



DIERENARTSEN | VETERINAIRES
ZONDER GRENZEN | SANS FRONTIERES

BELGIUM

ACTIVITY REPORT
2016 - 2017

Thanks to all for the boundless support and solidarity!

In 2016, veterinarians and veterinary students once again threw their hearts and souls into serving as ambassadors, volunteers and/or donors to *Vétérinaires Sans Frontières* Belgium. They gave lectures to veterinary associations, volunteered at trade fairs, collected money, organised a local event ... and had a few nice surprises in store. Some students, for example, organised a benefit evening, and turned out en masse for our 'Buy a Goat campaign' at Expovet and *Vétérinexpo*. A number of veterinarians invited a Nigerian veterinarian to train with them in Belgium, collected materials for their colleagues in Burkina Faso, and this year even embraced the Buy a Goat campaign ... and much, much more. Thanks to all for the boundless support and solidarity!



For the 20 km run through Brussels in 2016, twenty runners were sponsored for *Vétérinaires Sans Frontières* Belgium. Together they raised 1,853 euro for livestock keepers and veterinarians in the South.

Hand in hand

Building a better future

The effects of worldwide poverty and inequality are becoming ever more noticeable. In early 2017 the world was rocked, yet again, by famine. As I write this, about 20 million people are exposed to this threat. Drought is not the only cause, and it hasn't been so for a long time.

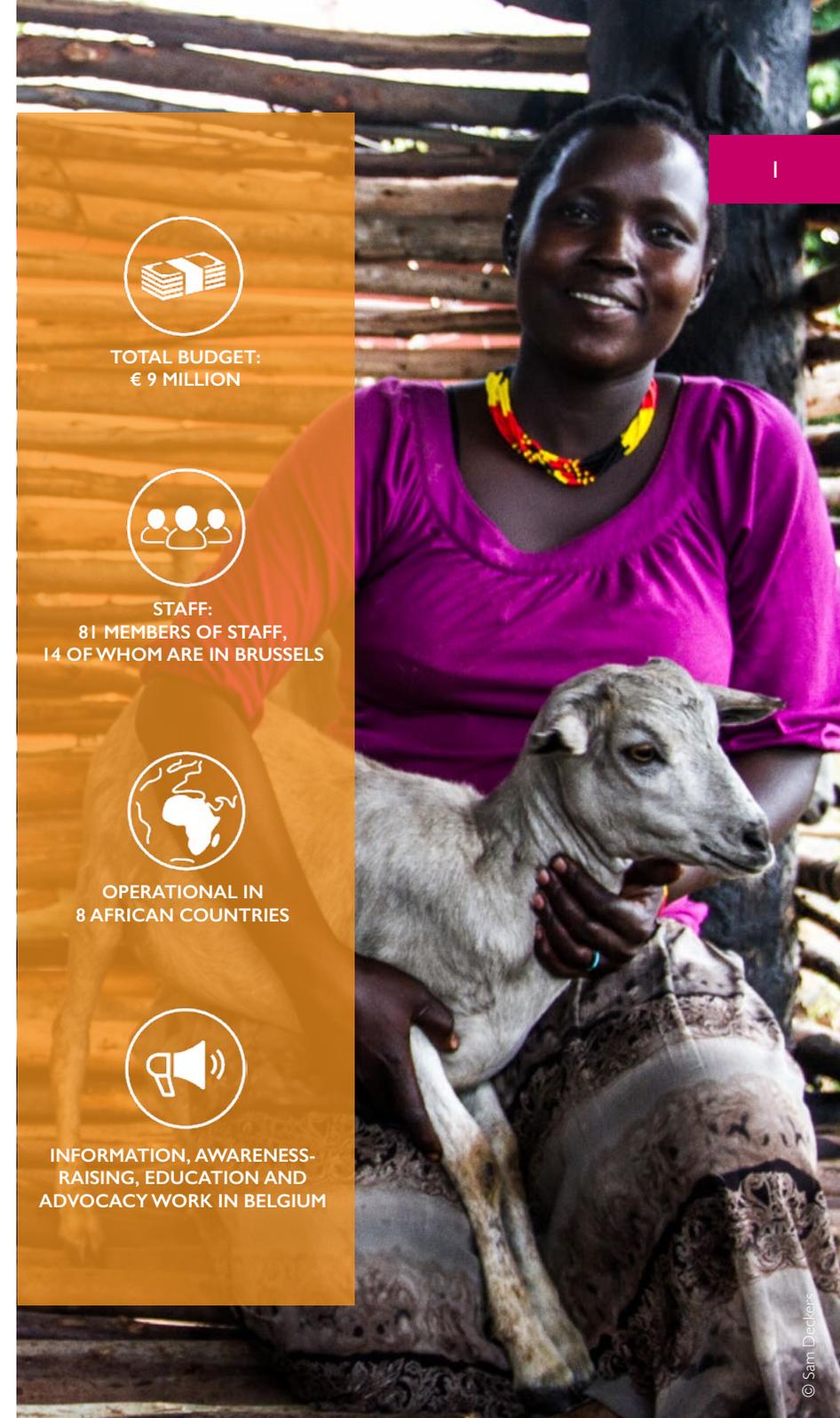
There is plenty of food to feed the world's population, but access to this food is unequally distributed. Violence, wars, fighting over power and scarce commodities, climate change and poverty block people's access to the very things to which they are entitled: food and a dignified existence.

