

STRATEGY FOR IMPROVING ANIMAL WELFARE AND RIGHTS IN THE LIVESTOCK SUB-SECTOR IN UGANDA

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ABSTRACT

For best performance of animals, they must be well treated. In order for the community to achieve sustainability in food systems, animals in the food system must be cared for and handled in a just way. This makes the subject of Animal Welfare and Rights very critical especially in developing countries which find themselves amidst a multiplicity of new technologies. In a situation like this policies play a big role to guide and regulate the sector. It is for this reason that we embarked on analyzing existing Animal policies and Acts. We applied the WPR method developed by Bacchi (2016). In this paper we share our findings regarding silences about various aspects of Animal Welfare and Rights, and also make strategic recommendations to inform policy.

INTRODUCTION

Uganda has about 80% smallholder farming. However, two major factors are likely to influence increasing trend from sustainable food systems towards factory farming and abuse of animal welfare. Thus, the wide spread misunderstanding of development to mean industrialization of all aspects including agricultural systems, mono-cropping and mechanization, leads policy makers and implementers to think in terms of factory/industrial farming as opposed to sustainable complex

mixed farming systems. The recent departure of big supermarkets like Shoprite and UCUMI from S.Africa and Kenya respectively has created a gap in availability of animal products, fruits and vegetables most of which previously from factory/industrial farming systems in countries of origin. As such there is a likelihood of local companies investing in factory/industrial farming to fill the apparent gap. The Centre for Ecosystems Research and Development (CERD-UGANDA) would like to arrest the situation and even address related abuse of animal welfare and rights (AWR) as well as incidence of Non-Communicable Diseases before it is too late. CERD-UGANDA shall to this in strong partnership with Brighter Green (USA) and Lawyers for Animal Protection in Africa (Kenya) among others.

From observations and literature there are various forms of animal cruelty (Ssanni, 2017). This implies that there is animal welfare and rights breach (Nassbaum, 2006), as is also shown in Figure 1. With the current economic situation, emphasis is put on profit maximization than animal welfare as is reported by Rahman et al (2005) amidst presence of Acts towards improving animal welfare and right. This analysis tackles a number of Acts as listed above, but which are quite old and therefore may not match the current conditions.



Figure 1 Animal being carried stressfully on a motor bicycle in Uganda

In this regard, the big question is, are these Acts still relevant to the current situation in Uganda? Or, could there be issues that are missing in these Acts? In addition, what is the nature of the effect of respective identified silences on the subjects?

To answer that big question, we identify the problem representations in the Acts, the silences or what was left unproblematic in these Acts that could be leading to continued animal welfare and rights abuse, as well as the effects that can or could have been caused by the stated problem representations. Finally, we develop a strategy towards animal welfare and rights. The process involved a robust analysis of the Acts following the most relevant policy analysis methodology.

From the 2021 United Nations food summit, it was emphasized that the quality and availability of food to human beings should be in relation to animals we keep in our farming systems. Since food is consumed by animals yet less food comes from animals, it is assumed that animals have become a source of food insecurity. This forces many households with animals not to provide proper nutrition and adequate food to animals, thus infringing on their welfare and rights. In the process of maximizing sustainability of food systems, animals are domesticated by humans. Activities were initiated in Uganda with the aim of understanding the policy framework towards factory farming and ensuring welfare and rights of animals in the agroecosystem.

Methods

In this analysis, we apply the method of Bacchi (1999; 2012a; 2012b; 2016;2019; Bletsas,2012), called the “What is the Problem Represented to be?” (WPR) approach. According to Bacchi, the WPR is an analytical framework for policy analysts and other professionals to reflect upon policy ‘problems’. The approach opens up space for studying specific policies and identifying a range of issues that go unnoticed. The approach follows a step-by-step analysis to tackle specific policy issue/s.

Although Bacchi recommends a set of six questions, in this analysis, we identify the most crucial aspects that need scrutiny included in three questions;

1. What are the problems represented to be in the selected Acts?
2. What is left unproblematic in these problem representations? Or Where are the silences? Can the problems be thought about differently?
3. What effects are produced by these representations of the problems?

In this regard, The WPR is a Foucault's famous poststructuralist approach to policy analysis (Fischer et al, 2015; Yanow, 2015). We utilize this approach, to analyze and to interrogate critically how the issue of animal welfare and rights is problematized/represented in the various Acts, the problems that could be nested/silenced in the problem representations and their effects.

In the first place, the solution in a policy proposal is "what the problem is understood- represented to be" (Bletsas 2012 pg 38; Bacchi, 1999; 2012a; 2012b;2019). Therefore, we analyzed the goal of each animal Acts and the concern against which this broad goal was formulated.

