



DIERENARTSEN | VETERINAIRES  
ZONDER GRENZEN | SANS FRONTIERES

BELGIUM



2013 | ACTIVITY REPORT  
VETERINAIRES SANS FRONTIERES BELGIUM



## HDI

The calculation of the human development index of the United Nations is based on life expectancy, education and income by country. The 187 countries are ranked in a list: the lower a country is on the list, the harder the living conditions of its population.

- 17 Belgium
- 145 Kenya
- 161 Uganda
- 167 Rwanda
- 182 Mali
- 183 Burkina Faso
- 186 DR Congo
- 187 Niger

\* **South Sudan** (The HDI of South Sudan is not yet available since the country's independence on 9th July 2011)

We would like to dedicate this activity report to Almostapha Moumouni, who died unexpectedly in January 2014. Almostapha was in charge of our development programmes in Niger; a job he fulfilled with great dedication. We wish his family, friends and close colleagues strength and courage.

# Preface

I write this in Nairobi, Kenya. In a small shopping mall, because the larger ones are still no-go areas. No doubt the drama of September 2013 is still fresh in everyone's mind. Armed men from Al-Shabaab took control of the popular Westgate shopping mall for four days, during which 72 people died and more than 200 were wounded. Even big cities like Nairobi appear to be no longer safe. But let's concentrate on our real field of work...

I have just returned from a visit to our development programmes in Garissa county. This area is home to Dabaab, one of the biggest refugee camps in the world. We don't work in the camp, but with the local communities dotted around the region. We help them in drawing up plans to build their resilience to the extremes of climate change. The villagers take all the preventive measures they can, such as vaccinating their herds and storing hay. They also collaborate with the local government to set up their own contingency plans, so that they can appeal to that government for emergency aid following droughts and other disasters.

In the summer of 2013 I also visited our projects in Central Africa, in the DR Congo and Rwanda. The basic idea of these projects is simple: we donate three rabbits to a family, and thanks to these animals they can climb out of poverty. It's true, but there is more to it than that. The rabbits serve as a catalyst to lift the poorest people among us out of the vicious circle of hunger and poverty. These animals help families by giving them a positive view of the future, putting them in touch with people who have already escaped the vicious circle and actually giving them the opportunity to make that tiny bit of extra income that allows them to realise their dreams. When successful, families can use the money they earn from selling the rabbits to buy other animals such as goats, pigs, or even cows. This process gives them the entrepreneurial spirit they need, as well as the means to send their children to school and to the doctor. Not only does it help the family, but it also helps the wider community around them. And all thanks to three rabbits? Yes, but above all through thorough training and coaching!

Every time I visit the field I am reminded that working with the world's poorest people is no easy task. I have a huge amount of respect for our colleagues and local partners, who go out into the field and do life-changing work, day

after day. The conditions are difficult. Luckily, everyone is highly motivated. That level of motivation and satisfaction is present among the team as a whole. Indeed, a survey of personnel in Belgium and Africa in mid 2013 revealed that everyone felt highly involved in what the organisation does.

To go a little further back in time, at the beginning of 2013 we translated the ideas that had already been around for a few years into a comprehensive strategic plan: "Horizon 2025". This document sets our strategic priorities and offers a framework for the work of Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium, from 2015 to 2025. This process of reflection has already helped us formulate a new three-year programme for the Belgian government. An effort which was rewarded, because in early 2014 we received definitive administrative approval of the programme, with the highest appreciation. In combination with a number of other long-term programmes, this guarantees the organisation a firm foundation.

Evidence that we are on the right track also comes in the form of the many requests for cooperation we receive from donors and fellow NGOs, certainly in West Africa. In this region the year 2013 will go down in the records as a year in which many programme proposals were made by our teams. Let us hope they lead to good results in 2014.

In Belgium we focus on communication and awareness raising, alongside fundraising among the Belgian population. We need private donations to help us carry out our activities in the South: they are essential in securing the co-financing we need for our projects. They are also a firm expression of our supporters' solidarity with the South.

Aside from the development programmes and their funding we have worked hard to improve our internal organisation. We have radically reviewed the quality control, personnel policy and financing procedures, bringing us up to date with changes in the rapidly evolving sector and with its administrative requirements.

We are confident about our future, as are the many families we support. We know that our organisation has added value, and this year we aim once again to convince our donors and supporters of precisely that fact. We are em-



bracing the "International Year of Family Farming" in order to support small-scale family farmers worldwide. This year we are planning advocacy actions, a visit to the field with our brand new ambassadors and events across Belgium. We will also keep you updated through our website, newsletters and social media. With any luck we will bump into each other at one of our activities!

Dear friends, sympathisers, partners, volunteers, donors... I would like to thank you and the whole team at Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium for the things that you made possible in 2013. With your solidarity, motivation and hard work we will keep building towards a better world.

Happy reading!

Joep van Mierlo  
Director of Vétérinaires Sans Frontières  
Belgium

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*The financial report will be available on the website [www.vsf-belgium.org](http://www.vsf-belgium.org) and can be obtained on request from [info@vsf-belgium.org](mailto:info@vsf-belgium.org) or +32 (0)2 5390989*

# Vision & Mission

## Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium in a few words

### VISION

HEALTHY  
ANIMALS,  
HEALTHY  
PEOPLE

### MISSION

Empower disadvantaged livestock dependent communities (in the South) to improve their well-being.