Day after day, Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium carries forward the fight against inequality and hunger. And we are not alone in this. It is not easy to turn the tide, but there are people everywhere who are doing all they can to keep poverty at bay. We meet them in the field, in Belgium and in our international networks. We work with them, side-by-side, to bring an end to poverty and hunger. We work for livestock

farmers in Africa, who have joined hands to build a sustainable environment in which they can cultivate and harvest crops, and in which their herds can graze and be healthy.

Backed by solid international political lobbying, we do all we can to maintain the balance of the valuable ecosystem in which we live. By working towards healthy animals and better production, at the local level, we develop a sustainable existence for farmers and so improve their resilience; and so, offer a clear alternative to violence, over-exploitation and deforestation. Yes, an alternative does exist. And you can help us achieve it.

Marc Joolen,
CEO of Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium



TOTAL BUDGET:
€ 9 MILLION



STAFF:
81 MEMBERS OF STAFF,
14 OF WHOM ARE IN BRUSSELS



OPERATIONAL IN
8 AFRICAN COUNTRIES



INFORMATION, AWARENESS-
RAISING, EDUCATION AND
ADVOCACY WORK IN BELGIUM

Better Policy in Belgium and Europe

Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium defends the rights of African livestock keepers, who are faced with countless challenges such as land grabbing and climate change. These problems can only be solved through political action. This is why we engage in policy advocacy.

From Brussels, we attempt to influence European and Belgian policy in ways that will also be of benefit to family livestock keepers in Africa. To have a greater impact we partner with Belgian networks - Coalition contre la faim and Be-troplive - and coalitions such as Celep and VSF International.

Human Rights Activist Edward Loure

In 2016, we brought Edward Loure, human rights activist and representative of UCRT, our partner organisation in Tanzania, to Belgium. A few months earlier, he had won the Goldman Environmental Prize for his long-standing efforts to preserve the land rights of the Masai herdsman in northern Tanzania. In Belgium, he spoke to a variety of journalists and opened a lunch conference in the peristyle of the Federal Parliament.

European Parliament

In 2016, we joined Celep to organise meetings between local civic organisations, experts and MEPs in Kenya and Tanzania. In October, we also organised a photo exhibit on pastoralism at the European Parliament.



Code Aventure: Off to Tanzania!

The French-language Belgian television channel RTBF went to Tanzania in 2016 to film an episode of the programme Code Aventure, and gave 11-year-old Khyll from Belgium an unforgettable experience with the Masai. In the company of a herdsman's boy of his own age he found out about the work of Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium and the day-to-day lives of the Masai herdsman. They lead a semi-nomadic life and take care of their most valuable possession: the herd.

Watch the programme again
on [youtube.com/dzgvsvbelgium](https://www.youtube.com/dzgvsvbelgium)



Burkina Faso

milk canteens for refugee children

Conflict in their home country has forced many Malian livestock keepers to flee to camps in Burkina Faso in recent years. They have had to leave most of their animals behind. To make matters worse, the remaining herd has been short of water and grass in the dry season. As a result, the refugees have been unable to maintain their traditional diet, which largely consists of milk and millet. This shortage of milk has had a serious impact on the children.

Quantity as important as quality

Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium has joined the UN refugee organisation (UNHCR) in supporting local dairy farmers and refugee Malian livestock keepers in northern Burkina Faso. This has enabled them to deliver good quality milk to 'milk canteens' in the refugee camps of Goudebo and Mentao.