In the second place, we do 'a careful scrutiny of possible gaps or limitations in the identified representations of the problem, accompanied by inventive imagining of potential alternatives' (Bacchi, 2012a: pg.22). In this case, through reflexivity, we identify the various factors that may lead to policy failure yet these may not have been thought about in these Acts.

In the third place, Bacchi (2009:48; 2019) indicates three kinds of effects including "Discursive, Subjectification and Lived effects". Discursive effects connect with the policy silences because these are effects emanating from the policy discourse restrictions; how other things are said while others are left out. Subjectification effects are about power relations. How power shapes our subjectivity in a policy discourse. Problem representations have an effect on how people live their lives and these are referred to as lived effects. In this regard, the policy analysis process allowed us the opportunity to detect implications in particular problem representations that we adjudicated upon as negative or hurtful to the studied groups of people (or animals in this case) (Bacchi, 2019https://youtu.be/2WesB_p2Vc8).

CERD-UGANDA analyzed six policies to establish their consideration/guidance of Animal welfare and rights in regards to Factory/Industrial Farming. The Bacchi (2012) method was used and policies analyzed included,

- The National Livestock Policy (under review)
- The Animals Prevention of Cruelty Act (1957) Cap.39
- The Poultry Policy
- The National Agriculture Policy
- The National Organic Agriculture Policy
- The National Bio-economy Policy (Draft)
- The Animal Breeding Act (May, 2001)
- Animal Disease Act (January, 1918)
- Animal Straying Act (December, 1922)
- Branding of Stock Act (January, 1918)
- Cattle Traders Act (September, 1943)
- Cattle Grazing Act (October, 1945)
- Fish Act (April, 1951)
- Game Preservation and Control Act (September, 1959)
- Hides and Skin Export Duty Act (April, 1962)
- The Uganda Wildlife Act (August, 1996)

Results

As a result, it was established that apart from the Animal Prevention of Cruelty Act (1957), all other subsequent policies were silent about animal welfare and rights, and some guidance provided instead would make animals more oppressed. Consequently, eighty (80) recommendations were made (Sseyewa et al. 2022).

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STRATEGIC INTERVENTIONS BASED ON IDENTIFIED POLICY GAPS

In all policies considered under this study there were issues left unproblematic, except in the case of the Animals Prevention of Cruelty Act (1957). One finds it a serious omission for many subsequent policies not borrowing from this 1957 law that came very clear about animals' welfare and rights. This is more so in the case of the National Livestock

Policy which is seeking to improve the livestock sub-sector. Without offering outmost care to livestock, one would not expect the sub-sector to perform better and improve towards sustainability.

Given that the livestock policy is still under review and an agroecology strategy is being drafted, we present recommendations from this study of the livestock sub-sector for its animal welfare and rights status to feed into those on-going tasks, and also inform other related policies analyzed during this study. Presented recommendations include,

1. Mainstream Animal Welfare and Rights in relevant policies such as those analyzed in this study.
2. The National Livestock Policy should integrate regulations provided in the Animals Prevention of Cruelty Act (1957) Cap. 39. Without these, it is not possible that a sustainable sub-sector may be achieved. Thus, one cannot improve animal breeds and they perform when mistreated, fed on poisonous feeds which are full of aflatoxins, and so on.
3. Let provisions in the Animals Prevention of Cruelty Act (1957) Cap. 39 be enforced across the sub-sector. This would require building a special cadre of law enforcement personnel and legal consul to handle this task.
4. Review old Acts such that they take into consideration current social, economic and environment aspects
5. Develop mechanisms to ensure zero tolerance to corruption
6. Let livestock development plans streamline development not to mean factory or industrial animal husbandry as many people may think and so start copying Western systems. Today development is much more about sustainable systems. Sustainability means self-rejuvenating and perpetuating in the social, economic and environmental contexts. This should be the driving paradigm for future develop of the livestock sector.
7. Let breeding programmes consider Animal Welfare and rights and not only human aspirations. For example serve cows with bulls instead of artificial insemination and use molecular makers only for early and faster breed selection.
8. Broaden the range of fodder species including indigenous ones found in various ecologies of Uganda, for example by promoting fodder crop biodiverse paddocks and ranching systems. Naturally

livestock enjoys a multiplicity of fodder in the landscape. Reflecting on what happens in national parks, one wonders as to whether wild animals get the same care. The way they live and feed ensures their health. They tend to know when they are not well and then feed on different plants or anti-hill soils to heal. It is because we mess up their way of life that we have also to address challenges caused.

9. Promote communal grazing for livestock to enjoy its natural behavior by grazing out there, sun bask or wallowing among others.

