



Regional Dialogue and Investment Project on Pastoralism
and Transhumance in the Sahel and Coastal West Africa (PREDIP)

Ensuring peaceful livestock mobility

PREDIP experiments and lessons learnt





Peaceful livestock mobility, the mainstay of production and marketing systems in West Africa: Experiences and lessons from. CILSS, october 2023.

This capitalisation report on the Regional Dialogue and Investment Project for Pastoralism and Transhumance in the Sahel and Coastal Countries of West Africa (PREDIP) was prepared on the basis of experience capitalised by the project's five (5) components. The entire capitalisation process was carried out between 2021 and 2023 with the support of Inter-réseaux Développement rural.

Cover photo: Animals returning from transhumance in a waterhole in eastern Burkina Faso, Kompienga area (PRODIATA)



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Foreword



Mobile livestock production in the Sahel and West Africa is a way of life and a form of adaptation and resilience developed over thousands of years by pastoralists and agro-pastoralists to cope with the effects

of desertification and climate change, and to make the best use of the vast expanses of arid and semi-arid regions. This livestock farming system makes it possible to seek complementarities with the agro-ecological zones of the southern savannah regions through the use of pasture and water. In this way, livestock farming helps to provide substantial income for the local population and ensure food security.

The N'Djamena symposium in the Republic of Chad (May 2013) and the Nouakchott declaration in the Islamic Republic of Mauritania (October 2013) gave renewed interest to the livestock sector with the implementation of several regional initiatives such as PRAPS, PREDIP, PEPISAO financed respectively by the World Bank, the European Union and the *Agence Française de Développement* and coordinated by CILSS as well as others such as PACBAO, MOPSS, etc.

PREDIP has been operating since 2018 in eight countries, including five coastal countries (Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria and

Togo) and three Sahelian countries (Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger); its main approach is to target cross-border areas between the south of Sahelian countries and the north of coastal countries, where there is a high concentration of livestock. These areas are often conflict-ridden due to the exploitation of pastoral resources shared between users.

During the five years of implementation (2018-2023), PREDIP has recorded significant achievements and gains in the main areas covered by the project, namely:

- The regional information system on pastoralism and cross-border transhumance;
- Dialogue between stakeholders and good governance for peaceful cross-border transhumance;
- Setting up agro-pastoral infrastructure and facilities to provide access to resources and markets;
- Animal health for better control of transboundary animal diseases.

To make the most of its achievements, CILSS has opted for an innovative capitalisation approach known as «*Capitalisation au fil de l'eau or Capitalisation as we go along*», implemented for the first time within the institution. This type of capitalisation consists of continuously documenting lessons learnt and good practices throughout the implementation of the project, so that corrective action can be taken if necessary. This

type of capitalisation differs from traditional capitalisation, which generally takes place at the end of project implementation. For this purpose, CILSS benefited externally from the expertise of *Inter-réseau développement rural* from 2020 to 2023 and internally from the technical support of the Sahel Institute. This support made it possible to document **11 sheets of major interest** and to draw up the overall report on PREDIP experiments. These sheets do not represent all of PREDIP's experiments but are just a sample that the Components have deemed useful and relevant to document with a view to disseminating them widely.

Following a well-developed working methodology, the Components were mobilised through a thematic group known as the *capitalisation group*, in which all the Components were represented in order to complete the capitalisation process, the results of which are available in the sheets and report produced.

I hope that these documents will serve as a tool for communication, awareness-raising and action for those involved in pastoralism

and transhumance, researchers, teachers, students and project managers. They are also an advocacy tool for political decision-makers and partners, and I invite everyone to make the most of them. The extensive resources (studies, reports, images) that are contained in this report can help practitioners in the field to deepen their knowledge of the various issues addressed by the project, and thus contribute to thinking on livestock issues in order to overcome the many challenges facing this sub-sector. This will also contribute to more peaceful livestock mobility practices in our sub-region.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all the Components and resource persons for their important accomplishments. I am grateful for the support of *Inter-réseaux Développement rural* and INSAH for the quality of the documents produced.

Finally, I would like to thank the European Union, whose funding of PREDIP has made it possible to produce these documents, and I hope that our partnership will continue with new projects.

