr el Ghazal region and livelihood diversification in one county in Greater Upper Nile region with EUR 145,385 (2 grants) for 4,401 households.
- » The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) supported the economic reintegration of 2,104 former children associated with armed forces and groups with funding of EUR 358,104 enabling to build small ruminant herds and vocational skills for the children accompanied by psychosocial support.

THEMATIC SCOPE & INTEGRATION:

- » *Food security:* all projects focused on the widespread food insecurity in South Sudan that affected 5.5m people. The interventions ranged from emergency fortified food interventions, the provision of emergency food production kits (vegetable seeds and fishing gear), staple crop production, trainings on increasing production, to the provision of sheep, goats, and chicken.
- » *Animal health:* additionally, livestock interventions were implemented as stand-alone projects (OFDA/ USAID and DG), or as components of other food security actions. This reflects the importance of

livestock in the livelihoods of affected populations. The program trained a total of 517 CAHWs. They were then supported to treat and vaccinate 1.46 million heads of cattle, 39,000 sheep and goats and 61,806 chicken (belonging to 228,130 out of the total 252,719 beneficiary households reached in 2017).

- » *Gender:* while all the projects targeted women affirmatively, the DKH grant (78% women), BMZ grants (80% women) and the EU grant (81% women) were specific on the required proportions of the gender of the beneficiaries.
- » *Protection:* The UNICEF grant was specifically designed to promote protection, rendering socio-economic and psychosocial support to former children associated with armed forces and groups, and most vulnerable children in the society. And also USAID/OFDA placed a particular focus on protection issues – gender, people with disability, the aged and minorities. Vulnerability due to displacement was a common interest characteristic among all projects.
- » *Environment:* several grants addressed environmental issues directly – BMZ through Natural Resources Management capacity building for sustainable income generation and climate adaptation cultivation by producers, and USAID/ OFDA through the One Health Initiative.



VSFG introduced improved breeds of chicken:
They produce up to four times more eggs and
weigh three times more compared to local
chicken.

Photo: CC0 Public Domain

COUNTRY PORTRAIT: SOMALIA

After more than a decade of instability, an internationally backed government was installed in Somalia in 2012. The country is divided into and governed through federal administrative units that are largely clan-based. They include Somaliland, Puntland, Galmudug, Hirshabelle, Jubal and and South-West State are run by formal governments. Despite existing efforts by the Somali government and African Union Forces to stabilize the country, some areas are still administered by non-state, armed authorities (Al-Shabaab), who continue to cause security concerns. Somalia has remained in a precarious humanitarian situation due to persistent climatic variability, armed conflict, clan violence, insecurity, displacement and poor access to basic services. Over 5.4 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance of whom at least 2.7 million are facing emergencies. Among them, 1.2 million children are malnourished due to a decline in food and income sources. In 2017 drought and conflict resulted in the displacement of 2.1 million IDPs causing 2.4 million people to be in a crisis and 866,000 in an emergency state.

Despite the need to scale up humanitarian assistance to address the emergency needs across the country, humanitarian organizations continue to operate in a complex, demanding and risk-prone environment. Main challenges limiting humanitarian access include restriction by non-state armed actors, security concerns, bureaucratic impediments and limited infrastructure. Violent incidents continue to increase especially in the southern and central regions despite the efforts of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) to stabilize the country.

During the 2017 drought, a non-state armed actor set up drought committees and activated a humanitarian wing, engaged in its own relief efforts and distributed some relief supplies including food, non-food items, water, nutrition and medicines to some of the over 2 million people in need that reside in areas under their control. While this was a positive gesture, their other policies exacerbated the situation of the people in need both inside and outside their areas of control as they continued to ban formal humanitarian actors in most areas, and aggressively enforced seizure

and destruction of relief supplies, as well as punished some of the communities that accepted humanitarian inputs. They also increased illegal taxation of community assets including crop harvested and checkpoint fees on routes under their control.