To achieve this, we aim for better practices among local players in the dairy sector; the local and refugee livestock keepers, the milk collectors and the women who process the milk into dairy products at the mini-dairies. Concentrated dairy cattle feed, good animal healthcare, development of the milk

collection system, better hygiene at the mini-dairies... all crucial to ensuring sufficient quantities of good quality milk. The dairy maids at the dairies carry out daily checks to ensure that the milk is suitable for human consumption.

Milk for young and old

As well as supporting the production of milk, Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium supports its consumption, through milk canteens in the refugee camps. At these canteens, children aged 6 to 59 months are given 300 ml of milk three times a week. The NGO Save the Children educates their mothers on the subject of a balanced and healthy diet.

Through this initiative, we are not only tackling malnutrition among the child refugees, but we are also helping the local economy as we support dairies owned by women's organisations, who make yoghurt and other dairy products. Women take care of most food and healthcare expenses for their family. Consequently, a higher income has a positive effect on their children's health and diet.



Aseïtou Akwer, refugee in Goudebo camp

Since I came to live in the refugee camp, I've been looking forward to Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays most of all. These are the days when my son Ag and I walk through the camp to the milk canteen. Obviously, the milk which the children get there isn't enough to meet their daily requirement, but it is a good supplement. The children love it! Sometimes Ag gets a little greedy, and he can get angry if he must wait in line for a mug of milk.

The local milk tastes better than powdered milk. Vétérinaires Sans Frontières told me that it is also healthier, because the children can get sick if we mix the milk powder with unclean water. Here in the milk canteen we can be sure that there is good quality milk.

Milk as a weapon in the fight against malnutrition among refugee children



21,838 refugees
(12,282 in Mentao and 9,556 in Goudebo)



1,184 dairy farmers
(refugees and local residents)



65,634 litres of milk
for the milk canteens (2016)



1,614 children from 6 to 59 months
(842 girls and 772 boys) who **receive milk 3 times a week** in the milk canteens



© Koen Mutton

In 2016, the Didiéni market accounted for ...



the sale of 19,506 cattle and 19,829 sheep and goats, for a total sum of 7,799,577 euro



5,180 euro in taxes on the animals sold, of which 517 euro went to the district



12 livestock traders (each with 5 to 40 animals) making an individual profit of 305 to 610 euro



1 goat and sheep trader (with 15 to 50 animals) with an individual profit of 30 to 100 euro



5 cattle and 7 sheep and goat transporters, 9 straw dealers, 50 intermediaries for cattle and 120 for goats and sheep, plus vendors of water, peanuts, pastries, etc.

Profitable livestock trade in Mali

Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium and its partner organisation Initiatives Conseils Développement (ICD) have for several years supported livestock breeding in the Malian region of Koulikoro. In recent years, we helped build a cattle market in the rural district of Didiéni, 162 km north of Bamako. This cattle market facilitates trade between the country's northern lands and the capital and stimulates the local economy and development.

The market consists of a holding paddock for cattle and one for small livestock, a loading facility to enable quick transport of the purchased animals to their new destination, a permanent watering place and a barn for the traders. A veterinarian checks the health of the animals as they leave the market.

Transparent management

The district has outsourced the management of the market to a committee of representatives from the livestock breeders' cooperative and the district authority. The committee members were trained in management tools and conflict resolution without violence. It reports its current state of affairs several times a year and openly publishes its accounts.

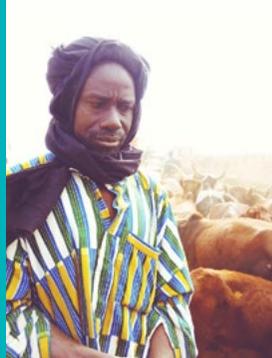
The cattle market has generated considerable revenues. When an animal is sold and leaves the market,

the seller must pay a tax. This money goes to the livestock breeders' cooperative and the treasury of the district of Didiéni. With this income, the cooperative maintains the market infrastructure and provides services for the livestock keepers, such as sales of production equipment, etc. With the remaining money, the cooperative fulfils a social role in the district. In the past, for example, it has contributed to compensation for the victims of floods and support for the poorest villagers.