Dr Abdoulaye MOHAMADOU

Executive secretary of CILSS



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Acronyms and abbreviations

AEBRB	Association of cattle breeders in the Bounkani region
AFL	Acting for Life
AJELAMO	Association of Young Breeders and Modern Farmers of Odienné
ANOPER	National Association of Professional Organisations of Ruminant Breeders
APESS	Association for the Promotion of Livestock in the Sahel and Savannah
CBPP	Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia
CIKOD	Centre for Indigenous Knowledge and Organizational Development
CILSS	Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel
CNT	National Transhumance Committee
COMATAO	Transboundary animal disease control in West Africa
CONACILSS	CILSS National Committee
CRA	AGRHYMET Regional Centre
CRSA	Regional Animal Health Centre
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
FENAPFIBVTO	National Federation of Livestock and Meat Professionals of Togo
GAJEL	Group for cultural action, development and promotion of young breeders
GCRTC	Ghana Cattle Ranching and Transhumance Committee
GDCA	Ghana Developing Communities Association
GDP	Gross domestic product
GEVAPAF	Management of the Environment and Development of Agropastoral and Forestry Products
INSAH	Sahel Institute
MOPSS	Calm cross-border pastoral mobility and social stability in the Sahel
NGO	Non-governmental organisation
OP	Pastoral organisation
OPEF	Professional Organisation of Breeders in Ferkessédougou
PACBAO	Support programme for livestock marketing in West Africa
PAGR-SANAD	Project to improve governance for resilience, food and nutrition security and sustainable agriculture in West Africa
PAMOBARMA	Livestock Mobility Support Project for Better Access to Resources and Markets
PDEPS	Project for the sustainable development of pastoral farms in the Sahel
PEPISAO	Integrated and secure livestock and pastoralism in West Africa project
PI	Innovation platform
PPR	Peste des petits ruminants
PRA-GR/CC	Regional Support Programme for Natural Resource Management and Climate Change
PRADEP	Regional programme to support the development of the pastoral economy in West Africa and the Sahel
PRAPS	Sahel Regional Pastoralism Support Project
PREDIP	Regional dialogue and investment project for pastoralism and transhumance in the Sahel and coastal countries of West Africa
PRIDEC	Regional investment project for the development of livestock and pastoralism in coastal countries
PRODIATA	Regional dialogue for peaceful transhumance in West Africa project
RBM	Billital Marobé network
RECOPA	Pastoralism communication network
ROPFA	Network of West African Farmers' and Producers' Organisations
SAF	Land use planning scheme
SRIP	Regional pastoralism and transhumance information service
UEMOA	West African Economic and Monetary Union
VRBU	Regional Union Livestock Meat Sectors
VSF- B	Veterinarians without borders Belgium



Executive summary

Livestock farming plays a central role in the national and regional economies of West Africa. It accounts for up to 10-15% of the GDP of the Sahelian states¹ and contributes to the local economies of the host areas of transhumant livestock farmers². It is a major source of income and employment throughout the sector, providing up to 99% of the red meat consumed in the sub-region. Pastoral and agropastoral livestock farming systems, based on the mobility of livestock, are still largely dominant in the sub-region. Several regional pastoral development initiatives, such as the *Projet régional d'appui au pastoralisme au Sahel* or *Sahel Regional Pastoralism Support Project (PRAPS)*, the *Projet régional de dialogue et d'investissement pour le pastoralisme et la transhumance au Sahel et dans les pays côtiers de l'Afrique de l'Ouest* or *Regional dialogue and Investment Project for Pastoralism and Transhumance in the Sahel and Coastal Countries of West Africa (PREDIP)* and the *Projet Elevages et pastoralisme intégrés et sécurisés en Afrique de l'Ouest* or *Integrated and Secure Livestock Production systems and Pastoralism in West Africa Project (PEPISAO)*, have been developed and implemented by the Permanent Inter-state Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS).

PREDIP was implemented from 2018 to 2024 in 8 West African countries, including

3 Sahelian countries (Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger) and 5 coastal countries (Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria and Togo), with funding from the European Union.

PREDIP has generated significant knowledge on pastoral development and the promotion of peaceful livestock mobility in West Africa over the course of its implementation. From 2021 onwards, PREDIP has launched a capitalisation process to document, analyse and share certain experiences and lessons learnt from the project on an ongoing basis, so that they can be used as a decision-making aid for future regional interventions on pastoralism.

The 5 PREDIP Components received support from Inter-réseaux Développement rural and contributions from resource persons at the Sahel Institute (INSAH), the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to produce experience capitalisation sheets that served as the basis for this report.