### VALUES

Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium gives importance to respect, transparency and sustainability. The organisation believes in a world in which people, animals and nature live together in perfect harmony, as a driver for sustainable development. Every person has the right to live a dignified life in accordance with his/her choices, traditions or culture. Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium justifies its decisions and actions for

all parties concerned in complete transparency.

### SUSTAINABLE PARTNERSHIPS

Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium believes in the strength and initiatives taken by people in developing countries. Therefore, we work together with local organisations and governments, local vets and livestock keepers in Africa. We enter into sustainable partnerships with local associations, taking into account mutual trust, respect, responsibility, dialogue, sharing of experiences and know-how.

### GOOD GOVERNANCE

Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium is constantly working to apply the principles of good governance. The organisation respects the law, human rights, gender equality, the environment, good practice (both indigenous and non-indigenous), animal welfare and the culture of the countries in which we are active. Since 2010, the NGO has gradually decentralised the stewardship of its programmes to its regional and national offices and its partners, and updated the tools for programme management, financial management and human resources management. This has ensured that we have updated our procedural manual. Furthermore,

our operations are transparent and subject to the sector's ethical and quality standards.

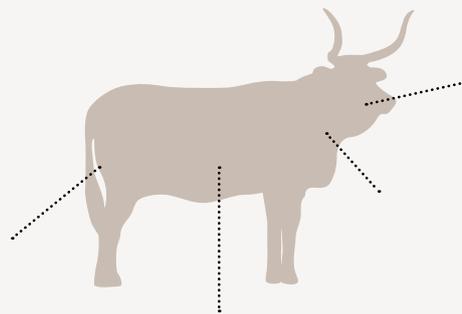


The expertise of Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium is highly appreciated at local, national and international levels.

### TARGET GROUP

In the South we work with pastoralists, agro-pastoralists and livestock keepers in urban areas who practice family farming. In the North we focus our efforts on students and professionals in the agricultural sector, policymakers and consumers.

## ANIMALS: MORE THAN JUST MEAT OR MILK



### Household

Cattle provide transport and draught power: Excrement and urine are used as fertiliser, fuel, building materials, beauty products, and insect-repelling and disinfecting agents. Hides are used to make clothing, sandals and mattresses and as a building material.

### Income

By selling or trading livestock or animal products, farmers can afford a balanced diet, clothing, education and healthcare. The animal is a two- or four-legged savings bank and insurance policy, which can be converted into cash quickly whenever the need is greatest.

### Social value

Livestock is part of the family: every animal has a name and the farmer knows their pedigree. Meat, blood and milk from the animals play an important role in family, social and religious celebrations. Livestock is often entrusted to others, in order to distribute risks more evenly whilst promoting mutual solidarity. Livestock also serve as dowries at weddings or else may be given as presents.

### Food

Milk, eggs and meat are an important source of protein. In East Africa, livestock keepers drink the blood of cows in times of crisis, sometimes blending it with milk.



“Over one billion people who live in chronic hunger and poverty depend on cows, buffalo, camels, sheep, goats, pigs and poultry to provide essential nutrition and livelihoods.”

“Livestock for the Future”, ELIDEV, the EU experts’ group on livestock matters in developing countries



## Themes

### Healthy animals



Veterinary healthcare in the expansive rural regions of the South is often inadequate to ensure the optimum health of the herds, for various reasons. Therefore it is essential in livestock keeping that an integrated network of private veterinarians, local animal health workers and national and local governmental bodies is developed.

#### FARMER SEEKS VET

Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium encourages private vets to offer their services in remote areas. The NGO and its partners support these private vets with training and materials. Livestock keepers who require the services of a vet have to pay for them in order to ensure the continuity of the service.

#### COMMUNITY ANIMAL HEALTH WORKERS

Even with private vets setting up in the rural areas, they cannot deal with the numerous villages on their own. Therefore Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium trains livestock keepers to become community animal health workers under the supervision of a local veterinarian and/or the government. The villagers themselves decide who takes the courses, which last from a couple of weeks to several months. The community animal health workers learn how

to diagnose and treat diseases, supplementing traditional knowledge with new insights. Following the course, they receive a rucksack with veterinary materials and medicines with which they can treat their community’s animals. They receive regular refresher courses in order to anchor and expand their knowledge. Like the private vets, they are remunerated by the livestock keepers for their services, more often in kind than in cash.

#### KNOWLEDGE IS POWER

The community animal health workers play an important role in raising awareness among other livestock keepers of preventive and curative animal care, welfare, the quality of medicines and the disadvantages of inbreeding. They take part in large-scale (government) vaccination campaigns and early warning systems for drought, flooding and epidemics which benefit the whole region.

#### STRENGTHENING GOVERNMENT CAPACITY

Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium also strengthens, when requested, the capacities of local and national governmental bodies responsible for livestock farming in the developing country, to enable them to detect disease epidemics early and counter them in collaboration

with the local population.

#### QUALITY FEED

Livestock are stronger, healthier and more productive when they receive sufficient, high-quality feed. Therefore Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium organises participatory courses on feed and strategic nutritional supplements that are available locally. In this way, livestock keepers can learn through practice, among other things, how to grow and store feed that is higher in proteins. Here too, they supplement their traditional knowledge with new techniques.

#### FEED BANKS

In order to ensure adequate feed throughout the year, livestock keepers store part of their harvest or else buy feed as a group when prices are low. They store these stocks in feed banks so that, in times of scarcity due to long-term drought, they may have feed for their herds. The farmers can buy feed at a reasonable price, especially when market prices shoot up during the dry season. Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium trains local committees to manage these stocks, which also often include grain for their own consumption and for agricultural activities.