VSFG has been working in Somalia since 2005, implementing humanitarian and development actions. The humanitarian interventions include emergency food security and livelihoods, animal health service and cash-for-work in Gedo region. Since 2016, VSFG has been implementing food security and resilience building through livestock value chains, animal health services, milk and meat production, hygiene and safety, promoting the milk and meat trade, and by improving market infrastructure in Somaliland. Provision of humanitarian services has supported households in emergency crises to access basic food, strengthen livelihoods to reduce suffering while development initiatives have helped communities to build shock resilience. Emergency assistance that improves food access by vulnerable households also enhances protection of families against gender-based violence, child abuse and family separation.

PROJECT OVERVIEW



Projects

3



Donors

BMZ, IFAW, GERMAN FOREIGN OFFICE



Beneficiaries reached

75,500



Animals treated

381,700



Community animal health workers trained

40

COUNTRY PORTRAIT: ETHIOPIA

Ethiopia's economic growth of 8.2% is among the fastest worldwide. However, it is still one of the poorest countries in the world. Millions of Ethiopians are suffering from poverty. The main challenges for Ethiopia are sustaining its positive economic growth and accelerating poverty reduction, which requires significant progress in job creation as well as improved governance. Recurrent droughts occur due to lack of rain in rainy seasons, which is further exacerbated by a shortage of food, disease outbreaks, large-scale loss of livelihood assets and displacement. According to the government, around 7.9 million out of more than 100 million Ethiopians are dependent on food assistance and medical support.

Ethiopia is a multi-ethnic state with 120 ethnic groups and more than 80 languages. In some regions, political protests are occurring lately due to ethnic and religious grievances. The latter occur through alleged marginalization and demand for more inclusive political environment and freedom of expression.

In order to try to tackle this poverty, VSFG's has expanded the work of its Ethiopian programing. Currently, there are eight active projects in two regional states of Ethiopia namely SNPPR (Southern Nations Nationalities and People's Regional State) and Afar. The program focuses on emergency response, recovery and building resilience of pastoralists and agro-pastoralists. The project portfolio is slowly expanding to include more projects and new thematic focus areas. The following are the main supporting donor agencies: EU, ECHO, USAID/OFDA, UN OCHA, FAO and BMZ/ADRA. The main programmatic focus areas include animal health services, restocking, livestock fodder development, Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH), Natural Resource Management (NRM), cash-for-work, cash transfer and income generation schemes. In 2017, these interventions reached a total of 223,430 persons (of which 109,311 live in female-headed households), trained 518 CAHWs and 161 experts, and provided treatments for 301,971 and vaccination for 303,526 animals. The various projects have contributed to saving lives and livelihoods, promoting businesses and strengthening the resilience of communities.

PROJECT OVERVIEW



Projects
9



Donors
**EU, ECHO, USAID/OFDA, UNOCHA-EHF,
FAO/EU, BMZ/ADRA**



Beneficiaries reached
223,400



Animals treated and/or vaccinated
1.1 MILLION



Community animal health workers trained
518



Woman measuring milk yield from a concentrate-fed goat.



Omo-Delta project planning workshop.

VSFG IN GERMANY & BEYOND

ADVOCACY FOR ONE HEALTH: PEOPLE – ANIMALS – ENVIRENEMENT

THE ONE HEALTH APPROACH

The multi-disciplinary One Health approach recognizes the interrelationship between humans, animals, the environment and health and is essential for effective health policies and intervention mechanisms. Although the term and approach have only gained popularity in recent years, it has been implemented by VSFG since the very beginning of the association. The idea of One Health calls for integrated approaches for sustainable health management with inter- and cross-disciplinary cooperation. It further seeks a comprehensive integration of different disciplines and sciences, such as human and veterinary medicine. Apart from this, it is important to further consider environmental, social, political and economic aspects. It becomes more and more necessary to look at a broader perspective: the collaboration of experts from different disciplines and a comprehensive discourse is essential.

2017, VSFG was invited to and/or organized numerous events and congresses. One particular focus was on our domestic work and activities of our volunteer groups were initiatives towards the One Health concept.

The strong volunteer groups are important supporters of our work and active in numerous events.