Boost for the local economy

Today the cattle market in Didiéni is the district's most important economic activity. The market is visited by dozens of butchers, livestock traders, transporters and women with food stalls or small businesses, who generate a great many transactions. The market has created 269 jobs and provides an income for men, women and youth from the area. Thanks to its sound, effective and transparent management the Didiéni market even attracts buyers from neighboring countries.

Sales of animals are now more profitable for the livestock keepers. The local population has thus enlarged their herds of cows and sheep and practices animal husbandry in a more professional manner.



Mariko Traoré, livestock trader and member of the livestock breeders' cooperative in Didiéni

I have been working in the livestock trade since I was a child. I have seen the industry evolve a great deal in my district. In my eyes, the construction of the market has given the economy an enormous boost in Didiéni. Today there are countless opportunities and the market is no longer confined to local livestock keepers. Customers are coming from everywhere: Nara, Bamako and even Senegal! Cattle and small livestock farming has become a commercial activity for us. Fewer youngsters are leaving and those who return have managed to find work at the cattle market. Every year more than 10,000 people in Didiéni earn a living from the livestock trade.

Safe migration of the herd in Niger

It is becoming harder for livestock keepers in Niger to find access to grasslands of sufficient quality. Transhumance - the seasonal migration made by livestock keepers and their herds in search of water and fresh grasslands - does not stop at national borders, but can take the herdsmen into neighboring countries, such as Benin and Nigeria.

Farmers and livestock keepers clash

At the end of the rain season tensions can run high between farmers and livestock keepers, and so threaten the seasonal cattle movements. Many farmers grow crops on land through which the cattle would normally travel. Some of these corridors end up completely obstructed. The herds tend to travel at night and the animals begin to feed on what they find in the fields, which can sometimes lead to fatal confrontations between herdsman and farmer.

Communication to aid coexistence

To ensure the pastoralists' safety, Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium marked out the grasslands and routes in the biggest of the cattle corridors. This kept them open for the livestock keepers and their herds. To do this we brought together the people most prominently involved in the seasonal migrations in these areas. They identified the use and destination of the lands and established a number of rules. The government approved the zones and once this was done, we were able to mark them out with stakes.

In the space of one month the government issued 40 International Transhumance Certificates (ITC) or seasonal migration certificates, as opposed to just two in almost three years. This shows that more livestock keepers are using the safe migration routes. We also informed the population about the existing legislation on pastoralism, compensation in the event of loss or damage and the regulations governing out-of-court settlements. Since then, fewer pastoralists have been the victims of malpractice in neighboring countries.



Mamane Sani Hinsu, village leader in Louloudje

Thank God, we have found peace again. Ignorance carried a high cost in human life during the conflicts. Villages were torn apart, families were decimated, not to mention the material damage.

Today the feuds are a thing of the past. There are hardly any more conflicts, and we can usually come to some sort of agreement. Everyone knows their rights when crops are damaged in the fields. The compensation system is known, and if we can't come to an agreement, we know what to do and where to go.

Did you know

The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) introduced the seasonal migration certificates to allow livestock keepers to move their cattle from one country to another. The authorised officials at the border posts where the cattle enter, issue the certificates. The state authorities can also check the health of animals entering their territory. To receive a certificate from the authority, the herdsman must specify the number of animals he travels with and the route, before going further.

Promising rabbit trade in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

The province of North Kivu, in the east of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, is weighed down by instability and armed conflict. In the last two years rebels have caused repeated bloodbaths in Beni and Lubero, claiming many civilian victims.

In this fragile region, the local population needs help more than ever before. Paid work is scarce, incomes are low. Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium and its partner Réseau Wima are helping disadvantaged families by teaching them how to raise rabbits. We also boost the entire rabbit production chain, from producer through trader and restaurant owner to consumer. We make sure that families can sell their rabbits easily and obtain the right price for them.

Everyone wins: producer and consumer

We developed a system of group sales for the farmers. This enables traders from the cities to buy more rabbits from them at a time, without making extra trips to the villages. The livestock keepers profit from this arrangement too: they can sell their

rabbits for a better, fixed price per kilogram and so generate a better income. They get an instant net income, because they don't have tax to pay at the market, nor do they have transport costs. Sales are at predetermined times, which allows them to better plan their incomes.

To give them the capital with which to purchase rabbits, the traders were given loans. We also set up points of sale at strategic locations in urban areas, so that traders could set out their stalls and more easily sell their products.