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## Healthy people



By improving livestock health and optimising animal production, **Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium** fights hunger and poverty. In Sub-Saharan Africa, 80% of the population lives off livestock production. Animals are therefore crucial to the food security of disadvantaged livestock-keeping families.

### SMALL BUT IMPORTANT

Goats, sheep, pigs, chickens, rabbits and guinea pigs play a significant role in the local food supply and economy of many African countries. The animals can be kept easily and with few resources. **Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium** provides small livestock to families, often run by women, in fragile areas and situations. Once the animals have bred, the families donate several of them to other families in turn. This helps build a local solidarity network. They are trained in production techniques and animal husbandry and learn how to use the manure for their kitchen gardens and to use garden leftovers to feed the animals. In doing so, they combine traditional knowledge with new and appropriate techniques.

### SELLING LIVESTOCK

In order to be able to sell their livestock and

animal products, livestock keepers often have to cover large distances on foot. Therefore **Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium** guides the local population in setting up and managing strategically-located livestock markets. In some areas, farmers can supply their stock to adapted slaughterhouses. They are trained in trading techniques so that they can better estimate the financial value of their livestock.

### DAIRY PRODUCTION

By improving dairy hygiene, partly through training, less milk is lost during the various stages of the production process, so livestock keepers can sell more milk to the cooperatives, which check, process and market the product. They broaden the range of high-quality dairy products, e.g. yoghurt and cheese. The employees of the dairy cooperatives learn, through technical and simple accounting courses, to generate and manage direct revenues.

### MICRO-CREDITS

**Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium** promotes the proper management of village community banks, which grant small loans to their members. All members, including many women, contribute a weekly amount to this savings bank and decide jointly what is done with the money.

They start up - individually or as a group - initiatives which generate extra income or lend money when the need is the greatest. The livestock keepers are trained in microcredits and organisational management.

### EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

One of the essential goals in sustainable development and the fight against poverty is that women be given the opportunity to improve their situations. In many African countries the roles of men and women are often strictly defined, even when it comes to rearing livestock. For example, a woman may be allowed to own certain types of animal, but only use others. **Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium** works towards equal opportunities for all. We pay particular attention to women and socially vulnerable groups by improving their worth and economic independence through livestock keeping, using means such as microcredit, training and the provision of small livestock.



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## Healthy environment



Long droughts and devastating downpours, both consequences of climate change, increasingly ravage the African continent. Managing water and grassland sustainably and peacefully enables the livestock keepers to build their resilience to the extremes of the climate and limits their potentially negative impact on the environment.

### WATER AND GRASSLAND

In order to safeguard the sustainable management of natural resources, especially during the dry season when water and grasslands are scarce, Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium supports local water and grazing committees. These committees monitor livestock keepers' compliance with the agreements on grazing and watering. They manage the maintenance of water points above and below ground which are identified and built by the villagers themselves,

with the support of Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium. The communities also prepare fire-breaks to prevent fires from destroying hundreds of hectares of grassland. In practical terms this involves the villagers hacking away a path that is 20 metres wide and several kilometres long that prevents the fire from spreading. The villagers also maintain grassland areas, for example by digging structures in a half-moon shape, in which the rainwater stands for longer; and by replanting grasses and trees which counteract soil erosion.

### CONFLICT MANAGEMENT

Peace is essential for the sustainable development of local communities, livestock trade and economy and for the smooth running of all of Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium's activities. In areas where water and grasslands are scarce, rival communities fight over feed and water for their livestock. Armed cattle raids are

not uncommon. Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium therefore encourages representatives of rival communities to reach agreements on the areas in which the various herds can graze and water. In addition, Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium supports local land committees that resolve conflicts between livestock keepers and crop farmers over the use of fields and the large-scale seasonal cattle migration. They create corridors together and agree when harvests are to be gathered, so that herds do not damage forests and agricultural land. To this end they use traditional processes, complemented by new insights and techniques.

## Sustainable partnerships



### LOCAL PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium works closely with local organisations to implement its programmes in Africa. In order to fulfil its mission in a lasting, effective and efficient way, Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium helps its local partners strengthen their capacities. As the partner organisations develop greater autonomy, the role of

Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium evolves from 'implementer' to 'facilitator' of development. Thus, the NGO collaborates with a partner that will eventually be able to operate independently.

### DONORS AND VOLUNTEERS

Everyone who supports the mission of Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium deserves a special thank you. Every year the organisation relies

on the loyal support of countless donors and the help of dozens of volunteers. It is thanks to the donors and the support provided by many sympathisers that livestock keepers in Africa are able to make a decent living.

# Awareness-raising, education and advocacy



It is essential that European society contributes towards building a fairer world, in which food is sustainably produced and consumed around the world. Any support provided for family farmers in Africa calls for positive action in Belgium and Europe.

