



“Consolidating support to the livestock sector in Lesotho – building on emergency livelihood support”

Project code: OSRO/LES/701/USA

Resource partner: United States of America

Contribution: USD 1 million

Implementation: 1/10/2017- 31/12/2018

Target areas: Lesotho



Contact

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Objective:	To contribute to improved food security and livelihoods and increased resilience of livestock-dependent households and communities in Lesotho.
Key partners:	Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security and Ministry of Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation.
Beneficiaries reached:	43 111 households; local and district government officials; and all livestock owners in the country through the implementation of the animal surveillance system.
Activities implemented:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trained 28 local artisans to construct 40 spring water tanks and 26 animal drinking points, particularly in drought-prone areas, benefiting over 200 000 animals belonging to 40 000 households.• Trained 23 grazing associations (GAs) on range management practices including fodder production and the development of grazing plans, provided them with fodder seed, bush control equipment and demonstration materials to train local communities; and provided some GAs and other beneficiaries with eight varieties of fodder seeds to plant on 1 066 ha.• Provided each of the 23 GAs with two electric fences for sheep and goats and two fences for cattle.• Trained four officers from the Department of Range Resources Management on the installation and maintenance of electric fences, who rolled out training to 25 Department of Range Resources Management district level staff and members of the 23 GAs.• Introduced the Event Mobile Application (EMA-i) system to facilitate data collection and real-time disease reporting, procured ten smartphones and two desktop computers and trained 90 Department of Livestock Services officers on EMA-i.• Rehabilitated the national veterinary laboratory at the Department of Livestock, which involved the construction of a water bath and installation of a 120-kg capacity incinerator.• Procured and distributed ten electric cooler fridges (590-litre capacity) to ten districts.• Conducted a vaccination campaign to avert the spread of anthrax disease after an outbreak, with 105 153 animals belonging to 3 111 households vaccinated, and conducted trainings related to the campaign.• Supported the Department of Livestock Services in updating its livestock contingency plan for avian influenza.• Trained 40 people on Good Emergency Management Practices to build capacity for emergency disease management including preparedness and response.

Results:

- Enhanced households' livelihoods by better managing, up-scaling and consolidating animals' water and feed sources.
- Established an effective and functional animal disease surveillance and reporting system that will benefit all livestock owners in the country.
- Strengthened the capacities of livestock owners, relevant ministries and other stakeholders in emergency preparedness and response and developed an enabling environment for information transfer from livestock extension services to livestock owners.
- Developed emergency preparedness response and contingency plans country-wide.
- Contributed to improved food security and increased resilience of livestock-dependent households and communities.