Rabbit, a luxury product

The value of the rabbit rises at every link in the chain, but it is the farmers who retain the most: 6.6 euro for a rabbit of an average weight of 2.4 kg. Thanks to quicker collections and sales down the line, this generated new economic activity in the region. In the cities, butchers began to specialise in rabbit meat, the trade in rabbit food increased and today restaurants serve rabbit, which is now seen as a luxury product.

Kasereka Mbueki, chef and purveyor of rabbit kebabs in Butembo

Two years ago, Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium asked me to prepare several rabbit-based dishes on World Food Day. My kebabs proved very popular with the public and lots of people asked me for my contact details, to place an order. Strengthened by that success I decided to keep serving rabbit and to bring the city around to my way of thinking.

Special occasions aside, I serve about four rabbits a day. This gives me a net profit of about 4.7 euro a day, or 123 euro a month. That's a good income here. Not many people earn as much as that. So far it has been enough to provide for my family. People know that I work hard and that I know my business, and that's what brings in the customers. I am getting more and more requests to make rabbit kebabs for parties and weddings.



Rabbit, from the hutch to the dish





© Tim Dirven

Healthy livestock for Rwandan farmers

Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium works in the Southern Province of Rwanda, one of the poorest areas of the country. The inhospitable land, subject to constant erosion, is almost barren and yields a minimal crop. Animals are crucial to the families in the countryside. Not only are they a source of animal protein, but they provide an income and produce manure for the fields.

In this region, we help private veterinarians start in the countryside, where they can offer their services to local livestock keepers. By supervising livestock health and productivity, they help assure food security and quality for the poor Rwandan farmers.

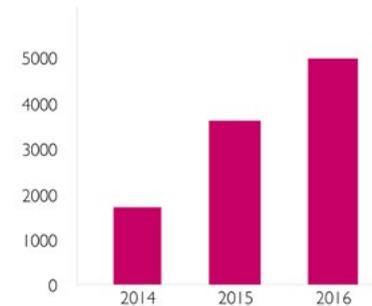
Animal healthcare in the countryside

In 2016 Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium and its local partner, Imbaraga, assisted fourteen local private veterinarians in the region. They received technical, financial and management training to help them with their activities. They now provide quality, affordable services for the farmers in the countryside, but earn enough to continue to offer their services.

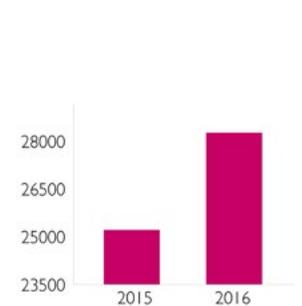
A proven system

The veterinarians have made clear progress in recent years. Between 2014 and 2016, mortality rates fell from 6 to 1.2% among the cattle and from 10 to 3% among the goats. Satisfaction among the farmers rose appreciably, from 66 to 96% by the end of 2016. Not only are the veterinarians' services effective; they are profitable too. Thirteen of the fourteen assisted veterinarians make regular repayments on their loans to the local micro-credit institutions. By the end of 2016 half of the veterinarians had already repaid their loans in full.

Average net revenue per supported vet (euro)

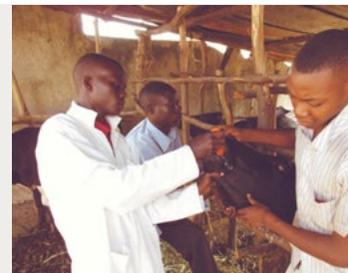


Total number of clients for the 14 private vets



Alexis Ngendahayo, private veterinarian in the district of Nyanza

Two years ago, I started up my own practice. I had no transport, hardly any medicine and earned next to nothing. Thanks to Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium, I could take out a bigger loan to buy a motorcycle and increase my equipment supplies. I enrolled in a business management course, to open my own veterinary pharmacy, and learned artificial insemination for cattle. In 2016, I had 2,400 livestock keeper clients in 38 villages. My practice made over 8,500 euro a year. With that income, I could attend evening classes at the university and bought land on which I am now building a house. I would also like to purchase equipment which would allow me to specialise in surgery, which only a few veterinarians do here.



Goats bring prosperity to Burundi

In 2015, social and political instability began to affect food security and the livelihoods of disadvantaged families in Burundi. A good 69% of the rural population is living in poverty, and 75% is going hungry. Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium and its local partner organisation Ucode support 700 vulnerable families in Ngozi province.