## SUSTAINABLE AND CONSCIOUS CONSUMPTION

Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium uses awareness-raising actions to reach Belgian consumers, whose food choices have a significant effect on agricultural production. We defend family farming and argue for better quality meat, locally produced, with respect for animals, human beings and environment. After all, the behavioural patterns of consumers in the North affect the South. Last year, Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium organised debates and showings of films throughout Belgium, as well as two graffiti campaigns in Brussels. In the summer months we published a full page advert in the Belgian newspaper De Standaard, and only just missed out on the "De Standaard Solidarity Prize". Our international photographic exhibition on livestock keeping and climate change reached several parts of the country. On World Milk Day we were in Brussels again, where the famous statue of Manneken Pis was peeing milk to mark the occasion. Or you might have encountered Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium at Expovet in Ghent, the open day for the children's farm in Wilrijk, the be-troplive symposium in Brussels, or Vétérinexpo in Ciney?

## MOVE FOR AFRICA

In 2013 Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium took secondary school pupils to Africa for the first time, as part of the Move for Africa campaign run by the Belgian newspaper La Libre Belgique. The pupils work for the organisation before and after their trip. In this way, 17 pupils from the Charles Rogier Royal State Secondary School in Liège took part in our activities in Rwanda. Another class will travel to Rwanda in 2014, this time from Dinant and under the name of Move with Africa. The preparations for this trip started in 2013 and involved a training weekend and several meetings.

## STUDENTS AND PROFESSIONALS

In 2013 Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium organised all kinds of lectures, guest lectures and activities for Belgian agricultural and veterinary students, to make them aware of the importance of family farming and food sovereignty around the world. The organisation develops teaching modules that open these concepts up to teachers and students.

As time goes on Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium collaborates with an increasing number of organisations in Belgium. With the NGOs Trias, SOS Faim and ADG, for example, we

organised film debates and lectures with our partners from Mali, Rwanda, Niger and Kenya. Since September 2013 we have been working in Flanders with the International Association of students in Agricultural and related Sciences (IAAS). With this international student association we organise activities and develop tools for students who will later be working in the areas of agriculture and food production.

The next generation of farmers and vets is important, but Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium is also concerned with the present generation of professionals. Several Belgian livestock keepers and vets had the privilege of meeting their Rwandan and Nigerien partners when they visited Belgium.

## ADVOCACY

In 2013 Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium and its partners left their mark on a number of European policy documents that deal with the importance of and the challenges facing family farmers in the South. The NGO also organised a conference on small-scale livestock farming and climate change, which involved various partners and European Parliament members who all advocate family farming in the North and South.

*"I heard European farmers who have an open mind, who look across the border and join together in search of solutions to problems. People are clearly aware that European policy also has an enormous impact outside the EU."* Amadou Barré, secretary of the Nigerien NGO Karkara, a partner organisation of Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium

Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium also attempts to get food sovereignty and small-scale livestock farming on the political agenda in other ways. To this end the organisation cooperates with various NGOs in the Coalition Against Hunger. At the European level the organisation is active in VSF Europe, which was extended to VSF International in 2013, with the aim of also expanding cooperation with sister organisations outside Europe.

The NGO is also active in the governing bodies of the Belgian be-troplive network and the international coalition of lobbying organisations CELEP (Coalition of European Lobbies for East African Pastoralists), both of which defend the interests of livestock keepers in the South in respect of policymakers in Europe and the Southern hemisphere. In 2013 Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium was the focal point of CELEP. One of the coalition's main achievements last year was a resolution on pastoralism adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly. In relation to this, two Members of the European Parliament visited a livestock market in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

## Livestock and climate change: the key-role of small-scale livestock farming

Donor: European Commission

Duration: 3 years (since 2011)

Total budget: € 721,500

Consortium led by AVSF (France): SIVTRO (Italy), Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium, VSF-cz (Czech Republic)

## Development of a balanced understanding amongst livestock professionals and consumers on the production and consumption modes in the North (REGARDEP)

Donor: DGD

Duration: 3 years (since 2011)

Total budget: € 299,299

## Students for sustainable agriculture (S4SA)

Donor: Flanders International Cooperation Agency (VAIS)

Duration: 3 years (since 2013)

Total budget: € 207,650



## MUSIC FOR LIFE 2013

In 2013 Studio Brussels, a Dutch-speaking radio station, collected money through Music for Life for not just one, but 732 good causes.

One of those good causes was Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium. Enthusiastic listeners organised many events to raise money for Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium.

Jan Leyers auctioned off a living room concert and cyclist Kenny Dehaes a signed cycling jersey. There were dives and lunches, sweets were sold and a Christmas market was organised... And lots of songs were requested for money. Fantastic!

Active in  
8 African  
countries



# West Africa



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## NIGER

Niger has approximately 17.1 million inhabitants, 81% of whom live in the countryside. Despite the tensions in the region the country's political situation remains fairly stable. Although Niger is experiencing good general economic growth, more than 43% of its population is living below the poverty line. But livestock keeping provides opportunities for development. Livestock accounts for 15% of the family budget and provides one quarter of the food. The prolonged drought of 2012 severely affected the cattle belonging to the poorest people. In the last year they have had to work extremely hard to rebuild their herds. To meet these challenges, Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium and its local partners have set up a number of development and rehabilitation projects for the rural populations that live off their livestock.