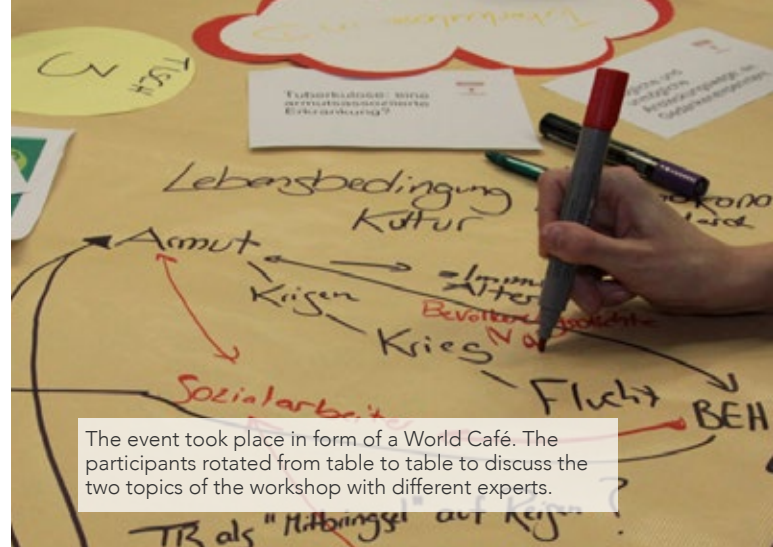
VSFG'S ONE HEALTH DAY 2017

In November 2017, a VSFG volunteer group organized a cross-disciplinary workshop on One Health together with students of human medicine and the International Veterinary Students' Association (IVSA) as well as other students and lecturers from various disciplines. The focus of this successful event was on the infectious disease tuberculosis, that can also affect animals. The event was sponsored by Engagement Global with financial support from the Germany Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.

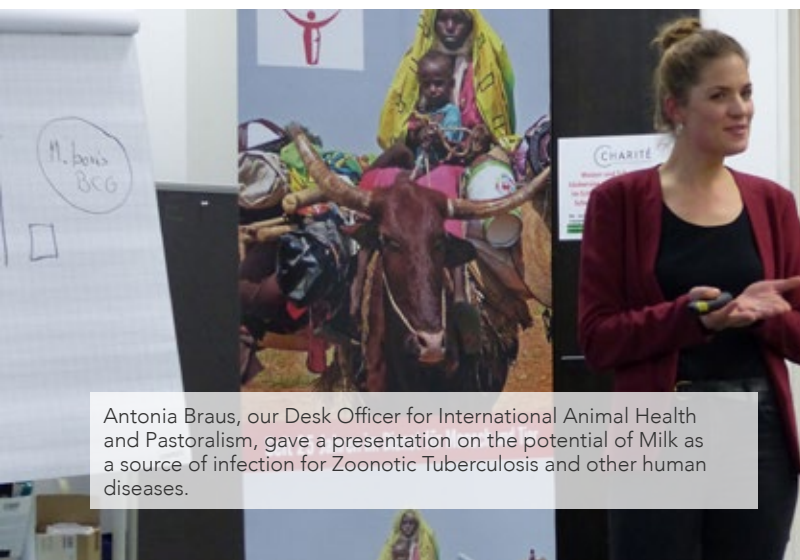
The main objectives of the event were to highlight thematic overlaps, discuss health issues and generate a basis for a fruitful cooperation. The exchange should



Board Member Antje Hoppenheit gave the welcome speech and moderated the workshop.



The event took place in form of a World Café. The participants rotated from table to table to discuss the two topics of the workshop with different experts.



Antonia Braus, our Desk Officer for International Animal Health and Pastoralism, gave a presentation on the potential of Milk as a source of infection for Zoonotic Tuberculosis and other human diseases.



The participants of the workshop, experts and students after a successful exchange of experience.

also lead to an improvement of cooperation between science and research, development policy and non-governmental organizations.

First, a few shorter lectures by speakers from different departments took place, which were followed by an interactive phase in smaller groups. There were lively discussions in a relaxed atmosphere around the tables, emulating the style of a World Café. In these discussions, groups were to discuss and determine their results, which were then opened up for discussion in plenary.