10. Foster wider distribution of beehives to avoid stacks or piles of beehives which intensifies their living system and attracts pests and diseases

11. Regulate against aggregation aspects which compact animals during transportation by promoting country side abattoirs and cold storage transportation of slaughtered animal products

12. Prioritize Animal Welfare and Rights promoting value chains, like wild harvest, free range and agro-ecological practices

13. Streamline the meaning of Agro-industrialization and agribusiness which should not be understood to mean factory/ industrial animal husbandry. Wild harvest, free range and agroecology systems make very profitable agribusiness today and could be Uganda's niche.

14. Promote Wild harvest, free range, and agroecology to make Uganda more competitive in addressing these niche markets for Livestock and so sustainably deliver safe and nutritious food.

15. Facilitate installation of farm facilities that allow animals' welfare and rights, especially those close to their natural habitats, until the last minute of their life.

16. In all aspects consider animals to be an important part of the agroecosystem and so plan for their well being

17. Capacitate communities in a just and caring management of livestock, and in livestock nutrition as well as judicious use of veterinary drugs, thus avoiding misuse of human drugs in livestock and the other way round

18. Support farmers to rare resilient breeds by enhancing improvement of local breeds

19. Establish an inspections system to ensure wellness and sanitation of animal husbandry systems as this improves animal well fare and also reduces incidence of pests and diseases

20. Improve availability and access to authentic veterinary services and adopt zero tolerance to corruption
21. Develop and implement a mechanism that permits only farmers with enough space and fodder to keep big numbers of livestock, adhering to the minimum optimum unit area per animal
22. Develop and implement a mechanism for inspecting and certifying processed animal feeds so as to ensure availability of only safe and nutritious feeds to domestic animals
23. Conserve and enhance biodiversity of beneficial plants as ecosystem services for animal herbs as a natural pharmacy, and this way support promotion of indigenous knowledge in natural remedies for animal diseases
24. Enforce regulations on importation and stocking of animal drugs
25. Train as many para-vets as possible to ease access to veterinary services across the country to save lives of domestic animals
26. Institutionalize a system through which veterinary service provision is licensed and policed on a regular basis
27. Give incentives to CSO focusing on offering livestock support services so as to attract many more to get interested in backstopping the livestock sub-sector
28. Promote environment healing and extend it to livestock as well as human beings
29. Enforce multi-sectoral approaches to farming as the only way all needs of livestock can be catered for in sustainable manner, and inclusive growth of the livestock sub-sector is attained
30. Regulate establishment and management of factory farming systems for all domestic animals not only as means of ensuring animal welfare and rights, but also of ensuring health of animal husbandry systems
31. Promote niche markets for products from livestock systems which offer adequate animal welfare and are mindful of their rights
32. Research into balancing welfare and livestock rights with commercialization of livestock as a basis for developing and adopting a sustainable plan for ensuring animal welfare and rights amidst commercialization
33. Promote environment friendly animal husbandry systems, and sensitize farmers about effects of factory farming on the quality of life of animals, and hence their productivity

34. Be original in priority setting and planning at all levels and by building on indigenous knowledge
35. Recognize the value of traditional agriculture systems and related entomology for the sustainable development of the agroecosystem
36. Address the challenge of mindset that favours only imported goods and not home made products “Buy Uganda build Uganda”
37. Sensitize the community about the value of indigenous livestock
38. Increase annual funding for the agriculture sector so as to adequately develop the livestock sub-sector with what it takes for animal welfare and rights
39. Invest in appropriate technologies that are affordable to alleviate the burden from animals used to plough and carry very heavy loads
40. Train the youth to appreciate and value nature and her services as a foundation for ensuring animal welfare and rights
41. Let the ALIPO process be affordable and short such that patents/rights of innovative improvements in the livestock sub-sector, especially those enabling animal welfare and rights, be expeditiously certified
42. Let there be a local method of recognizing animal breeds before referring to ALIPO all the way in Zimbabwe.
43. Let elite animal breeds be protected and multiplied to benefit all Ugandans when identified
44. Like donation of blood is, let also elite animal germplasm be available to all, and not subjected to factory farming hidden systems
45. Elite breeds have the right to be known country wide. Let such breeds be handed over to the MAAIF-NAGRIC for their protection from over exploitation
46. Let there be legislation against bio-piracy
47. Develop a positive mindset about local breeds, like the case of the long horned cattle which was found to have superior beef quality and so highly marketable in S.Africa
48. Create more awareness about local breeds. Being robust does not mean beating or under feeding them and neglecting them.
49. Many tribal clan totems are animals, and this makes human beings respectful of their associated totem. So, respecting culture is away towards ensuring animal welfare and rights
50. Let organic standard animal welfare and rights be adopted across the livestock sub-sector, for example allowing animals freedom to

their natural behaviour and way of living

51. Irrespective of the value of animals, let them be protected from any form of abuse for purposes of being utilized such as during cultural sacrifices and rituals