### Program to support the livestock sector (PASEL)

Donor: DDC  
Duration: 3 years (since 2010)  
Total budget: CHF 5,030,000  
Partners: SNV, CESA0-PRN

### Project to strengthen food security through livestock in the departments of Dakoro and Abalak (SAREL)

Donors: Belgian Fund for Food Security, CNCD-11.11.11, WBI, FAO, Télécoms Sans Frontières  
Duration: 5 years (since 2009)  
Total budget: € 3,052,462  
Local partner: KARKARA

### Project to promote the peri-urban dairy industry in Niamey (APROLAN)

Donors: DGD, 11.11.11  
Duration: 3 years (since 2011)  
Total budget: € 355,294  
Local partner: KARKARA

### Project to support livestock in the departments of Dosso and Aderbissinat (APELDA)

Donors: DGD, 11.11.11  
Duration: 3 years (since 2011)  
Total budget: € 869,996  
Local partner: CESA0-PRN

### Project Nariindu

Donor: AFD  
Duration: 3 years (since June 2012)  
Total budget: € 504,130  
Partners: IRAM, KARKARA, AREN, Réseau Billital Maroobe

### Project to strengthen and expand local private veterinary services in the regions of Dosso, Tahoua and Maradi (CE-SVPP)

Donor: BTC  
Duration: 18 months (since 2012)  
Total budget: € 211,661  
Local partners: CESA0-PRN, KARKARA

*"I lost all my goats in the floods. We had no animals left. Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium gave me 3 goats and a few months later they had had 5 kids. I am very happy, because now my children and I can drink milk. The goats will certainly keep reproducing, because they are in good health thanks to our community animal health worker, who was trained by Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium."*

Fado Bakary, Niger





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## MALI

The landlocked Sahel country of Mali is very vulnerable to food insecurity and malnutrition. The economy is highly dependent on crop farming and livestock keeping, which employs 80% of the population (16 million). With more than 43 million animals, Mali is a real “livestock country”. Yet in the areas of health, food, genetics and economy there are many problems that limit the productivity of the livestock. The armed conflict in the north of the country also exacerbates the situation. By supporting rural veterinarian practices, feed banks and training, *Vétérinaires Sans Frontières* Belgium, along with its local partners, aims to improve the welfare of disadvantaged livestock keepers’ families.

**Project to develop livestock keeping in Koulikoro and Kita (PRODEL-K II)**  
 Donors: DGD, National Lottery of Belgium, CEVA nv, FAO  
 Duration: 3 years (since 2011)  
 Total budget: € 944,861  
 Local partner: ICD

**Project to support women’s organisations through small livestock keeping in the region of Bamako (PAFEC II)**  
 Donors: DGD, municipality of Hove, province of Vlaams-Brabant, province of Oost-Vlaanderen, CNCD-11.11.11, WBI, city of Antwerp  
 Duration: 3 years (since 2011)  
 Total budget: € 307,600  
 Local partner: ICD

**Project to support food diversification in the circle of Youwarou (PADACY)**  
 Donor: EU  
 Duration: 41 months (since 2011)  
 Total budget: € 1,797,700  
 In consortium with ACF  
 Managed by local partner ICD

**Project to combat food insecurity in Mali (LIAM)**  
 Donors: Belgian Fund for Food Security, Gillès Foundation, province of Antwerp  
 Duration: 5 years (since 2012)  
 Total budget: € 2,203,085  
 In consortium with SOS Faim, Belgian Red Cross, World Solidarity, Protos, UNCDF, FAO  
 Local partners: ICD, CEPAP, Association pour l’Appui au Développement Global

**Emergency aid project to strengthen the resilience of vulnerable groups (homeless livestock keepers and local families) in the region of Mopti**  
 Donor: FAO  
 Duration: 4 months  
 Total budget: € 20,779  
 Local partner: ICD



## BURKINA FASO

Burkina Faso is a country in which agriculture, forestry and livestock keeping are extremely important. More than 85% of families derive at least some of their income from livestock. Just like other countries of the Sahel, Burkina Faso is suffering through climate change, which is having serious effects on the local ecosystems. On top of that, thousands of Malian refugees and their cattle still live in the north, which places the already scarce natural resources under even greater pressure. The families in the countryside are facing greater food insecurity: shortages of grain and fodder are more frequent. In this difficult context Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium and its Burkinabe partner, A2N, are joining forces with an increasing number of strategic partners to meet the needs of the local population through a combination of emergency aid, rehabilitation and development.

### Program to support the development of the Fula Zebu in the Sahel (ZEPESA II)

Donors: Belgian Fund for Food Security, ZEBU-NET, WBI

Duration: 6 years (since 2011)

Total budget: € 3,522,518

Local partner: A2N

### Emergency aid to refugees and asylum seekers in Burkina Faso

Donor: UNHCR

Duration: 11 months

Total budget: € 144,306

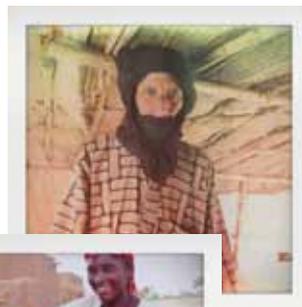
Local partner: A2N



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*“A few years ago I started growing vegetables, to earn a little money. But the older I have grown the less land I have been able to work. It is too hard for me physically. That is why I started breeding poultry, and the first few years were very good. Until the chicks died year after year and I lost heart. With support from Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium we joined forces as poultry keepers. We received training in production techniques and animal health. We sold our animals as a group, to get a better price. Today things are a lot better. Every year I sell about 21 animals on average, which gives me a good income. I use the money to buy grain, to send my children to school and to look after them.”*

Saly Konaré, Mali



*“Vaccination is crucial to our animals. We are extremely pleased that Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium has vaccinated our herds, because our animals are now healthy. We also received feed, which is extremely important for the animals, because it means they give good milk and grow strong. The calves are certainly not short of milk now.”*

Mohamed Assali Ag Hamadou, Malian refugee in Burkina Faso

# East Africa



## KENYA

In the regions of Garissa and Turkana, Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium has been working, along with its local partners, with vulnerable pastoral and agro-pastoral communities to build their resilience. By encouraging the livestock keepers to diversify their livelihoods, for example through poultry and honey production, their food security and nutrition has improved. Furthermore, focus in Kenya has been on livestock asset protection, animal welfare and the implementation of disaster risk reduction, in order to build community resilience to external shocks such as drought and livestock diseases. After heavy flooding in April the NGO helped the stricken Turkana livestock keepers to rebuild their herds.