Livestock keeping and hygiene

Between 2014 and 2016 each of these families was given four goats and training on how to raise them. A private veterinarian and 27 community animal health workers assisted the families and took care of the animals. In less than two years the number of goats doubled and the mortality rate fell by over 50 percent.

We also worked in close collaboration with the provincial healthcare service, which taught families the basic principles of hygiene and a balanced diet. They were given health information and taught to read and write.



Céline Shimirimana, goat keeper in the district of Gashikanwa

A while ago my family didn't have animals. All we had to eat sometimes were bean leaves, cassava and pumpkin stalks. Thanks to Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium I enrolled in a training course in animal husbandry. I was given four goats and various types of seed and plants to grow my own livestock crops.

Today I have eight goats. I use their excrement to make manure, which I spread over my field. My bean harvest has risen from 40 to 150 kg and banana production has doubled! I even grow maize and amaranth. All of my family is in perfect health. The children go to school and are in such good form that they even do gymnastics! I've learned to read and write and I have lots of plans for the future: I want to keep breeding goats and, after a while, buy a cow and build a new house.

Healthy animals, healthy people

After two years of support and guidance, the families cannot believe their luck. Not only are the goats in good health, but the harvest has increased thanks to their manure. Half of the families now eat three meals a day, compared to just 16.6% before the goats were distributed.

The families make money by selling their goats, which gives them enough to cover the medical costs and send their children to school. Sixty percent of families now have health insurance, which gives them access to free healthcare. The percentage of children with malnutrition has fallen spectacularly, from 36 to 3%. Today 81% of the children attend primary school, compared to 69% in 2014. All thanks to the humble goat!



© Tim Driyven

Goat farming, a global approach



Passing on the goats



Trainings



Balanced diet



Extra income

Conflicts test livestock breeding in Uganda

The semi-arid Karamoja region in north eastern Uganda has a dry and changeable climate. The local population are mostly pastoralists or agro-pastoralists. About half of the country's sheep and a fifth of its cattle live in Karamoja.

In the rainy season, millet and maize are the main agricultural crops, but animals are still the main source of food and income for the Karamojong. Livestock breeding allows the Karimojong to survive the period between two harvests, when the livestock replaces the shrinking stores of grain. Livestock breeding is also central to the culture and social identity of the Karamojong.

Fighting for water and grass

The changeable climate and the long periods without rain can cause intense droughts in Karamoja. The year 2016 was the driest in ten years and the herds had to move more than 200 km to find water and grass. Cattle movement on this scale increases competition and leads to tensions in the scarce grazing and watering areas.

Maps bring peace

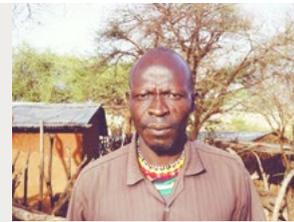
Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium helped livestock keepers in the seven districts of Karamoja to draw up a map of the grasslands. These maps mark out the grasslands, but they also define the corridors through which the pastoralists and their herds travel to get from one area to another.

Together with our local partners, Madefo and Dado, we brought the communities of Jie, Dodoth, Matheniko, Turkana and Toposa together to resolve their conflicts. Thanks to these peace negotiations, 20,000 herdsmen and their herds can access the grasslands once again.

Paul Apaloobok Ngorok, village leader in the sub-district of Kalapata

For many years, the Dodoth, Jie and Toposa of South Sudan refused to share their watering places and glasslands with us. You risked your life and the lives of your animals if you ventured into some of the grasslands. At that time, I lost everything: 28 cows and 45 goats.

Since Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium and its partners intervened, we have been sharing the water and grass with the Dodoth, Jie and Turkana. Now that peace has returned, things are going well again and we have regular cultural exchanges. Today I have twenty goats, seven cows and four bulls. In the last hungry period between harvests I even helped my family by selling five goats and a bull.





Natejeok Kashue, chicken keeper in Gelai Lumbwa

Before, only a few of us knew about keeping chickens. The people who owned them left them scavenging around the homestead looking for food. Many of them disappeared or died from diseases that we couldn't cure.

When Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium asked us if we wanted to learn how to breed chickens, of course we said yes! We are always looking for ways to get some extra income to take better care of our children. We have seen that chicken keeping can help us with this.