At the end of these discussions, participants agreed that the diagnostics of tuberculosis, particularly zoonotic tuberculosis, needs to be improved in order to allow reliable diagnoses in less developed regions. This call for action also applies to other zoonotic infectious agents. This silo mentality must be broken down. Education at school and universities, workplace and politics were identified as areas where improvements need to be made to transform thinking and learning. Our society is founded on the fact that people specialize and thus become experts in a certain field. This makes it all the more important that we establish connections and exchange across disciplines in order to develop successful public health concepts. We need to further promote and develop Public Health Services (such as WHO, FAO, OIE, etc.), strengthen

the collaboration between them as well as increase investments into One Health research. Comprehensive, realistic and tailored problem-solving approaches would have to be implemented and transdisciplinary structures created. It would also be necessary to educate people about zoonoses and prioritize global health in all policy areas.



Constanze Bönig, our HQ Desk Officer for Humanitarian Aid and Development Cooperation, on a field visit to Turkana.



A CAHW spraying sheep and goats against ecto-parasites at a vet clinic in the BMZ-funded Awura project in Ethiopia.

VACCINATING FOR AFRICA!

In 2017, our annual event **Vaccinating for Africa!** took place for the 12th time already (How time flies!). With this annual fundraiser, we support key thematic focus areas of one of our projects in East Africa.

WHAT IS VACCINATING FOR AFRICA!?

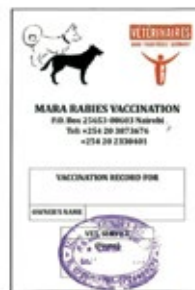
Our annual campaign event **Vaccinating for Africa!** took place on May 9, 2017. On this day VSFG calls on all pet owners, whether those owning a dog, cat or budgerigar, to vaccinate their pets at one of the approximately 1,200 participating veterinary practices nationwide. These practices then donate half of their income from vaccinations on this day to VSFG.

OUR PROJECT VACCINATING FOR AFRICA! 2017

Due to the emergency situation in 2017, we decided to promote above all our animal welfare projects in drought-stricken Ethiopia. The primary objective here is to help those suffering from the drought in maintaining their livelihood. The drought was primarily triggered by the climate phenomenon El Niño, which resulted in the destruction of crops and in nomad herders losing vast amounts of their livestock. El Niño was then followed by

La Niña: La Niña is the direct opposite of El Niño and brought large amounts of rain, which could not be absorbed by the parched soil. The few remaining harvests were now completely destroyed. Additionally, infectious diseases started spreading in the flooded areas like wildfire.

Our work where we have projects in Ethiopia (e.g. in the Afar region) focuses on two areas: 1) the food security of humans and animals through agricultural and veterinary measures and 2) ensuring the drinking water supply of the residents in these areas, complemented by awareness campaigns on basic sanitation and improved hygiene.