52. Let the keeping of animals be specified per unit area, and a lower optimum limit provided for legislation and enforcement purpose

53. Improve storage facilities to reduce the rate at which livestock is slaughtered due to wastage

54. Develop an effective local market where animal welfare and rights is among quality requirements

55. Unprocessed products go bad easily and this reads to wastage. So, limit processed animal products taxes to promote value addition

56. Ensure tax free value addition quality technologies to boost processing and preservation of animal products

57. Wave taxes on value addition technologies with quality limits

58. Promote markets for bio-pesticides which are less toxic to animals, and so narrow the market for synthetic pesticides which currently dominate the agri-inputs market with far reaching effects on animal welfare and rights.

59. Sensitize animal farmers the danger of synthetic pesticides to their animals

60. Promote growing of naturally occurring bio-pesticide plants to mitigate their degradation

61. Sensitize and train rural people in bio-based products production. Emphasis should be put on those which off-set dependence on animals for example SOY MILK etc.

62. Let Government avail resources to support bio-based products production in rural areas

63. Let communities be sensitized about use of bio-based alternatives to usual animal products

64. Let government prioritize and fund research towards effects of climate change especially those enabling livestock to adopt to new climatic conditions

65. Direct funding to climate change be budgeted for by Government to mitigate loss of animal species due to adverse conditions that come with climate changes.

66. Identify sources of funding interested in aspects of climate change that have relationship with animal welfare and rights

67. Directly engage National Planning Authority, National Investment Authority, Private Sector Foundation Uganda, the Chamber of Commerce and the Office of the Prime Minister to have Organic Agriculture at the centre of public and private sector development agenda because it is the form of agriculture that pays attention to animal welfare and rights
68. Mainstream OA in all relevant public and private development agenda to enhance OA visibility, practice and trade in away of operationalizing the National Organic Agriculture Policy.
69. Civil Society should be sensitized about animal welfare concerns so that they include them in their environment conservation activities at least for the sake of offering safe food to local markets
70. Put in place land tenure and use systems that allow animals to access welfare and exercise their rights
71. Let communities neighboring parks have respect for their landownership system to enable them look after their livestock well
72. Promote free range management of domestic animals in areas bordering National Parks
73. Research into animal welfare and rights among communities neighboring National Parks
74. Let all animals in protected areas and especially the endangered ones access their welfare and rights
75. Sensitize herdsmen about welfare and rights of animals and train them in the best way to care
76. Strike a balance between community grazing land and National Parks land in participatory manner
77. Keep animals in their gazetted wild areas for their full enjoyment of welfare and rights
78. Protect welfare and rights of indigenous species by not introducing species with negative effects on the indigenous ones
79. Conserve hardwood timber and support fisher folk to access hardwood timber canoes for deep water fishing so that they can avoid fish capture in breeding shallow waters
80. Extend political good will to management of lakes and wetlands so as to allow aquatic organisms, enjoyment of their rights and welfare
81. Let no political arm extend custody to those polluting lakes and wetlands
82. Adopt zero tolerance to corruption in all efforts towards

- developing sustainable systems for the welfare and rights of animals
83. Promote culture of raising critical number of bulls for sexual servicing of cows
 84. Promote returning some young fish to their natural environment
 85. Government taking responsibility and ownership of such animals as well as compensating affected farmers
 86. Fair and rapid screening of diseased animals. Where possible treating those with mild infection by government
 87. Massive in situ destruction of those infected animals to prevent any form of escape and spreading the disease to healthy areas
 88. Let straying animals be confiscated for good and not returned to the owner
 89. Have cattle grazing areas defined out of human settlements like towns and cities
 90. Promote wide fencing of grazing areas
 91. Capacity to keep animals be defined and enforced
 92. Animal keepers must have enough grazing or feeding capacity for their animals (Unit grazing area be defined)
 93. Animals trespassing be looked after well instead of punishing them instead of the careless owner
 94. Use branding methods that have limited stress on animals.
 95. Branding for traceability be promoted and with appropriate enforcement, and protection of branded animals
 96. Manage bee eaters to ensure conservation of pollinators
 97. Conserve animal habitats to conserve animals
 98. Promote useful culture to support conservation of animal species
 99. Enforce quality of fishing canoes for deep water fishing.
 100. Promote conservation of hard wood timber trees in forests
 101. Put in place a mechanism for certifying hides and skins so as to disassociate poached ones from those from authorized sources
 102. Increase stringency of the hides and skins quality so as to ensure quality management of animals
 103. Put in place mechanisms to enforce respect of animal welfare and rights during transportation
 104. Wild life conservation be aligned with current social, economic and environment factors and treaties/laws
 105. Irrespective of new lifestyle, let wild life conservation be central.
 106. Commercial raising of wild life species be encouraged and

regulated to save those in game reserves and parks

Having established what remained silent and which could have been limiting policy implementation and effectiveness, we subjected them to a multi-sectoral and participatory engagement.