We can sell chickens and eggs to buy school equipment and medicine, and every now and then we slaughter a chicken to give our children meat. All Masai women know the nutritional value of eggs. Young mothers who do not have enough milk to breastfeed their children use powdered milk mixed with egg yolk.

As a widow and disabled mother of six children, poultry rearing has given me a sustainable source of income and food for my family all year round.

Chickens for the Masai women in Tanzania

In the districts of Simanjiro and Longido, in northern Tanzania, the grasslands are increasingly forced to yield to agricultural expansion and land privatisation. This is an enormous challenge for the Masai herdsmen, who mainly survive through pastoralism in these dry areas. There are few other livelihood alternatives, which increases their vulnerability.

Many of the Masai are malnourished and suffer from a lack of protein, especially in the dry season when there are few cattle in the homesteads and milk is scarce. To prevent this, Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium and its local partner Heifer Tanzania introduced poultry rearing among vulnerable women-headed households. Chickens provide animal protein in the form of meat and eggs, which the families eat themselves or sell at the market. They provide a quick income and are inexpensive to keep.

An animal for everyone

Chickens are a perfect springboard for developing enterprise among the women. Masai women do not own livestock and their income is limited. It is the men who own the livestock and make all the decisions about selling cows, goats and sheep. As the Masai do not traditionally keep chickens, the men do not have a problem with the women adopting this task.

In the spring of 2016, we went to 68 Masai villages to tell the villagers more about the advantages of keeping chickens. Groups of between 15 and 30 people, 102 of them, mostly women, expressed an interest and opened a 'farming school'

Knowledge transfer

A representative was appointed in each village to attend the poultry keeping training and, in turn, to transfer their knowledge to the other villagers at the farming school. The groups learned how to build a chicken coop and were given the materials needed to make one. They were also given four or five cockerels and 25 to 30 pullets. The group members meet their teacher every week to learn the basics about feeding, breeding and managing the chickens and about diagnosing and treating diseases.

A portion of the eggs is sold to buy feed and medicine for the chickens, another portion goes to the group members and their families. Some of the eggs are hatched. Once the chickens have produced enough chicks, the group shares the animals among its members, so that the women can breed their own chickens in their own coop.

From egg to chicken



2,114 women



4,300 eggs a month



1,000 chicks a month





Data collection on tablets

Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium aims for innovation in all it does and uses new technologies wherever it can. Paper surveys are obsolete; they are time-consuming and mistakes can easily creep in. They have made way for tools such as tablets, apps, open source software... and this has led to fast and reliable data. In 2016, we tested a new monitoring and evaluation system involving tablets in Tanzania, with the support of the Belgian Development Agency (BTC).

With this system, Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium can now analyse the production and sale of eggs, chicks and chickens among the assisted chicken keepers. Five researchers visit the villages every three months to have the villagers complete a survey on a tablet. Once the tablet connects to the internet, the data are automatically sent to an online server, where they are analysed by Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium.

This makes it easier for us to detect problems. If we notice a high mortality rate, for example, among the chicks in a particular group of chicken keepers, we can look for solutions and offer the necessary support. The opposite is also true. Some groups do extremely well, and their egg production is consistently high. In these cases, we can help them get their eggs to market.

The tablets give us a more reliable way of gathering in the data. But the system offers yet another huge advantage: we can analyse the data quickly and easily, and that allows us to take appropriate action in 'real time'.

Voice of the African livestock keepers in international policy

Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium actively advocates policy at international level, along with our sister organisations and VSF International. In January 2016 in Bamako, the capital of Mali in West Africa, we brought together 70 representatives from pastoralist organisations.

With this meeting, we ensured that the farmers' organisations had their say at the Farmers' Forum of the UN's International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). Four representatives from West African farmers' organisations took the conclusions of the Bamako meeting with them to a special session on pastoralism of the Farmers' Forum in Rome. The IFAD also included them in the final conclusions of the Farmers' Forum.

In this way, Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium helped give West African pastoralists a say in international agricultural policy.



VSF INTERNATIONAL
VÉTÉRINAIRES
SANS FRONTIÈRES

VSF International

Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium belongs to the network "Vétérinaires Sans Frontières International" (VSF International), which has eleven members active in more than 40 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America to strengthen small-scale livestock keeping and farming, serving the most vulnerable rural populations. VSF International seeks to build healthy relationships between people, animals, and the environment. By strengthening veterinary services and improving the wellbeing and resilience of the livestock keepers, VSF International enhances food security, food safety and food sovereignty around the globe.

