



UTILIZING POLICY INSTRUMENTS TO TRANSFORM THE ANIMAL RESOURCE SECTOR FOR SUSTAINABLE SOCIO- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**PRESENTED TO THE 55TH KENYA VETERINARY
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1.0 Introduction



- Policies are rules, principles, guidelines or frameworks that are adopted and designed by an organization to achieve long term goals. ... Policies are formulated to direct and exert influence on all the major decisions to be made within the organization and keep all activities within a set of established boundaries.
- The Animal Resources Sector comprises of three main sectors namely the domestic animals (livestock); wildlife ; and aquatic animals including all relevant value chains.
- The Livestock Sector is very critical to the Kenyan economy contributing over 12% of the Gross Domestic Product (officially just over 4%) and yet livestock based livelihoods not only rely on livestock resources but is also the main economic activity on over 80% of Kenya's landmass which is arid or semi arid.
- The Wildlife Sector is the backbone of tourism and is the most critical in the conservation of animal genetic resources.
- The Aquatic Animals Sector bears the biggest unexploited potential among animal resources.
- Livestock Sector contribution to the economy may be larger than currently estimated in official statistics but can be more accurately estimated by proper analysis of credible data that inform evidence based investment plans.



2.0 Basic Policy for the Animal Resources Sector



- The Constitution of Kenya 2010 providing the overall framework on which the Kenyan people are expected to engage including international standards (OIE).
- The Sessional Paper Number 12 of 2020 on the Vision 2030 Which is the new **long-term development blueprint for** the country that aims to create “a globally competitive and prosperous country with a high quality of life by 2030.
- Sessional Paper Number 1 of 2020 on the Wildlife Policy whose goal is to create an enabling environment for conservation and sustainable management of wildlife for current and future generations .
- Sessional Paper Number 2 of 2020 on the Veterinary Policy that aims to safeguard animal health and welfare, increase animal production and productivity and promote trade in animals and animal products for sustainable food security, food safety, public health and economic development.
- Sessional Paper Number 3 of 2020 on the Livestock Policy whose goal is to improve food and nutrition security, safety of food of animal origin and creating wealth through sustainable Livestock Sector development.
- National Oceans and Fisheries Policy that aims to ensure sustainable fish production and utilization by properly managing the international and local fishery waters including aquaculture



3.0 Animal Resources Sector and Veterinary Services



- The three main sectors of the animal resources include domestic animals (companion animals and livestock), wildlife and aquatic animal resources which on rely on veterinary and allied services for their appropriate utilization.
- Veterinary Services means the governmental and non-governmental organizations that implement animal health and welfare measures and other standards and guidelines in the OIE Terrestrial Code and Aquatic Animal Health Code (Aquatic Code) .
- The role of veterinary professionals is relevant in the improvement and protection of animal and human health, animal welfare, food quality, food safety, food security, ecology, ethology, epidemiology, development of veterinary drugs and pharmaceuticals, biomedical research, educators, trainers, policymakers, wildlife conservation, protection of the environment and biodiversity.
- Delivery of public or private good veterinary services is multidisciplinary involving veterinary surgeons, veterinary paraprofessionals and other professionals such as zoologists, laboratory experts, socio-economists and respective industry experts among others .

4.0 Other Animal Resources Industry Policy Instruments

- **The Livestock Bill** aims to provide a regulatory framework for a largely previously unregulated Livestock Sector which is very critical for livestock-based livelihoods and the national economy. The law will provide a predictable environment to guide investment into the Livestock Sector.
- **Livestock Masterplan** aims to provide accurate data and information on livestock resources and the available investment options based on competitive advantages which is very essential for the ten industries/value chains identified with the sector in the entire country.
- **Livestock Identification and Traceability Strategy and Regulations** to guide the identification and registration of domestic animals in Kenya.
- **Animal Health Bill** developed after reviewing the Animal Diseases Act; Rabies Act; Branding of Stock Act; and the Cattle Cleansing Act to consolidate all animal health issues into one law and align with Constitution.
- **Veterinary Public Health Bill** (VPH) developed after reviewing the Meat Control Act and provide for the whole scope and align with Constitution.
- **Animal Welfare and Protection Bill** developed after reviewing and modernising the provisions in the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act
- **Food Safety Bill and Policy-'' Kenya Food and Drug Authority Bill''** 6



5.0 Opportunities



- Converting some of challenges into opportunities:
 - ✓ Persistence of notable livestock diseases.
 - ✓ Delivery of Veterinary Services by quacks.
 - ✓ Insufficient funding in the control of diseases.
 - ✓ Lack of political will to implement policies in disease control such as movement control of animals within and across the country's borders.
 - ✓ Poor veterinary public health practices including lack of proper meat inspection.
 - ✓ Lack of access of bank loans to livestock.
 - ✓ Indiscipline among veterinary and allied professionals.
 - ✓ Inadequate capacity of the veterinary statutory body.
 - ✓ Joblessness by graduates at certificate, diploma and degree levels in veterinary medicine.
 - ✓ Emerging and remerging diseases
 - ✓ Threats to appropriate veterinary medicine regulation
- Poor practices constitute a setback in livestock production, wildlife and companion animal management and development of aquatic resources hence posing significant threat to animal and human health, food quality, food safety, food security and other vital sectors where veterinary services are expected to play a role.