### Emergency program in the arid areas of Turkana and Garissa (La Niña 3)

Donor: ECHO via Oxfam  
Duration: 14 months (since 2012)  
Total budget: € 880,000

### Poultry and bee keeping project

Donor: FAO  
Duration: 4 months  
Total budget: \$ 90,000

### Strengthening pastoralist communities' drought resilience in the arid and semi-arid lands of Kenya

Donor: Belgian Consortium for Emergency Situations 12-12  
Duration: 2 years (since 2012)  
Total budget: € 200,000  
Local partner: TUPADO

### Floods emergency response in Turkana

Donor: UNOCHA  
Duration: 6 months  
Total budget: \$ 200,000

### Open sustainable livelihood opportunities for poor households in Dadaab district

Donor: Belgian Consortium for Emergency Situations 12-12  
Duration: 2 years (since 2012)  
Total budget: € 200,000

### Donkey welfare and livelihood project (DOWELI)

Donor: The Brooke  
Duration: 1 year (since April 2013)  
Total budget: £ 194,094

*“The March through April flash floods destroyed all my crops, as well as the irrigation canal that waters our farms. Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium helped me and other farmers in rehabilitating our damaged irrigation canals. We did the repair works ourselves and got paid for our work. This way, I had money available to help my family. I also received farm tools such as a shovel and a pick axe, and certified drought tolerant seeds: maize, sorghum, cowpeas and tomatoes. I look forward to harvesting 30 bags of maize, which is better than the 12 bags I normally harvest. Now I can feed my family and sell the surplus produce to attend to my family's other basic needs.”*

John Narupe, Kenya





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*“With help from Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium I was able to get a small loan. I used the money to buy sorghum and I started my own business: I make a local sorghum drink. People in the neighbourhood bought my drinks and through this I was able to build up a modest income. Since then I have repaid my loan and bought a pair of ducks. When they grow and reproduce I will be able to sell the young. The loan really has improved my life. I can now buy a better variety of food and pay my children’s school fees.”*

Maria Lokol, Uganda



## UGANDA

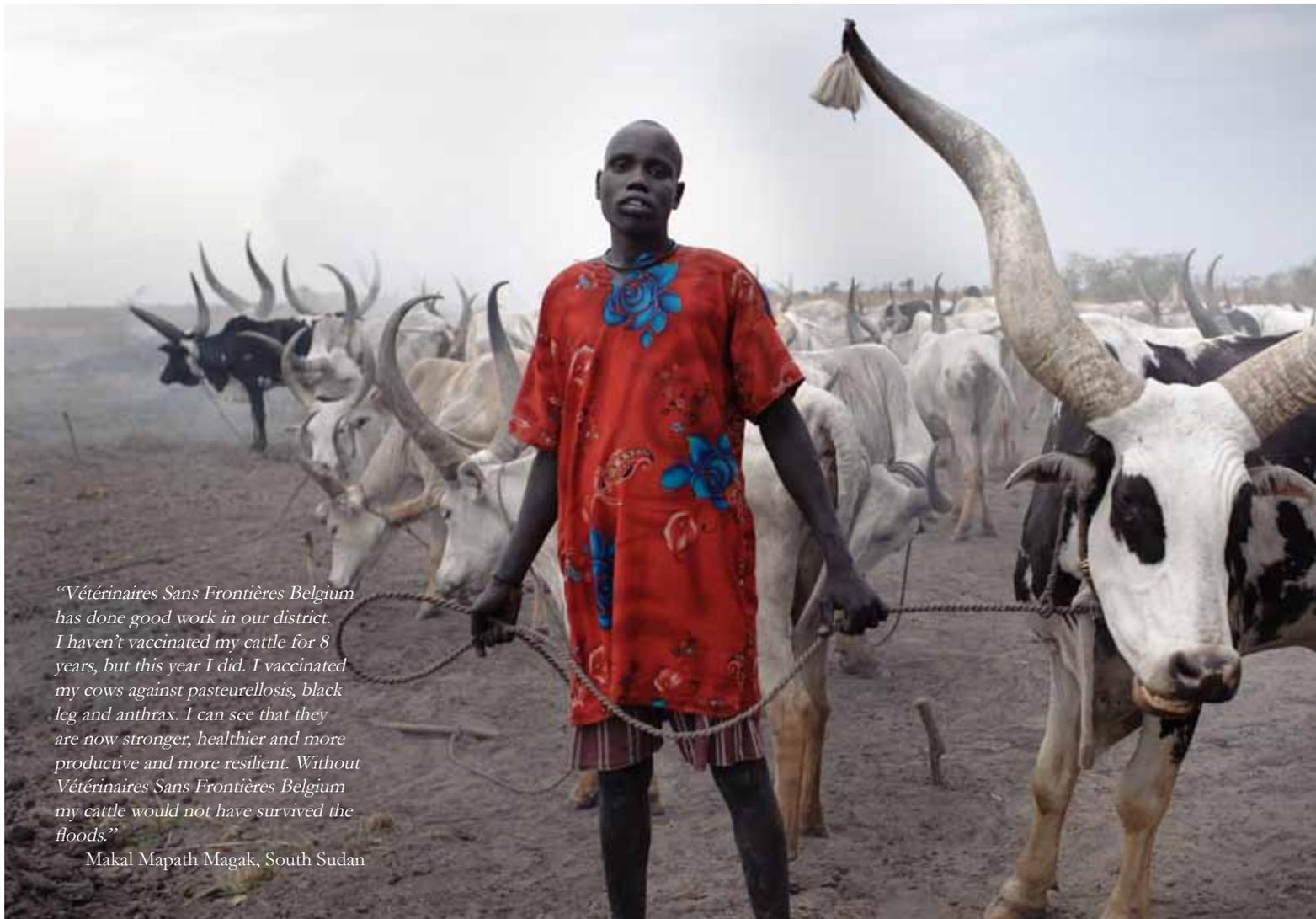
The last three years have been relatively peaceful in the Karamoja region, thanks to a joint weapons disarmament and development programme. Peace has granted the population and their herds renewed access to certain areas that were previously dangerous. Despite this progress, poverty and child malnutrition are still alarmingly high, especially due to irregular rainfall, cattle disease and the poorer quality of the soil. Therefore, Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium, along with its local partner, would like to improve access to animal healthcare, by training community animal health workers for example, and by providing a decent infrastructure. The NGO also encourages the sustainable use of water and grassland and stimulates livestock keepers to develop additional and varied sources of income.