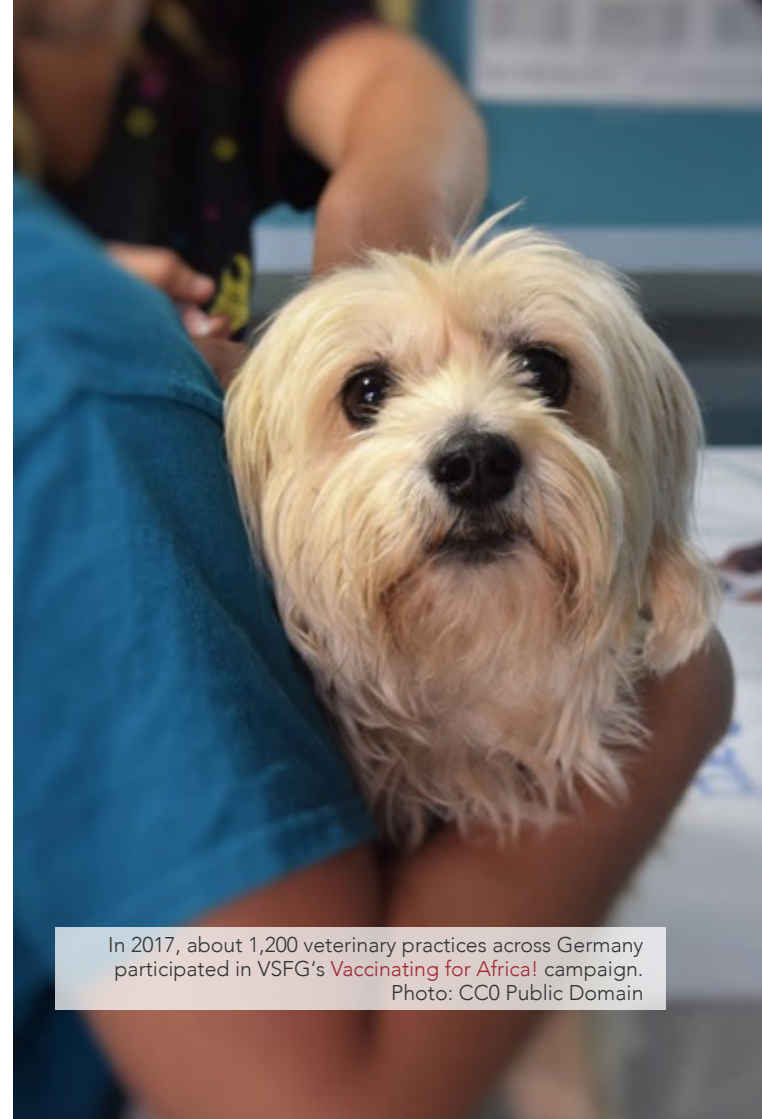
VACCINATING FOR AFRICA! 2017 IN GERMANY

Many people supported our project in 2017! A special mention deserve the 1,209 participating veterinary practices across Germany that donated a combined sum over EUR 200,000.

Our special thanks go to the patronage in 2017 of Dr. Flachsbarth, Parliamentary State Secretary to the German Federal Minister of Food and Agriculture, as well as to our cooperation partners for their generous support: Our main partner Merial / Boehringer Ingelheim as well as the other sponsors RoyalCanin and synlab.vet.

On April 3, 2017 the CaféMobil from radioBERLIN visited Marienstraße in the centre of Berlin, where they broadcasted a pre-recorded interview with our board member Boaz Abraham about the drought in East Africa. On May 5, 2017 VSFG was also featured on television as part of the show "Tiere suchen ein Zuhause" (a rescue show seeking to house animals from shelters that is broadcasted on the German channel WDR). In the spirit of and as part of the campaign **Vaccinating for Africa!** two of our board members, Aisha Rollefson and Boaz Abraham, also went to the Duisburg Zoo to vaccinate a zebra.

We wholeheartedly would like to thank all our **Vaccinating for Africa!** supporters.



In 2017, about 1,200 veterinary practices across Germany participated in VSFG's **Vaccinating for Africa!** campaign.
Photo: CC0 Public Domain

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT US

WHEN JOY TURNS INTO HOPE – DONATIONS ON SPECIAL OCCASIONS

Professor Theodor Mantel, who is the former President of the German Federal Chamber of Veterinarians, Honorary President and longtime sustaining member of VSFG, used his birthday for the second time as an opportunity to raise funds for our organization. Starting with his birthday invitation, Prof. Dr. Mantel asked his guests to do without individual gifts and instead donate to VSFG. All the necessary details to facilitate this wish were clarified in a personal conversation beforehand, e.g. by stating a pre-agreed transfer purpose, donations of individual birthday guests were transferred directly to VSFG. Donations collected during the birthday celebration itself were transferred separately by Prof. Dr. Mantel after the event. We then sent donation receipts (because of course, this donation is tax-deductible) as well as information materials about our work (which can be attached to birthday invitations in the form of flyers or digital one-pagers) to all individual donors known by name. Lastly, we provided a full list of donors as we did for Prof. Dr. Mantel, which allowed him to personally thank each donor for his birthday donation to VSFG.

Following his birthday, Professor Dr. Mantel visited us in our headquarters in Berlin-Mitte, which was an excellent opportunity to thank him personally for his commitment.