STRATEGIC POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS BY STAKEHOLDERS

The report on animal welfare and rights had provided a total of hundred and six (106) recommendations towards improving animal welfare and rights. In group discussions, members identified the most strategic recommendations towards animal welfare and rights policy interventions. These included:

1. Mainstream Animal Welfare and Rights in relevant policies such as those analyzed in this study.
2. The National Livestock Policy should integrate regulations provided in the Animals Prevention of Cruelty Act (1957) Cap. 39. Without these, it is not possible that a sustainable sub-sector may be achieved. Thus, one cannot improve animal breeds and they perform when mistreated, fed on poisonous feeds which are full of aflatoxins, and so on.
3. Let provisions in the Animals Prevention of Cruelty Act (1957) Cap. 39 be enforced across the sub-sector. This would require building a special cadre of law enforcement personnel and legal consul to handle this task.
4. Let livestock development plans streamline development not to mean factory or industrial animal husbandry as many people may think and so start copying Western systems. Today development is much more about sustainable systems. Sustainability means self-rejuvenating and perpetuating in the social, economic and environmental contexts. This should be the driving paradigm for future develop of the livestock sector.
5. Let breeding programmes consider Animal Welfare and rights and not only human aspirations. For example, serve cows with bulls instead of artificial insemination and use molecular makers only for early and faster breed selection.
6. Broaden the range of fodder species including indigenous ones

found in various ecologies of Uganda, for example by promoting fodder crop biodiverse paddocks and ranching systems. Naturally livestock enjoys a multiplicity of fodder in the landscape. Reflecting on what happens in national parks, one wonders as to whether wild animals get the same care. The way they live and feed ensures their health. They tend to know when they are not well and then feed on different plants or anti-hill soils to heal. It is because we mess up their way of life that we have also to address challenges caused.

7. Regulate against aggregation aspects which compact animals during transportation by promoting country side abattoirs and cold storage transportation of slaughtered animal products

8. Prioritize Animal Welfare and Rights promoting value chains, like wild harvest, free range and agro-ecological practices

9. Streamline the meaning of Agro-industrialization and agribusiness which should not be understood to mean factory/ industrial animal husbandry. Wild harvest, free range and agro-ecology systems make very profitable agribusiness today and could be Uganda's niche.

10. Promote Wild harvest, free range, and agro-ecology to make Uganda more competitive in addressing these niche markets for Livestock and so sustainably deliver safe and nutritious food.

11. Facilitate installation of farm facilities that allow animals' welfare and rights, especially those close to their natural habitats, until the last minute of their life.

12. In all aspects consider animals to be an important part of the agroecosystem and so plan for their well being

13. Support farmers to rare resilient breeds by enhancing improvement of local breeds

14. Establish an inspections system to ensure wellness and sanitation of animal husbandry systems as this improves animal well fare and also reduces incidence of pests and diseases

15. Improve availability and access to authentic veterinary services and adopt zero tolerance to corruption

16. Develop and implement a mechanism for inspecting and certifying processed animal feeds so as to ensure availability of only safe and nutritious feeds to domestic animals

17. Conserve and enhance biodiversity of beneficial plants as ecosystem services for animal herbs as a natural pharmacy, and this

way support promotion of indigenous knowledge in natural remedies for animal diseases.

18. Enforce regulations on importation and stocking of animal drugs
19. Train as many para-vets as possible to ease access to veterinary services across the country to save lives of domestic animals
20. Institutionalize a system through which veterinary service provision is licensed and policed on a regular basis.
21. Give incentives to CSO focusing on offering livestock support services so as to attract many more to get interested in backstopping the livestock sub-sector
22. Regulate establishment and management of factory farming systems for all domestic animals not only as means of ensuring animal welfare and rights, but also of ensuring health of animal husbandry systems.
23. Promote niche markets for products from livestock systems which offer adequate animal welfare and are mindful of their rights
24. Promote environment friendly animal husbandry systems, and sensitize farmers about effects of factory farming on the quality of life of animals, and hence their productivity
25. Sensitize the community about the value of indigenous livestock
26. Increase annual funding for the agriculture sector so as to adequately develop the livestock sub-sector with what it takes for animal welfare and rights
27. Train the youth to appreciate and value nature and her services as a foundation for ensuring animal welfare and rights
28. Develop a positive mindset about local breeds, like the case of the long horned cattle which was found to have superior beef quality and so highly marketable in S. Africa
29. Create more awareness about local breeds. Being robust does not mean beating or under feeding them and neglecting them.
30. Promote markets for bio-pesticides which are less toxic to animals, and so narrow the market for synthetic pesticides which currently dominate the agri-inputs market with far reaching effects on animal welfare and rights.
31. Sensitize animal farmers the danger of synthetic pesticides to their animals
32. Let government prioritize and fund research towards effects of climate change especially those enabling livestock to adopt to new

