



GLOBAL AGENDA FOR  
SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK



FROM CRISIS TO ACTION

**Lessons from COVID-19 for Building a Better Future  
through Sustainable Livestock**

**MSP meeting: 14- 18 September 2020**

**Africa Region 2: French speaking countries**

**Organization committee**

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# HEADLINES

## **Introduction**

**I. Major Stakes**

**II. Summary of impacts per area**

**III. Specificities according to livestock systems**

**IV. Resilience measures/ Responses**

**V. Lessons learned/ opportunities**

**VI. Middle and long termes challenges**

**VII. Solutions/ perspectives**

## **Conclusion**

# INTRODUCTION

## Practical organization and participation

- ❖ An adequate mobilization of actors, 67 participants for all 3 sessions, as follows : 25 participants for Session 1, 21 participants for Session 2 and 21 participants for the session 3
- ❖ Participation of panelists : 7 out of 9 panelists responded to the invitation. These are :
- ❖ Pastoralism session : Dr Pato Pidemnewe of REDISSE in Bamako (Mali), Dr Maty Ba Diao: PRAPS / CILSS Coordinator, Maiga Boubacar, RECOPA Coordinator- Est Burkina
- ❖ Agro-pastoralism session : Arona Diaw (Laiterie du Berger ~~et de la Bergère~~), Senegal, and Abdoulaye Alassane Diaouré from VSF Mali
- ❖ Intensive breeding session : Hajer Hidji (Min; Livestock Tunisia) and Dr Isidore Gnanda , Director of animal production (INERA / CNRST) / Burkina Faso

## Insufficiencies

- ❖ missing of farmer umbrella organizations (APESS, RBM, ROPPA)
- ❖ presentations did not always follow the structuring by subject area
- ❖ lack of well-documented statistics in presentations

# THE MAJOR STAKES

- ❖ The economy of most French-speaking states and mainly that of the Sahelian countries of West and Central Africa remains strongly dominated by the primary sector where livestock occupies a prominent contribution to the GDP (10-40 %)
- ❖ Multidimensional crises have considerably affected the sector, including (i) climate change, (ii) the scarcity of resources in connection with the hard competition with other users in an atmosphere of galloping demography, (iii) the security crisis which further weakens the macro and micro- economic balances, and (iv) more recently the COVID 19 pandemic which is a serious blow and a serious threat to players in this sector because of many travel restrictions.
- ❖ In such a context, the major challenges arise not only in terms of the resilience and adaptation of mobile, semi-mobile, and even intensive farming systems, but also the specific role that each actor could play to help create the conditions for the development of sustainable and resilient breeding. For the GASL, which is a multi-stakeholder platform:

what synergies of actions and what levers can it activate to promote the pooling of experiences within the framework of strengthening termination factors ?

# SUMMARY TABLE OF IMPACTS PER AREA

Food and nutrition security	Livelihoods and Economic Growth	Animal health	Climate change and NR management
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The pandemic has exacerbated the problems of poverty and social inequalities in access to food products (price increases because of transport issues,etc.)</li> <li>- Restriction of exchanges of food resources (for human and livestock) at the national level and between coastal countries and countries of departure</li> <li>- The milk sector has been considerably affected by the confinement resulting in a drop in consumption at the household level and a stagnation in foreign exchange rates due to the restriction of travel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The supply of animals has fallen sharply, resulting in a drop in production activity</li> <li>- Livestock feed supply problem</li> <li>- Impact on traditional sectors affecting the empowerment of women (milk, small mulled, etc. ...)</li> <li>- The input supply chain is almost broken due to movement restrictions, small producers in the informal sector have suffered a lot</li> <li>- Increase in livestock feed prices</li> <li>- Lower production of slaughterhouses in coastal countries.</li> <li>- Deterioration in terms of trade. and loss of market value of animals</li> <li>- Strong decapitalization of livestock farmers due to lack of pasture and food available</li> <li>-lack of market, Loss of jobs of intermediaries and other informal actors of the chain.</li> <li>- Collapse in farm animal prices by 50%,</li> <li>- The average monthly income of populations has decreased during a period of confinement.</li> <li>- Unemployment has exploded because of the Coronavirus crisis.</li> <li>- Suspension of loans and taxes for breeders.</li> <li>- Impact on the implementation of projects (PRAPS) : attacks, relocation, withdrawal of worried staff, abandonment of posts, monitoring-evaluation stopped.</li> <li>- The terrorist attacks have made several pastoralists IDPs (Internally Displaced Persons)</li> </ul>	<p>The supply chain of veterinary inputs has been completely broken leading to a severe shortage of inputs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Temporary stop of certain veterinary tests in research centers</li> <li>- Slowing down or stopping of animal health supervision activities (vaccination, inputs, care, etc.)</li> </ul> <p>Reduced access to veterinary products,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- increased of animal mortality (which was added to a difficult end of the dry season in the Sahel)</li> <li>- Risk of meat and milk contamination mentioned which have slowed down consumption</li> </ul>	<p>Pressure on water resources and pasture due to a concentration of livestock constrained in its mobility</p>