The capitalisation process highlighted the project's achievements. Through the implementation of flagship actions aimed at contributing to more peaceful livestock mobility, the Components have uncovered useful lessons and best practices to be shared widely, but also major challenges to be met

1 ECOWAS Commission, 2022. What scenarios for mobile livestock production systems in 2040? Note de synthèse sur la prospective élevage en Afrique de l'Ouest: <https://www.inter-reseaux.org/wp-content/uploads/Note-de-synthese-sur-la-prospective-elevage-en-Afrique-de-l'Ouest-FR-3-1.pdf>

2 AFL-NGC, Brigitte THEBAUD, 2017. Pastoral and agro-pastoral resiliencies in the Sahel: portraits of transhumance 2014-2015 and 2015-2016: https://www.inter-reseaux.org/wp-content/uploads/afl_etude_resilience_juin2017_abregefr.pdf

in order to ensure the sustainability of these actions. Synergies between components and with other regional initiatives on pastoralism have helped to increase the impact of actions by pooling expertise and resources, as well as encouraging the adoption of common tools and approaches, and should be strengthened.

The in-depth analysis of eleven (11) experiments provides more operational elements in terms of success factors to be considered, obstacles and constraints to be overcome, and levers for sustaining and scaling up these experiments. This global report summarises the experiments carried out by the Components on: interactive radio broadcasts to raise awareness amongst livestock farmers (Component 1); multi-actor innovation platforms for natural resource management, revitalising national transhumance committees in Sahelian countries, transforming the Ghana Cattle Ranching Committee into the Ghana Cattle Ranching and Transhumance Committee, and providing legal and judicial assistance to livestock farmers (Component 2); securing livestock tracks, monitoring and managing

agro-pastoral facilities, setting up an inter-communal body, and contractualisation between POs and inter-community groups (Component 3); regional coordination of vaccination campaigns (Component 4); and lastly, setting up administrative focal points (Component 5).

The «ongoing» capitalisation process, which is itself a PREDIP innovation, also formed the subject matter of a feedback report. It has helped to build the capacity of the stakeholders, through the assisted management of the capitalisation process, and has enabled many methodological lessons to be learnt that will be useful in gradually improving and stabilising this experimental approach.

It is extremely important to share and exploit the results of the PREDIP capitalisation process to ensure that they are useful and can be used for future initiatives to promote peaceful livestock mobility, which is the key to economic growth in production and marketing systems in West Africa.



Grouping of small ruminants during vaccination against PPR, DSV Ghana (Lamine Dia)

The herd returns to the campsite, to the delight of the calves, Banfora, Burkina Faso (Lamine Dia)



Introduction

The N'Djamena Colloquium and the Nouakchott Declaration of 2013 set out the broad policy guidelines for the development of pastoralism in West Africa. Several initiatives have been launched since then, including the PRAPS, PREDIP, PEPISAO, the *Programme d'appui à la commercialisation du bétail en Afrique de l'Ouest* (Livestock marketing support programme in West Africa) (PACBAO), the *Mobilité transfrontalière pastorale apaisée et stabilité sociale au Sahel* (Peaceful cross-border pastoral mobility and social stability in the Sahel) (MOPSS) project, and others are currently being formulated. Their implementation is generating important information and knowledge on agro-pastoral facilities, frameworks for dialogue on transhumance, information systems on pastoralism and animal health. This information can be used in knowledge management, by highlighting success stories and identifying failures, in order to draw useful lessons for ongoing projects and the formulation of new initiatives.

Pastoral and agro-pastoral systems are still predominant in West Africa. The mobility of livestock allows exploiting the agro-ecological complementarities of the sub-region and contributes to the integration of economies and territories. Although the economic, social and environmental role of pastoralism has been recognised, the sustainability of this mobile livestock farming system is now being called into question. Changes in land use due to demographic pressure and changes in land tenure systems, changes in agrarian systems, civil insecurity, the tightening of certain national regulations and climate change are all increasing obstacles to pastoral mobility.

In this context, the sharing of experiences and best practices in pastoral development is of vital importance. By capitalising on and making the most of its experience, PREDIP intends to contribute to enriching the thinking of national and regional stakeholders and their partners in the field of livestock and pastoralism, in order to promote peaceful livestock mobility.



Map 1 - Livestock mobility in the PAMOBARMA intervention zone, PREDIP Component 3 (AFL)

PREDIP

The Regional Dialogue and Investment Project for Pastoralism and Transhumance in the Sahel and Coastal Countries of West Africa (PREDIP) was implemented from 2018 to 2024 in 8 West African countries, including 3 Sahelian countries (Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger) and 5 coastal countries (Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria, and Togo). This regional project has been funded by the European Union to the tune of €25 million.