climatic conditions

To develop an appropriate strategy, workshop selected action areas were further scrutinized, synthesized and categorized. Summary categories were used as basis for crafting strategic goals and objectives. At most 8 categories were identified. These included,

- 1- Mainstream Animal Welfare and rights in all animal related policies
- 2- Promote environment friendly animal husbandry systems
- 3- Develop biodiverse flora ecosystems for ensuring wellbeing and rights of animals
- 4- Support agribusinesses that foster animal welfare and rights
- 5- Ensure authenticity of services rendered to animals especially at factory farms
- 6- Strengthen capacity of animal husbandry systems to respect animal welfare and rights
- 7- Support livestock markets to ensure adequate welfare and respect animal rights
- 8- Develop animal breeding methods that care for animal rights

Furthermore, these action areas were taken for the proposed strategic objectives and activities as presented below.

DISCUSSION, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the analysis above, many policies that relate with Animal Welfare and Rights are outdated, though still make sense. Issues of very low penalties and gaps for corruption are evident given a new society, economic and environmental situation in Uganda. Being in transition as a developing country, what is copied and is not well customized to the Ugandan situation often times becomes a problem to animal welfare and rights. We make recommendations and propose a strategic direction which is expected to turn round this situation, improve animal welfare and rights and finally increase sustainability of the animal sub-sector.

Strategic direction

GOAL

This proposed strategy is to ensure animal welfare and rights by optimizing

fairness throughout the livestock sub-sector so as to sustainably provide safe and nutritious food to consumers.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- 1-To mainstream Animal Welfare and rights in all animal related policies
- 2-To promote environment friendly animal husbandry systems
- 3-To develop biodiverse flora ecosystems for ensuring wellbeing and rights of animals
- 4-To support agribusinesses that foster animal welfare and rights
- 5-To ensure authenticity of services rendered to animals especially at factory farms
- 6-To strengthen capacity of animal husbandry systems to respect animal welfare and rights
- 7-To support livestock markets to ensure adequate welfare and respect animal rights
- 8-To develop animal breeding methods that care for animal rights

EXPECTED OUT COMES

- 1-Animal related policies guiding issues of Animal Welfare and rights
- 2-Animal husbandry systems are environment friendly
- 3-Biodiverse flora ecosystems ensure animal welfare and rights and sustainably provide safe food
- 4-Agribusinesses foster animal welfare and rights
- 5-Authentic services rendered to animals especially at factory/intensive farms
- 6-Animal husbandry systems strongly respect animal welfare and rights
- 7-Livestock markets ensure adequate animal welfare and rights
- 8-Animal breeding programmes care for animal rights

STRATEGIC ACTIVITIES

Objective 1: To mainstream Animal Welfare and rights in all animal related policies

Strategic activities:

- a. The National Livestock Policy should integrate regulations provided in the Animals Prevention of Cruelty Act (1957) Cap. 39.

Without these, it is not possible that a sustainable sub-sector may be achieved. Thus, one cannot improve animal breeds and they perform when mistreated, fed on poisonous feeds which are full of aflatoxins, and so on.

b. Let provisions in the Animals Prevention of Cruelty Act (1957) Cap. 39 be enforced across the sub-sector. This would require building a special cadre of law enforcement personnel and legal consul to handle this task.

Objective 2: To promote environment friendly animal husbandry systems

Strategic activities:

a. Consider animals to be an important part of the agroecosystem and so plan for their well being

b. Let livestock development plans streamline development not to mean factory or industrial animal husbandry as many people may think and so start copying Western systems. Today development is much more about sustainable systems. Sustainability means self-rejuvenating and perpetuating in the social, economic and environmental contexts. This should be the driving paradigm for future develop of the livestock sector.

c. Regulate against aggregation aspects which compact animals during transportation by promoting country side abattoirs and cold storage transportation of slaughtered animal products

d. Facilitate installation of farm facilities that allow animals' welfare and rights, especially those close to their natural habitats, until the last minute of their life.