### Karamoja livestock development program (KLDP II)

Donors: DGD, province of Vlaams-Brabant  
Duration: 3 years (since 2011)  
Total budget: € 580,313  
Local partner: MADEFO

### Implementing “One Health” approach at community level

Donor: Irish Aid (through FAO)  
Duration: 6 months  
Our Budget: \$ 50,000  
Local partner: DADO



*“Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium has done good work in our district. I haven’t vaccinated my cattle for 8 years, but this year I did. I vaccinated my cows against pasteurellosis, black leg and anthrax. I can see that they are now stronger, healthier and more productive and more resilient. Without Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium my cattle would not have survived the floods.”*

Makal Mapath Magak, South Sudan



## SOUTH SUDAN

Two years after independence, South Sudan is still facing many challenges. Political tensions, violence, cutbacks, flooding, poor services and an underdeveloped infrastructure are making life more difficult for the rural population. Last year, Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium’s extensive network of community animal health workers vaccinated, dewormed and treated cattle, thus ensuring the livelihoods of thousands of livestock keepers that were hit by flooding in the states of Jonglei, Upper Nile and Warrap. By handing out sheep and goats, Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium was also able to help disadvantaged families and returning livestock keepers to rebuild herds and so reacquire a basic source of food and income.

### Emergency veterinary support program IV (EVSP IV) in Central Equatoria, Jonglei, Lakes, Unity, Upper Nile and Warrap states

Donor: USAID

Duration: 1 year (since July 2012)

Our budget: \$ 1,016,800 (total budget 2,500,000)

Consortium led by Veterinaires Sans Frontieres Belgium: Veterinaires Sans Frontieres Germany, Veterinaires Sans Frontieres Switzerland

### Emergency livestock intervention in Jonglei and Upper Nile states

Donor: CHF

Duration: 1 year (since October 2012)

Total budget: \$ 200,000

### Food security recovery program in Lakes state (FSRP)

Donor: European Union

Duration: 4 years (since 2009)

Total budget: € 1,500,004

### Enhancing community based resource utilization to secure livelihoods in Lakes state

Donor: Elisabeth and Amélie Foundation

Duration: 6 months (since August 2012)

Total budget: € 33,285

### Support to horticultural and poultry production and agro-processing activities in Juba

Donor: FAO

Duration: 1 year (since March 2012)

Total budget: SSP 140,990

### East coast fever intervention project in Central Equatoria, Lakes and Western Equatoria states

Donor: FAO

Duration: 7 months (since June 2013)

Total budget: SSP 382,059.55

### Livestock emergency response project I in Warrap state

Donor: CHF

Duration: 1 year (since March 2013)

Total budget: \$ 400,000

### Livestock emergency response project II in Jonglei state

Donor: CHF

Duration: 6 months (since October 2013)

Budget: \$ 470,000

### Livestock emergency response project III in Lakes and Warrap states

Donor: CHF

Duration: 6 months (since February 2013)

Budget: \$ 428,000



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# Central Africa

## DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

The Democratic Republic of Congo is facing many problems, particularly the uncertainty caused by the presence of many militarised groups. In 2013, the M23 troops withdrew from Goma following skirmishes with the Congolese army and the UN peacekeeping force. Nevertheless, other militias remain active in the region. *Vétérinaires Sans Frontières* Belgium supports, along with its local partner, disadvantaged families in North Kivu by providing small livestock. The animals are easy to look after and can be transported safely and easily during bandit raids. The small livestock are crucial to the families' food security.