With this selfless type of gift, you support our work in East Africa and, with each and every donation, help people in our project areas to lead a safe and self-determined life. Be a pioneer in your circle of friends and acquaintances! Inspire your guests to consider gifts that will have a lasting impact and can benefit many for their own celebrations (such as birthdays, work anniversaries, weddings, inaugurations). For your next birthday, perhaps ask your guests to waive gifts and instead donate to VSFG, because donations are always suitable and will, without a doubt, be well-received!

Just write us an email (shoshanna.hillmann-breuer@togeve.de) or give us a call (+4930/364 288 116) – we will gladly advise you on your plans!

EVERY SINGLE DONATION GOES A LONG MILE IN SUPPORTING OUR WORK

In 2017 you donated nearly EUR 200,000 to our association. Additionally, 1,209 veterinary practices that participated in our **Vaccinating for Africa!** campaign donated well over EUR 200,000. We also received donations of a six-digit figure from estates this year. And also your membership really pays: in 2017, memberships alone raised around EUR 48,000.

VSFG – NEW STRUCTURES & NEW COLLEAGUES

2017 was a year of many structural and staff changes. These changes became most notably apparent when the management was moved back to the German headquarter and the regional office in Nairobi became headed by a regional director. Some longtime colleagues left and new ones joined. We would like to extend our special thanks to colleagues Nicoletta Buono, Christine Ogutu and Dr. med. Wilhelm Dühnen for their extraordinary commitment to VSFG. Without them, our organization would not be what it is today: a professional actor in the humanitarian aid and development space in East Africa!

New on board are Martin Barasa as Regional Head of Programs, Mburu Peter as Regional Head of Finance,

Tinega Ong'ondi as Regional Director and Christian Griebenow as new Managing Director. Our General Director of Operations in Germany, Friederike Schulze-Hülshorst, now works as Head of Fundraising and Public Relations.

Now that our team is complete again, we are well equipped to take on new challenges and look forward to mastering them. We remain open to new big or small projects, even new countries and regions and certainly more changes to come. Our goal is to grow the association to a beneficial extent and use our strength to help pastoralists and farmers, boys and girls, women and men, as well as animals and people.

We are lucky to have the support, advice and assistance of so many German veterinarians and are grateful for the trust the association also enjoys amongst private donors, sponsors and institutional donors. This trust shall continue to be the benchmark of our daily work.

Tinega Ong'ondi & Christian Griebenow





HEALTHY ANIMALS, HEALTHY PEOPLE & A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

ARE ESSENTIAL FOR A PROSPEROUS FUTURE FOR ALL OF US

Photo: CC0 Public Domain

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



GENERAL ASSEMBLY

165 Voting Members



BOARD OF DIRECTORS (HONORARY)

Chairman
Dr. Daniel Zaspel

Vice Chairman
Aisha Rollefson

Vice Chairman
Dr. Klaus Lorenz

Board Member
Antje Hoppenheit (PHD)

Board Member
Dr. Olaf Bellman

Board Member
Boaz Abraham

Board Member
Dr. Leopold Deger



MANAGING DIRECTOR

Christian Griebenow



AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE

Dr. Karin Thissen, Prof. Dr. Norbert Mencke, Claudia Polzin-Muschter



HEAD OFFICE BERLIN, GERMANY

Fundraising, Public Relations, Advocacy, Finance, Official Donors Contact

Friederike Schulze Hülshorst – Head of PR and Fundraising & Deputy MD a.i.

Jörn-Uwe Schulz – Desk Officer for Finance

Antonia Braus – HQ Desk Officer International Animal Health & Pastoralism

Constanze Bönig – HQ Desk Officer for Humanitarian Aid & Development Cooperation

Shoshanna Hillmann-Breuer – Desk Officer of Administration of Private Donors & Members



REGIONAL OFFICE NAIROBI, KENYA

Project Acquisition, Finance, Administration & Personnel, Logistics

Tinega Ong'ondi – Regional Director East Africa

Nicoletta Buono – Head of Programmes

Christine Ogutu – Head of Finance
Muriki Kiambi – Head of Internal Audit & Compliance