Objective 3: To develop biodiverse flora ecosystems for ensuring wellbeing and rights of animals

Strategic activities:

a. Conserve and enhance biodiversity of beneficial plants as ecosystem services for animal herbs as a natural pharmacy, and this way support promotion of indigenous knowledge in natural remedies for animal diseases.

b. Broaden the range of fodder species including indigenous ones found in various ecologies of Uganda, for example by promoting fodder crop biodiverse paddocks and ranching systems. Naturally livestock

enjoys a multiplicity of fodder in the landscape. Reflecting on what happens in national parks, one wonders as to whether wild animals get the same care. The way they live and feed ensures their health. They tend to know when they are not well and then feed on different plants or anti-hill soils to heal. It is because we mess up their way of life that we have also to address challenges caused.

c. Promote production and use of vegetarian diet products from the rich indigenous biodiversity of vegetables and fruits in Uganda, such as the soy milk.

Objective 4: To support agribusinesses that foster animal welfare and rights

Strategic activities:

a. Prioritize Animal Welfare and Rights promoting value chains, like wild harvest, free range and with agro-ecological practices

b. Streamline the meaning of Agro-industrialization and agribusiness which should not be understood to mean factory/industrial animal husbandry.

c. Let Uganda chose wild harvest, free range and agro-ecology systems as her profitable agribusiness niche. Uganda is predominantly still a green country. This uniqueness should be translated into economic benefits.

d. Promote wild harvest, free range, and agro-ecology to make Uganda more competitive in addressing these niche markets for Livestock, and so sustainably deliver safe and nutritious food to her people.

e. Sensitize farmers about effects of factory farming systems on the quality of life of animals, and hence their productivity. A small animal/chicken net makes her tail abnormally bend.

f. Sensitize the community about the value of indigenous livestock. Such stock is well adapted to the environment and so resilient. This means having ability to feed on natural ecosystem provided fodder and being resistant to diseases. It translates into less use of synthetic drugs; minimizes production costs; reduces pollution of the environment with synthetic drugs; and brings safe food to the table.

g. Develop a positive mindset about local breeds, like the case of the long horned cattle which was found to have superior beef quality and so highly marketable in S. Africa

h. Create more awareness about local breeds. Being robust does not

mean beating or under feeding them and neglecting them.

Objective 5: To ensure authenticity of services rendered to animals especially at factory or intensive farms

Strategic activities:

- a. Establish an inspection system to ensure wellness and sanitation of animal husbandry systems as this improves animal well fare and also reduces incidence of pests and diseases
- b. Improve availability and access to authentic veterinary services and adopt zero tolerance to corruption as well as faking drugs, even though these services are privatized.
- c. Develop, implement and enforce a mechanism for inspecting and certifying processed animal feeds so as to ensure availability of only safe and nutritious feeds to domestic animals
- d. Effectively enforce regulations on importation and stocking of animal drugs
- e. Institutionalize a system through which veterinary service provision is licensed and policed on a regular basis.
- f. Regulate establishment and management of factory or intensive farming systems for all commercial domestic animals not only as means of ensuring animal welfare and rights, but also of ensuring sustainability and so health of animal husbandry systems.

Objective 6: Strengthen capacity of animal husbandry systems to respect animal welfare and rights

Strategic activities:

- a. Increase annual funding for the agriculture sector so as to adequately develop the livestock sub-sector with what it takes for animal welfare and rights
- b. Train the youth to appreciate and value nature and her services as a foundation for ensuring animal welfare and rights
- c. Support farmers to rare resilient breeds by enhancing improvement of local breeds
- d. Train as many para-vets as possible to ease access to veterinary services across the country to save lives of domestic animals
- e. Give incentives to CSO focusing on offering livestock support services so as to attract many more to get interested in backstopping the livestock sub-sector

- f. Sensitize animal farmers about the danger of synthetic pesticides to their animals
- g. Let government prioritize and fund research towards effects of climate change especially those enabling livestock to adopt to new climatic conditions

Objective 7: To support livestock markets to ensure adequate welfare and respect for animal rights

Strategic activities:

- a. Promote markets for bio-pesticides which are less toxic to animals, and so narrow the market for synthetic pesticides which currently dominate the agri-inputs market with far reaching effects on animal welfare and rights.
- b. Regulate and prevent use of human drugs in especially intensive livestock husbandry systems. It has been mentioned that farmers use antibiotics such as Ampicillin in poultry and ARVs in fattening/early maturity of pigs.
- c. Promote niche markets for products from proven livestock systems which offer adequate animal welfare and are mindful of their rights.