**Project to promote livestock among vulnerable urban groups in the city of Butembo (PROMELVU)**

Donor: DGD  
Duration: 3 years (since 2011)  
Total budget: € 354,375  
Local partner: Réseau WIMA

**Project for food security through small livestock farming in the province of North Kivu**

Donor: Belgian Fund for Food Security  
Duration: 5 years (since 2013)  
Total budget: € 3,132,463  
Local partner: Réseau WIMA



*“Five years ago I received a few rabbits from *Vétérinaires Sans Frontières* Belgium. My farming production has tripled thanks to these animals and their manure. I am no longer solely dependent on my husband to buy things. In 2010 my village appointed me as community animal health worker. I was trained by *Vétérinaires Sans Frontières* Belgium to handle the everyday care of the village animals. That has given me some standing in the community. The livestock keepers often call on my services and through this I earn about \$25 a month on average. With that money I have bought a motorcycle, so that I can get around more easily.”*

Eugénie Kaswera Muvunga, Democratic Republic of Congo



## RWANDA

For the last ten years, Rwanda has been making considerable economic progress, for which the country has received international praise. However, Rwanda will soon have to accelerate its agricultural production to limit imports and meet the local population's growing need for food. Poverty levels are still relatively high in the country. In the Southern Province, the country's poorest region, *Vétérinaires Sans Frontières* Belgium supports small livestock keeping, along with its local partner. Better health for the animals can help vulnerable families overcome poverty.

**Project to promote local and private veterinary services in southern Rwanda (PROXIVET II)**

Donor: DGD  
Duration: 3 years (since 2011)  
Total budget: € 930,035  
Local partner: IMBARAGA

*“We were lucky if we ate once a day before. We didn't hold out much hope for the future. But in 2009 I was given 3 rabbits and 2 goats by *Vétérinaires Sans Frontières* Belgium. Today I have 17 rabbits, 3 goats and even 2 pigs! Since I was given the rabbits, I have been able to sell quite a few. I have also given some to 3 other families. Thanks to my income my family can eat 2 meals a day. My little boy is also going to school now and we have even been able to join a healthcare system. In the future I would like to install electric lighting in my house.”*

Marie Alice Murekeyisoni, Rwanda



# Regional projects



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## **TESO: Support for the vulnerable families of pastoralists and agro-pastoralists in the county of Téra (Niger) and the provinces of Oudalan and Séno (Burkina Faso)**

The populations of Niger and Burkina Faso are still experiencing the effects of the 2012 food crisis in the Sahel region and the conflict in Mali, which created a huge stream of refugees. Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium aims to improve the resilience of pastoralists, agro-pastoralists and other local actors, to help them face present and future crises. The organisation does this by improving access to local animal healthcare, by avoiding and resolving conflicts without violence, and by raising the livestock keepers' awareness through pastoral field schools about the rational management of their herds. Furthermore, the project aims to build the capacities of local civil society organisations and government authorities to enable them to avoid and handle pastoral crises.

Donor: USAID

Duration: 2 years (since April 2013)

Total budget: \$ 987,866

Local partner: CESAO-PRN

## **FSTP: Regional initiative in support of vulnerable pastoralists and agro-pastoralists in the Horn of Africa**

Livestock keepers in the border areas of Turkana and Karamoja are threatened by drought, floods, diseases and conflicts. Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium supports communities in identifying hazards that increase their vulnerability. The identified hazards are addressed through community actions implemented through the agro-pastoral field school and village community banking associations. Livestock keepers have started new income generating activities to improve their resilience and pre-

paredness to face future disasters, for example livestock marketing, vegetable gardening, aloe vera processing, crop agriculture, goat production and creating cereal banks.

Donor: European Commission via FAO

Duration: 2 years (since 2011)

Total budget: \$ 200,000

## **L4L: Livestock for livelihoods**

The African continent consists largely of dry areas where water, fertile soil and vegetation are scarce. Population growth puts added pressure on these areas. In the continent's fragile ecosystems, pastoralists and their livestock, sedentary farmers, wildlife, governments and private companies compete for these limited natural resources. Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium supports livestock keepers in East Africa - the border regions between Ethiopia, Kenya, South Sudan and Uganda - and West Africa - the border regions between Benin, Burkina Faso and Niger - to strengthen their resilience to climate change. The organisation does this by proposing livelihood alternatives and negotiating peaceful solutions through dialogue and agreements on grazing areas, for example.

Donor: European Commission via African Union

Duration: 3 years (since 2010)

Our budget: € 616,350 (East Africa); \$ 143,325 (West Africa)

Partners: IUCN, AWF

## **TRYRAC: Improving the management of trypanosomiasis in small-scale livestock systems in Sub-Saharan Africa, which are plagued by tsetse flies**

Trypanosomiasis is a parasitic disease transmitted by the tsetse fly. It affects the livelihoods

of millions of small-scale livestock keepers in Sub-Saharan Africa. Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium and its partners want to investigate whether the parasite is building up resistance to the current medication. The project aims to map out and control the development of this resistance in Ethiopia, Mozambique and Togo. The partners will develop guidelines and tools for detecting resistance and for determining the quality of the medication. The project also aims to develop strategies to improve the effect of treatment on cattle. Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium is responsible for distributing these strategies among all those concerned, from policymakers and lab technicians to vets and livestock keepers.

Donor: European Commission

Duration: 5 years (since March 2012)

Our budget: € 420,680

Partners: Institute of Tropical Medicine in Antwerp, Freie Universität Berlin, Leibniz Universität Hannover, CIRDES, University of Pretoria, veterinary services in Ethiopia, Mozambique and Togo

## PARTNERSHIPS



## FINANCIAL PARTNERS



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