Nancy Chingi – Head of Admin & Human Resources



COUNTRY OFFICES

*Project Implementation
Project Acquisition
Logistics*

Country Directors:

Maurice Kiboye – Kenya & Somalia

Genene Regassa – Ethiopia

Silvester Okoth – South Sudan

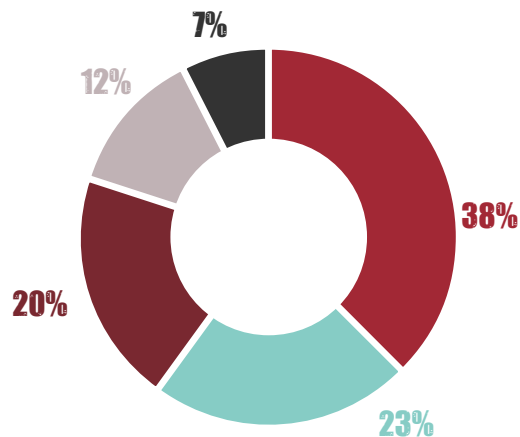
Esmael Tessema – Sudan

FINANCE OVERVIEW



PROJECTS PER COUNTRY

Total Number of Projects: **40**



SOUTH SUDAN

ETHIOPIA

KENYA

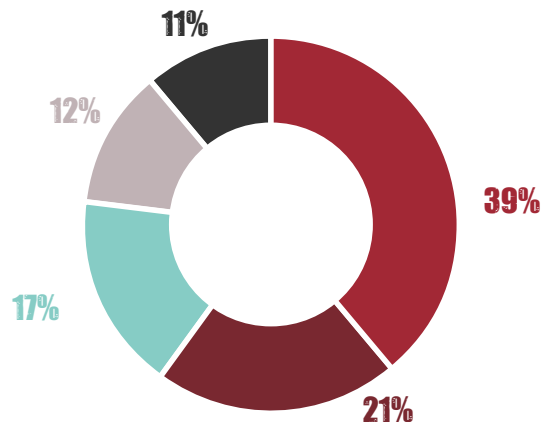
SUDAN

SOMALIA



BUDGET PER COUNTRY

Total Budget (in €): **12.3 MILLION**



SOUTH SUDAN

KENYA

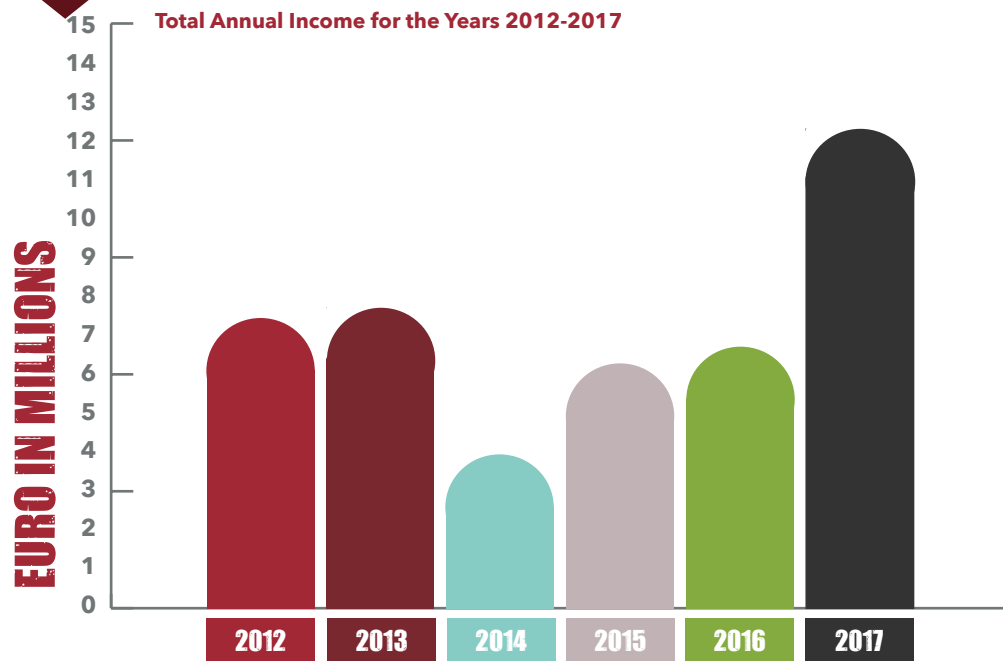
ETHIOPIA

SUDAN

SOMALIA



ANNUAL INCOME





SOURCES OF FUNDING

KEY

Total Budget (in €): **12.3 MILLION**

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (USAID)