The overall objective of the project was to strengthen the contribution of pastoralism and cross-border transhumance to food and nutrition security, equitable socio-economic development and regional integration in West Africa.

To achieve this overall objective, 4 specific objectives were defined:

- i. Contribute to facilitating and improving decision-making in the field of pastoralism and transhumance.
- ii. Facilitating peaceful cross-border transhumance and improving nutrition.
- iii. Securing the mobility of herds and their access to pastoral resources and markets.
- iv. Help reduce cross-border animal diseases that have an impact on animal and human health.

These 4 specific objectives formed the Operational Components of the project, each coordinated by different service providers with their own intervention framework:

- i. The Centre Régional AGRHYMET** (AGRHYMET Regional Centre) (CRA) was responsible for implementing PREDIP Component 1 entitled «*Service régional d'information sur le pastoralisme et la transhumance*» (Regional Pastoralism and Transhumance Information Service) (SRIP).
- ii. Care International Denmark**, with a consortium of partners (SNV, APSS, ROPPA, RBM), implemented Component 2 entitled «Regional dialogue for peaceful transhumance in West Africa project» (PRODIATA);
- iii. Acting for Life**, with a consortium of partners (RECOPA, URFBV, GAJEL, OPEF, AEERB, AJELAMO, AREN, ANOPER, CIKOD, GDCA, APSS-Nigeria, GEVAPAF, FENAPFIBVTO, VSF-B), implemented Component 3 entitled «*Projet d'Appui à la Mobilité du Bétail pour un Meilleur Accès aux Ressources et aux Marchés*» (Livestock Mobility for Better Access to Resources and Markets Support Project) (PAMOBARMA) with co-funding from the *Agence Française de Développement*;
- iv. The Regional Animal Health Centre** (RAHC) has implemented Component 4 entitled « Transboundary Disease Control in West Africa» (COMATAO).

Component 5 (Regional Coordination) has been entrusted to the CILSS Executive Secretariat to coordinate the project as a whole and ensure the coherence of interventions.

During its 5 years of implementation, PREDIP has generated a wealth of knowledge that it has deemed useful to document and disseminate widely in order to serve as a decision-making aid for future regional action on pastoralism. To achieve this, from 2021 PREDIP has set up a system for capitalising on experience «on an on-going basis», led by the Regional Coordination Component, with support from *Inter-réseaux Développement rural* and contributions from resource persons at the Sahel Institute (INSAH), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA).

As the project is implemented, «ongoing capitalisation» is an approach which consists of collecting data, evidence and perceptions on the practices, approaches and experiences put in place. The aim is to document and analyse the project's achievements, success factors, obstacles encountered, and solutions envisaged on an ongoing basis. In this way, the lessons learnt can feed into the project's

guidelines during its implementation, and gradually build up a collective memory so that best practices can be shared widely, helping to improve the impact of interventions and making them scalable.

Promoting peaceful livestock mobility is a specificity of PREDIP, due to its global approach to pastoral development and its scope of intervention covering both coastal and Sahelian countries. The 5 PREDIP components are aware of the importance of mobility in livestock production and marketing systems in West Africa and have therefore decided to target certain relevant experiences for documentation. Each component carried out a process of data collection and analysis in order to draw up experience capitalisation sheets that served as the basis for this report. The writing and rereading workshops, as well as the contributions of the resource persons mobilised throughout the capitalisation process, have enriched the analyses, and highlighted the lessons learnt.



Keppi cross-border meeting in Nigeria, 2019 (RBM/PRODIATA)

This capitalisation report is organised in three parts. It highlights some of PREDIP's achievements in contributing to peaceful livestock mobility in West Africa (part 1) and summarises 11 experiences capitalised on by the Components (part 2). Feedback on the 'ongoing' capitalisation process (part 3) provides a number of lessons that will be useful for CILSS and other stakeholders wishing to replicate this participatory and experimental methodological approach. Finally, the reader will find a series of complementary documents to learn more about PREDIP's experiences and lessons learnt.