Objective 8: To develop animal breeding methods that care for animal rights

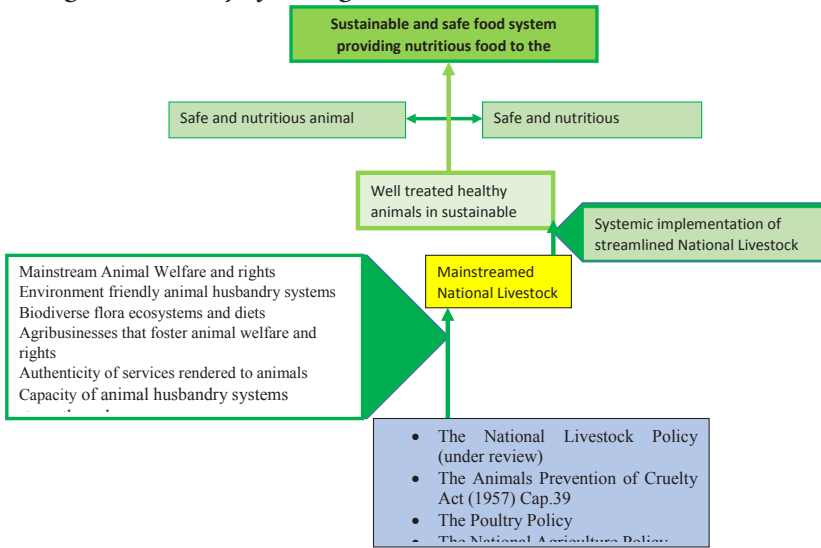
Strategic activities:

- a. Let breeding programmes consider Animal Welfare and rights and not only human aspirations. For example, serve cows with bulls instead of artificial insemination
- b. Promote use of molecular markers only for early and faster breed selection.

Theory of Change and Matrix

It is believed that by mainstreaming key aspects animal husbandry and related ecosystems into existing National Policies, the livestock sub-sector shall adequately ensure animal welfare and rights (Figure 1)

Figure 1 Theory of Change



Goal: Ensure animal welfare and rights by optimizing fairness throughout the livestock sub-sector so as to sustainably provide safe and nutritious food to consumers					
Objectives:	Out puts/comes	Verifiable Indicators	Means of Verification	Responsible	Assumptions
1-To mainstream Animal Welfare and rights in all animal related policies	At least 5 Animal related policies guiding issues of Animal Welfare and rights	Animal welfare and rights mainstreamed in five Animal related policies by 2030	MAAIF Policy briefs/reports	MAAIF Animal Production Department reports	MAAIF adopts this strategic document and implements necessary policy reviews
2-To promote environment friendly animal husbandry systems	Animal husbandry systems are environment friendly	Intensive and industrial animal husbandry systems are environmentally sound by 2030	UBOS, MAAIF and FAO Reports	MAAIF Animal Production Department reports	
3-To develop biodiverse flora ecosystems for ensuring wellbeing and rights of animals	Biodiverse flora ecosystems ensure animal welfare and rights and sustainably provide safe food	At least 50% of animal agroecosystems have rich flora biodiversity; Vegan food systems exists in Uganda by 2030	CAADP Indicators, BioDiversity Reports, Vegan Reports	MAAIF Animal Production Department reports	
4-To support agribusinesses that foster animal welfare and rights	Agribusinesses foster animal welfare and rights	Over 50% of agribusinesses follow animal welfare and rights guidelines by 2030	MAAIF DSIP reports	MAAIF Animal Production Department reports	
5-To ensure authenticity of services rendered to animals especially at factory farms	Authentic services rendered to animals especially at factory/intensive farms	All veterinary services irrespective of the husbandry system, are authentic by 2030	Veterinary Association Reports, MAAIF Animal Production Department reports	MAAIF Animal Production Department reports	
6-To strengthen capacity of animal husbandry systems to respect animal welfare and rights	Animal husbandry systems strongly respect animal welfare and rights	Over 50% of animal husbandry systems 100% respect welfare and rights by 2030	MAAIF Animal Production Department reports	MAAIF Animal Production Department reports	
7-To support livestock markets to ensure adequate welfare and respect animal rights	Livestock markets ensure adequate animal welfare and rights	All markets are 100% in respect of animal welfare and rights by 2030	MAAIF Animal Production Department reports	MAAIF Animal Production Department reports	
8-To develop animal breeding methods that care for animal rights	Animal breeding programmes care for animal rights	All animal breeding programmes are 100% compliant with animal rights policies by 2030	NAGRIC and NARO reports	NAGRIC and NARO	

Table 1 Objectively Verifiable Matrix

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