Opportunities Cont.



- Seizing opportunities in the delivery of Veterinary Services in the three sectors based on the four major categories:
 - (a) curative services, particularly the diagnosis and treatment of diseased animals which is largely a private good and an opportunity for the private sector;
 - (b) preventive services which is both a public and private good to stop the emergence and spreading of diseases through vaccine production, vaccination, vector control such as tick control or tsetse control and control measures, such as quarantine and forced slaughter of affected animals, veterinary surveillance, diagnostic support, veterinary medicines quality control and veterinary research;
 - (c) production, distribution and regulation of veterinary pharmaceuticals; and
 - (d) human health protection, such as sanitary inspection of animal products
- Aquaculture remains an opportunity where a high level of management involving the maintenance of adequate hygiene practices, use of good water quality, disease resistant species and the employment of services of qualified aquatic/fish veterinarian will help prevent or reduce the incidence of diseases. Lack of skilled and experienced aquatic veterinarians with adequate knowledge of principle of disease prevention and control in the aquaculture industry is a major challenge in Kenya.

6.0 Research and Technological Needs

- Veterinary and allied research tends to concentrate on disease control technology as such, with inadequate attention given to the capabilities of the system to deliver this technology. However, the delivery system most likely will remain poor and future control strategies and technologies, therefore, need to be tailored increasingly to fit deficient funding and poor infrastructure. This means that greater priority needs to be given to the definition of the cost- effectiveness of the disease control measures.
- Veterinary pharmaceutical research and user friendly vaccine packages.
- Economic returns to eventual control or eradication campaigns deserves a high priority in publicly sponsored animal health research programs.
- Low-cost and easily manipulatable diagnostic tools and control technologies will also be important inputs into sustainable animal health care systems such as animal side diagnostic sets.
- Clearly, genetically based disease resistance is one of the most sustainable form of disease control.
- Investing in user-friendly parasite control methods where great promise is provided by the development of screens and traps to catch tsetse flies and control trypanosomiasis and by a new generation of pyrethroid-based insecticides with a long residual effect, which kills the flies before they can transmit the disease are methodologies for upscaling.



7.0 Viability of the Veterinary Private Practice



- Entry into the Veterinary Services market by a private practitioner will depend on whether a practice can be profitably sustained. If a favourable economic environment already exists, private profitability will depend primarily on the type of production system, the prevailing livestock density, and the extent to which economies of scale apply .
- Economies of scale are highly relevant in veterinary services, because their provision involves a large proportion of fixed costs. The provision of clinical and preventive care requires veterinarians and veterinary auxiliary personnel to travel to the points of service delivery (for example, the farm, veterinary posts, or a designated stop). In such situations, the larger the number of units of service provided to clients at each point of service delivery, the lower will be the cost per unit. Specifically, the veterinarian's fee, transportation, and other transport related costs can be spread over a larger number of animals and thus reduce per unit cost of the service. The lower the costs, the more economically attractive they become to livestock farmers .
- The provision of Veterinary Services entails significant indivisible fixed costs, veterinarians will not set up private practices unless the market for their services is large enough to sustain profitable operations. Thus, high density livestock areas will favour private sector participation, because these localities can generate a volume of demand sufficient to sustain private veterinary practice.

8.0 Wayforward

- Recognition of the role of the various actors including other professionals within the animal resource sector along the respective value chains
- There's need to develop synergies in practice and service delivery of veterinary services while focusing on serving the animal resource sector as they veterinarians and other professionals within the sector perform their respective roles while addressing animal health , food safety and trade issues in livestock, wildlife and aquatic animals including fish.
- There's need to build linkages while providing mechanisms of liaison with organizations and institutions whose functions directly or indirectly impact the animal resource industry.
- Observance of the law and code of ethics is the basis of success.
- Elimination of policies that promote unfair competition discouraging the private sector.
- Uptake of innovative research findings and institution of attractive subcontracting policies
- Establishment of mutual insurance schemes and/or producer groups, to create the funding mechanisms for the control of diseases, which cannot be funded through direct payment.
- Establishment of the enabling legislation, adapted to the conditions of the country, which will protect and stimulate private veterinary practice



END

THANK YOU