1

**PREDIP
achievements**

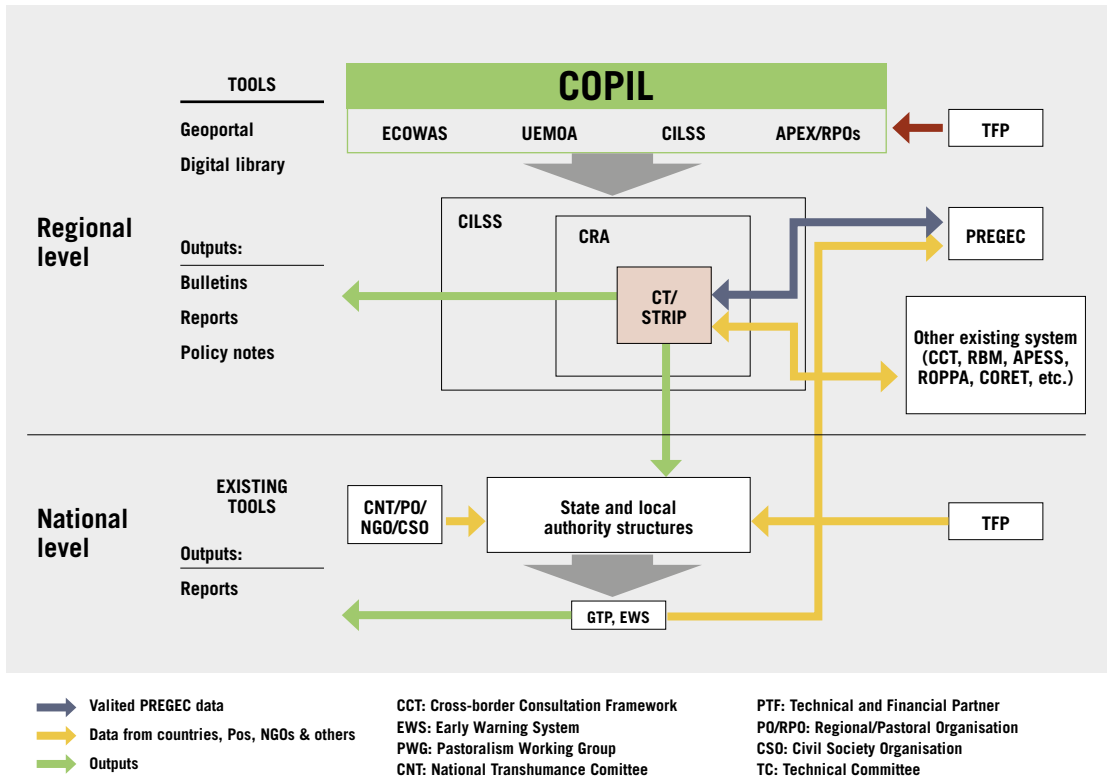


1.1. Flagship actions by the Components to promote peaceful mobility

During the capitalisation process, the Components sought to identify and document the actions through which they had contributed to the peaceful mobility of livestock in West Africa. This section briefly presents the flagship actions selected. The summaries of the capitalised experiences (part 2 of the report) and the thirteen (13) complete capitalisation sheets (referenced at the end of the document) provide more detailed information on the lessons learnt and the best practices to be taken into account.

Component 1 (C1)

Regional pastoralism and transhumance information service (SRIP)



Access to reliable information and data on the livestock sector (numbers of transhumant animals; departure points, corridors used and reception areas; contribution to local and national economies and job creation; investments made; farmer/herder conflicts) remains a real challenge for defining appropriate policies and strategies. To resolve this situation, ECOWAS, UEMOA, CILSS and their partners have decided to set up the ***Observatoire régional des systèmes d'élevage mobiles en Afrique de l'Ouest et au Sahel*** (Regional Observatory of Mobile Livestock Systems in West Africa and the Sahel) (OSEMAOS), a decision-making tool to effectively regulate mobile livestock production systems. At the heart of OSEMAOS is the SRIP, which is intended to serve as an information platform on mobile livestock systems.

- ***Data collection for the Regional Observatory of Mobile Livestock Farming Systems***

To feed the information system at the heart of OSEMAOS, PREDIP Component 1 has contributed to data collection (macro-economic situation, environment, animal health, securing pastoral areas, water points, legal frameworks, etc.). To this end, Livestock Ministry officials in the Dosso and Maradi regions have been trained in data collection techniques using smartphones. The Observatory has not yet been fully set up, but the data is now integrated into the States' regular data collection procedures.

- ***Raising awareness amongst livestock farmers through community radio stations***

Interactive radio programmes were organised in the Dosso and Maradi regions to raise awareness amongst herders of the regulations governing transhumance and the management of conflicts linked to the use of natural resources in order to promote peaceful mobility. Key messages have been produced, translated into local languages, and broadcast through partnerships with community radio stations to ensure that the messages are as close as possible to the users. This pilot experiment will need to be scaled up, using the community radio stations in the Kebbi-Alibori-Dosso (KADO) area as examples.