A

EUROPEAN COMMISSIONS HUMANITARIAN AID & CIVIL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT (ECHO)

B

FEDERAL MINISTRY FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION & DEVELOPMENT (BMZ)

C

GERMAN FOREIGN OFFICE

D

EUROPEAN COMMISSION (EC)

E

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)

F

EURO IN MILLIONS

3.0

2.5

2.0

1.5

1.0

0.5

0

A

B

C

D

E

F

G

H

I

J

K

L

M

G DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS TRADE & DEVELOPMENT CANADA (DFATD)

H FOOD & AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION (FAO)

I GESELLSCHAFT FUER INTERNATIONALE ZUSAMMENARBEIT (GIZ)

J UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN FUNDS (UNOCHA)

K EURO CONSULT

L CARITAS SWISS

M UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S EMERGENCY FUND (UNICEF)

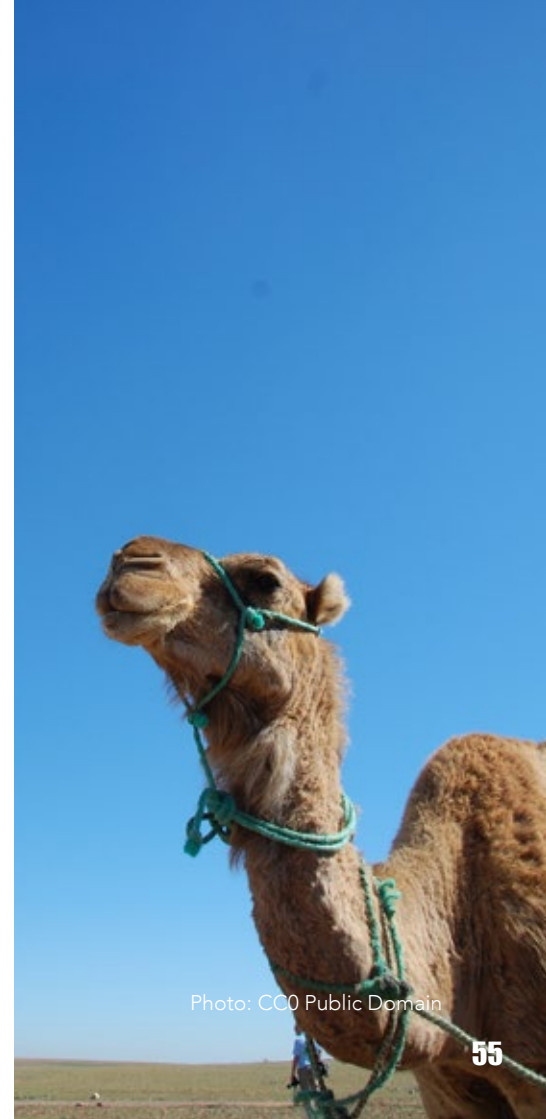


Photo: CC0 Public Domain

**Tierärzte ohne Grenzen e.V.**

Headquarters
Marienstraße 19-20
10117 Berlin / Germany

Tel.: + 49 (0) 30 364 288 112
Fax: + 49 (0) 30 364 288 149
E-Mail: info@toge.de
www.toge.de

Vétérinaires sans Frontières Germany

Regional Office Nairobi
P.O. Box 25653
00603 Nairobi / Kenya

Tel.: + 254 (0) 20 387 03 76
Fax.: + 254 (0) 20 387 36 78
E-Mail: info@vsfg.org
www.vsfg.org

Member of Vétérinaires sans Frontières International



Bank Account for Donations

IBAN: DE58 2512 0510 0007 4842 05 | BIC: BFSWDE33HAN