The members of the network coordinate their actions geographically, they pool their resources, and share their skills and experiences, and reinforce the capacities of network members and other partners. They serve vulnerable rural populations and act collectively to advocate in favour of small-scale family farming, livestock keeping, animal and human health, and a healthy environment.

VSF International is headquartered in Brussels, in the same building as Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium.

www.vsf-international.org





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VISION

Healthy animals,
Healthy people

MISSION

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

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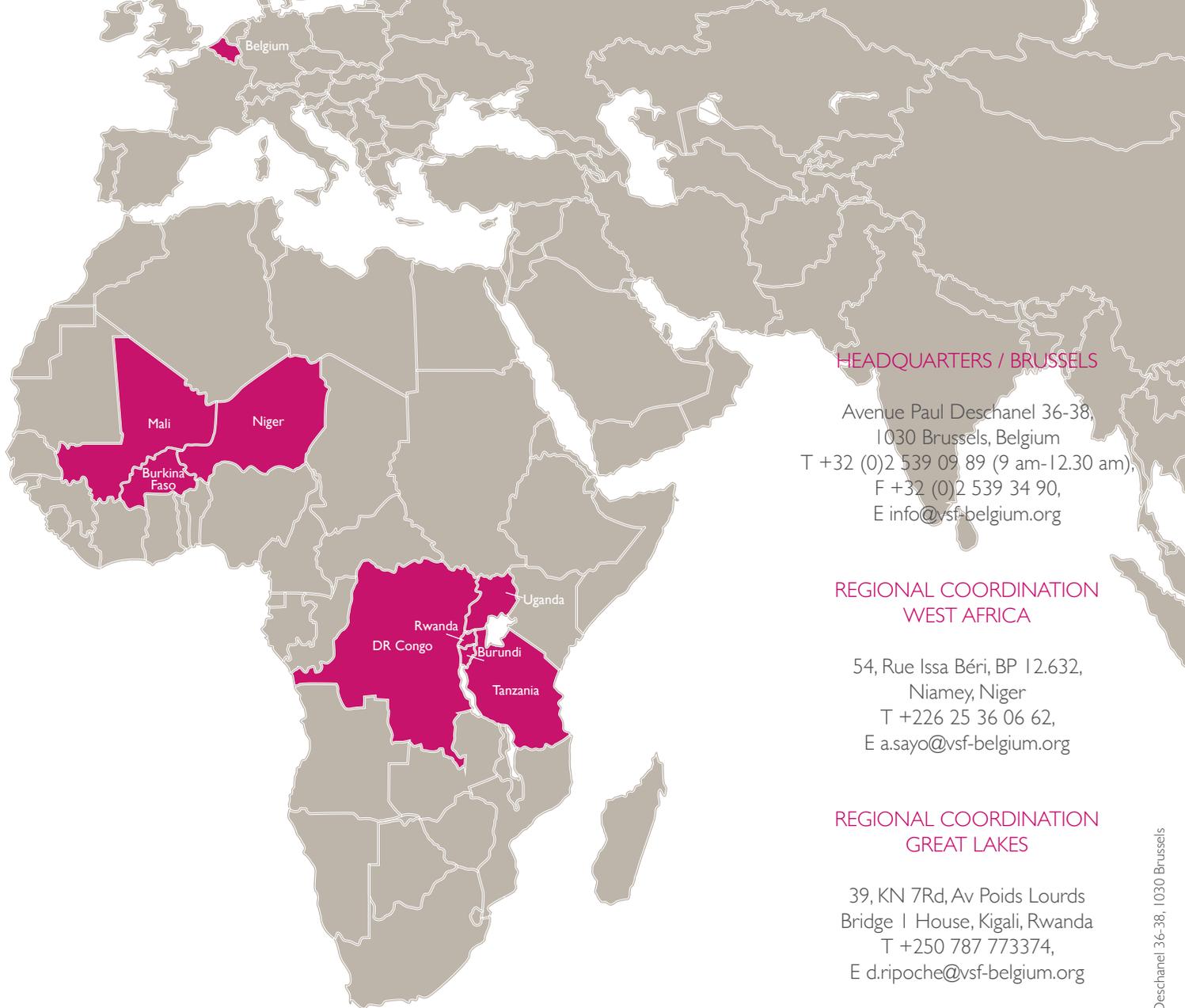
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