- ***Setting up the Geoportal***

The Geoportal is a platform providing access to all information relating to mobile livestock farming systems, in order to promote the peaceful mobility of livestock through informed decision-making. Component 1 has provided training in the use of the Geoportal, but capacity-building efforts are still needed to ensure that stakeholders master the Geoportal database management system.

- ***Benin Community Radio Network***

In order to set up the community radio network in Benin, Component 1 collected technical data on the radios (locality, range, language, accessibility, pastoral information section). This network was intended to establish contacts between radio stations in Niger, Nigeria, and Benin, but Benin's ban on cross-border transhumance was a hindrance. The training of journalists and the ongoing production of content will be necessary to ensure the dissemination of information targeted at transhumants after the project.

Component 2 (C2)

Regional project dialogue for peaceful transhumance in West Africa (PRODIATA)

- ***High-level meetings on cross-border transhumance***

PRODIATA has organised three high-level meetings with CILSS projects involved in pastoralism (PREDIP, PRAPS, PEPISAO) and ECOWAS (one of which brought together only the G5 Sahel countries). These meetings gave the States a clear view of the situation of the transhumance campaigns and the POs a forum to share their situations and expectations. They also encouraged discussions on the strategies to be deployed to ensure peaceful transhumance, including the formalisation of *National Transhumance Committees* (CNT) in Niger, Côte d'Ivoire, and Mali. But

implementation of the recommendations has been limited, and the Covid-19 pandemic has brought the meetings to a halt. The banning and suspension of transhumance by certain countries led to the organisation of more targeted meetings. Insecurity is also an obstacle to continued dialogue. It is crucial to better document the socio-economic role of mobile livestock farming in order to fuel future advocacy, and to improve our knowledge of transhumant herd statistics in order to better inform host countries with a view to the peaceful management of transhumance.

- **Cross-border meetings**

PRODIATA supported the organisation of the Kebbi cross-border meeting and the Maradi pastoral week. These cross-border consultation frameworks facilitate consultation on the planning of transhumance campaigns and strengthen exchanges and social links to minimise the risk of conflict and contribute to better management of animal mobility. However, financial limitations prevent such meetings from being held on a regular basis and the actions planned by the cross-border frameworks from being implemented effectively. The mobilisation of endogenous financial resources and the support of the States should make it possible to support the organisation of these meetings.

- **Capacity-building for transhumance committees**

In Burkina Faso, the provincial transhumance committees of Comoé, Sissili and Nahouri, and the regional committee for the east of the country, have benefited from capacity-building on national and EU legislation governing transhumance, and on conflict prevention and management, to enable them to inform transhumant herders more effectively and play an active part in the

peaceful management of transhumance. Nevertheless, consideration needs to be given to a sustainable funding strategy to enable the implementation of actions in favour of transhumance (investments, capacity building, etc.).

- **Setting up multi-stakeholder innovation platforms for natural resource management**

Two multi-stakeholder innovation platforms (IPs) have been set up in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana. They incorporate the remit of the decentralised bodies of the national transhumance committees, which are not yet operational in these countries, and help to monitor transhumance campaigns to ensure peaceful management of access to shared resources. The local roots of the IPs also make it easier to gather information, promote exchanges and mutual trust between stakeholders, and raise awareness amongst transhumant herders. The challenge remains to ensure sustainable funding for the actions of these platforms, by mobilising endogenous resources and/or resources from local authorities. The IPs will need to link up with the CNTs if they are to continue to play their role.



Cross-border meeting (RBM/PRODIATA)

Component 3 (C3)

Livestock Mobility Support Project for Better Access to Resources and Markets (PAMOBARMA)

- ***Securing livestock tracks***

The aim of securing tracks is to facilitate livestock movements by ensuring access to pastures, watering points and rest areas. The experience of the PAMOBARMA programme has shown the importance of social engineering throughout the process, as well as the implementation of sustainable mechanisms (monitoring committees, development of management rules). Political decisions to close borders and restrict the movement of livestock, and the worsening security situation with the inaccessibility of several areas, were major obstacles. The funding of regional projects and the implementing partners' grasp of the issues are opportunities to continue this work.