# SPECIFICITIES ACCORDING TO LIVESTOCK SYSTEMS

## ❑ Pastoralism- agropastoralism

- ❖ Lower revenues of pastoralists, degradation terms of trade. Datas on relationships C19 / nutrition available at CILSS / AGRHYMET.
- ❖ Increased conflicts between transhumants and natives because of constraints to mobility and increased pressure on resources (water and pastures) .
- ❖ Insecurity on the roads to the livestock markets (armed militias, counter robbery, different ethnic groups involved) .
- ❖ Attack on livestock markets
- ❖ Considerable drop in animal prices (especially goats) because of the absence of the market (Ghanaians and Nigerians especially)
- ❖ -50% shortfall on the volume of exports

## ❑ Intensive livestock

- ❖ 60% of farmers closed due to momentary disruption of chicks , feed and livestock and other imported inputs
- ❖ Lack of pullets due to border closures
- ❖ Food loss and layoffs or technical unemployment of staff
- ❖ Cattle fattening took a big hit, most fattening centers closed

### **Dairy farming**

- ❖ Disruption of the distribution chain due to multiple restrictions (travel, closure)
- ❖ Reduction in demand and supply
- ❖ Reduction in producer income
- ❖ Shortage of inputs

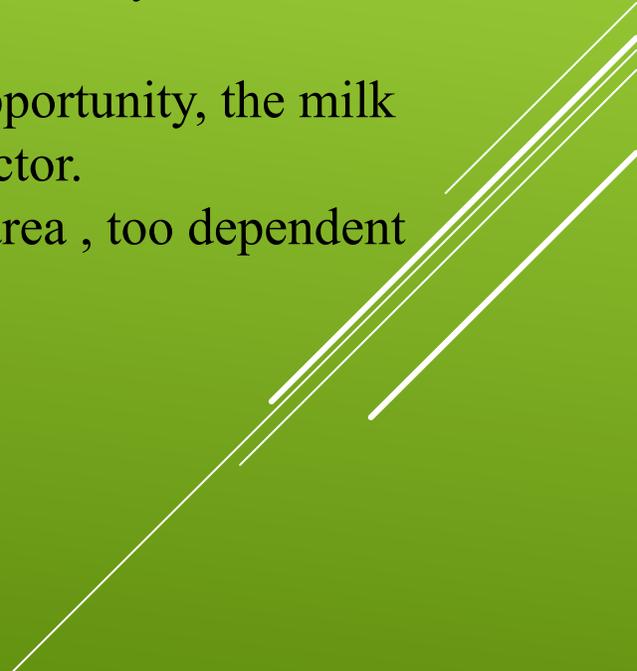
# RESILIENCE MEASURES/RESPONSES

- ❖ Establishment of a pass for certain goods, including livestock, but which mainly affected the more formal sector (the informal sector suffered more because of fewer relations with institutions) .
- ❖ Facilitation of the movement of food and animal transport vehicles and their products
- ❖ Unblocking of the return of transhumants to the rangelands at the start of the rainy season.
- ❖ Reopening of cattle markets for the Tabaski festival
- ❖ Sensitization at livestock market level on barrier measures, protection kit and barrier measures in slaughterhouses.
- ❖ Authorities take more account than in the past of the movements of pastoralists with the exception of Benin, which has closed its borders.
- ❖ Strengthening of health structures for men and barrier measures.
- ❖ Numerous digital applications initiated to overcome mobility (payment of producers, sales of animals, orders of inputs, etc.)
- ❖ The sector formally organized has taken the necessary measures (equipment, training, ...) to prevent the spread of diseases and to maintain its activities
- ❖ Government of Burkina Faso, for example, has forecast more than 13 billion in funding to support the livestock sector
- ❖ Livestock feed support
- ❖ Free animal vaccination

## Weaknesses

- ❖ Lack of consistency between countries and delay in state interventions in general except in a few cases.
  - ❖ Late distribution of human and livestock food.
  - ❖ Interventions: difficult to target due to a lack of information on the actors and target areas, especially for mobile pastoralists .
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# LESSONS LEARNED / OPPORTUNITIES

- ❖ Dominance of pastoral farming which is resilient in nature.
  - ❖ Indigenous races have the ability to resist endemic diseases and harsh climatic conditions, survive on poor-quality diets and travel long distances to access food and water ; local breeds are often seasoned with a milk production period limited to the right season, they sometimes do not reproduce in the event of prolonged drought