- ***Setting up inter-community partnerships***

The establishment of inter-community partnerships ensures that activities are institutionally anchored and facilitates the mobility of livestock across a territory. PAMOBARMA's experience has shown the importance of defining technical systems for monitoring agro-pastoral facilities at inter-communal level, as well as contracts between producer organisations (POs) and

inter-communal bodies to ensure supervision of the system. However, changes in the political context may have a negative impact on the functionality of the inter-community partnerships. To pursue this approach, it is advisable to rely on legislation on decentralisation, and on the partnerships that already exist in certain territories.

- ***Contractualisation between OPs and inter-communal groups***

The contract between OPs and intermunicipal bodies aims to ensure the sustainability and functionality of agro-pastoral facilities and infrastructure. PAMOBARMA's experience has shown the advantages of this approach: improved monitoring of infrastructures, increased revenue from certain market infrastructures, better understanding of the dynamics of the commodity chain in a given area, consolidation of a community of interests around the value chain. However, the slowness with which inter-communal bodies have been set up in some countries has hampered the process of contractualisation with OPs. The fact that the process is led by the stakeholders themselves is a guarantee of the sustainability of this approach (some OP/inter-community contracts were signed after the end of the project).

Component 4 (C4)

Transboundary Disease Control in West Africa (COMATAO)

- ***Regional coordination of vaccination campaigns***

Organising joint vaccination campaigns helps to ensure somewhat peaceful movement of livestock. Coordination between the veterinary services of the sending and receiving countries and taking into account the dates of departure for transhumance, helps to improve vaccination coverage and reassure the receiving countries. COMATAO's regional approach and multi-party exchange meetings have been major assets. The gradual harmonisation of the vaccination campaign schedules of the various ECOWAS Member States and their alignment with the mobility schedules of transhumant animals should be pursued in order to enhance the peaceful mobility of livestock.

- ***Transboundary animal disease control***

COMATAO has helped to increase vaccination coverage of livestock, particularly for peste des petits ruminants (PPR) and contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP), thereby reducing

their spread and the associated losses. The active involvement of livestock farmers and their organisations in preparing and organising the vaccination campaigns has been decisive in encouraging their support and achieving this result. Nevertheless, challenges remain in terms of marking animals and mobilising resources in certain countries to ensure adequate health protection for livestock.

- ***Seromonitoring***

Knowing the immune status of vaccinated animals is crucial to reassure the host countries of transhumant livestock farmers and ensure peaceful mobility. To this end, COMATAO has promoted the adoption of seromonitoring to ensure the effectiveness of vaccination and detect any problems (incorrect administration of the vaccine, cold chain problems). Mobilising financial resources remains a challenge to support these efforts, in particular by investing in technician training and the availability of diagnostic kits.



Official launch of the vaccination campaign against CBPP, Mali (Lamine Dia)

Component 5 (C5)

Regional coordination

- *Advocating for livestock farming*

Component 5, led by CILSS, has carried out advocacy work in countries in favour of mobile livestock production, in collaboration with ECOWAS and UEMOA. Technical Committee meetings have served as a framework for advocacy, particularly in coastal countries. The PREDIP focal points acted as interlocutors. The results of studies on the perception of transhumance and its socio-economic benefits, concrete achievements such as livestock markets and their economic spin-offs, and regional animal health strategies have helped to fuel advocacy. Insecurity and the persistence of a poor perception of transhumance are obstacles to convincing coastal countries. PREDIP must continue to build on its achievements in order to foster policy dialogue with all stakeholders.

- *Setting up focal points*

The focal points were set up by Component 5 in collaboration with the 8 intervention countries. They act as an interface between PREDIP implementers, the ministries in charge of livestock and other stakeholders to facilitate the implementation of activities, the circulation of information and the appropriation of project actions by the countries. Other pastoralism projects (PRAPS, PEPISAO) have also called on these focal points to facilitate the implementation of their activities in the countries. However, their full mobilisation is limited by time and resource constraints. It would be appropriate to set up the focal points as a focal structure with substantial logistical and human resources, firmly anchored in the administrative system of the ministries concerned.



Visit to the Gumki livestock market, Nigeria, by CILSS, ECOWAS, the focal point and Kebbi local authorities (PREDIP/CILSS)

- *Support for Components*

Component 5 provided institutional and technical support to the other PREDIP Components. CILSS' high profile, through the CONACILSS, and the mobilisation of the focal points have made it possible to remove several constraints, facilitate the acceptance of implementing actors and the active mobilisation of countries to carry out activities (e.g. innovation platforms, consultation frameworks, agro-pastoral facilities). Efforts should be made to improve planning in order to strengthen support and synergies. This is all the more important as the full participation of local people, technical services, focal points and local authorities is a guarantee of the sustainability of actions.