  - ❖ The breeders lived cross-border conflicts for over 20 years, they have a habit of difficulty movements.
  - ❖ missing of a strong, coordinated and regional strategy.
  - ❖ Positioning livestock at the center of political discussions, which constitutes an opportunity, the milk sector is recognized as an essential product in the development of the livestock sector.
  - ❖ Very short-lived intensive livestock farming, located especially in the peri-urban area , too dependent on imported inputs (animals, food)
  - ❖ processing units are not developed, milk collection centers are not sustainable
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# MIDDLE AND LONG TERM CHALLENGES

## The challenges are numerous

- ❖ Keep the Animal health to a satisfactory level.
- ❖ Strengthen the complementarity between ecological zones.
- ❖ Structure the supply of meat to Coastal Countries by Sahelian herders.
- ❖ Strengthen security and investments in infrastructure for pastoral mobility
- ❖ Strengthen the dialogue between Sahel countries and coastal countries on commercial cross-border mobility of livestock.
- ❖ Evolution of commercial livestock transport modes
- ❖ Availability of reliable and up-to-date statistics on the impacts of crises in the livestock sector
- ❖ Opportunity to assess the importance of mobility for the efficiency and resilience of pastoral systems
- ❖ Saving human lives strongly threatened by insecurity and COvid 19

# SOLUTIONS / PERSPECTIVES

- ❖ Harmonize and rethink the organization and functioning between countries throughout the value chains (upstream to downstream) and with all stakeholders.
- ❖ Improve identification of all the stakeholders in the sector including informal for better support .
- ❖ Investing in the long term on highways to strengthen pastoral mobility and its safety, including commercial animals.
- ❖ Necessary preservation and investments in pastoral areas to delay the descent of animals.
- ❖ Sensitize politicians on the role and importance of pastoralism in the dynamics of the livestock sector.
- ❖ Develop digital applications and online sales in pastoral settings to facilitate constrained exchanges
- ❖ Strengthen the education of populations in human and animal health.
- ❖ Diversify jobs and income for young people.
- ❖ Better involve local structures in projects and crisis management (NGOs, Associations, municipalities,)
- ❖ Strengthening the organized sector
- ❖ Structuring of the sector

# CONCLUSION

The impacts are contrasted depending on the countries and areas

Resilience measures taken by various states , in particular in restriction measures, in the supply of inputs, in the field of animal health, in the distribution of products. The impact is less felt where the State has taken strong measures

## Highlights

- Importance of mobility as a factor of exchanges, of resilience to be secured and adapted to sanitary potential crisis
- Intensive systems too dependent on imports need to use more local resources
- Formal sector achieve better dialogue with institutions for adapted measures to crisis



MANY THANKS FOR YOUR KIND ATTENTION