- *International and regional meetings on pastoralism*

Building on PREDIP's achievements and the added value of its area of intervention (covering coastal and Sahelian countries), Component 5 has been actively involved in meetings and discussions on pastoralism: the ECOWAS outlook on mobile livestock farming, the Accra initiative, high-level meetings, cross-border meetings, dissemination of African Union guidelines on securing pastoralism, formulation of PRIDEC and PRADEP. However, the decision by some countries to restrict cross-border transhumance and the poor application of regional texts limit the scope of international and regional dialogue meetings. It therefore appeared useful to focus on strengthening cross-border cooperation and grassroots communication capacities.



1.2. Working together to promote peaceful mobility

PREDIP has tried to develop synergies of action in order to fit in with the various regional initiatives on pastoralism, and to seek greater complementarity with them.

Internally, synergies have been developed between the various components:

- **Between C2 and C3 on consultation and cooperation frameworks:** discussions and strategic thinking on the complementarities of the various frameworks (innovation platform, cross-border and inter-communal consultation frameworks) and on the synergies between the various community watch-keeping relay mechanisms.
- **Between C3 and C4 on complementary action in terms of health and veterinary infrastructures,** with a memorandum of understanding.
- **Between C1 and C3 on GIS training:** strengthening the technical mapping skills of partner organisations and local authorities.
- **Between C1 and C4 on the animal health database:** support for digitising survey questionnaires and training in data collection using Kobotoolbox.
- **Between C1 and C2 on cross-border meetings:** sharing of information and evidence (fodder balances, occurrence of bush fires, water points) in order to enhance stakeholders' understanding of the issues, dialogue and advocacy.
- **Between C5 and C2 for setting up innovation platforms** through the mobilisation of authorities and official recognition of platforms;
- **Between C5 and C3 on Kebbi pastoral infrastructure and development** (institutional facilitation to remove obstacles to infrastructure development).

The synergies between the Components have enhanced the effectiveness and efficiency of certain activities by mobilising the respective expertise of the different partners, as well as learning through the sharing of experiences, methodologies and tools.

These synergies have nevertheless been limited by a number of factors: the specific intervention logic of each Component and their variable duration, the disparity of the implementing partners (regional institutions or consortium of NGOs) with different approaches, and the limitations and rigidities linked to budget forecasts. Promoting a more programmatic approach, with the identification of areas of synergy right from the project design stage and strengthening coordination and communication mechanisms would help to foster greater synergies.

Externally, synergies have also been developed between PREDIP and other regional projects on pastoralism.

Important collaborations have been forged with PRAPS 2 and PEPISAO:

- Technical and financial support for the organisation of cross-border meetings and pastoral weeks, high-level meetings on transhumance and CNT meetings.
- Operationalisation of the Geoportal and digital library, and of the regional observatory on mobile livestock farming systems.
- Definition of a regional indicator on the evolution of conflicts through the implementation of regional pastoralism projects.
- Support for the collection of data for the timely preparation of annual fodder balances under PRAPS 2.
- Sharing experience with PRAPS 2 on best practices in implementing national strategy plans against PPR and CBPP and improving impact indicators.
- Pooling of resources for the organisation of annual meetings of the Regional Animal Health Networks (CRSA) with PRAPS 2.

Other partnerships have been set up, with PAGR-SANAD on the definition and measurement of the food and nutritional security indicator, with MOPSS for the training of magistrates and judicial actors and with PDEPS on the training of Burkina Faso officials in using GIS to produce forage balances.

The actions implemented with other projects and programmes have enabled economies of scale to be achieved through the pooling of resources. They have also fostered support for, and widespread adoption of, common tools and approaches. However, they do come up against difficulties in arranging agendas and budgetary limits, especially as the areas of collaboration are implemented after the projects have been designed, with limited flexibility.

2

Capitalised experiments

PREDIP's «ongoing» capitalisation process has made it possible to document and thoroughly analyse 11 experiments carried out by the 5 Components. The 11 capitalised experiences are summarised here. The full versions of these capitalisation sheets can be consulted online (see part 5 - Going further).



FORM 01.C1

Interactive radio programmes

Leveraging farmers' access to reliable information for better decision-making

Livestock farmers and agro-pastoralists in West Africa have limited access to reliable, real-time information in the field. The aim of the Regional Pastoral Information Service (SRIP) is to improve their access to information, so that they can optimise their tactical and strategic herd management choices and reduce the risk of conflict with farmers. To ensure that the technical information produced under the SRIP is widely disseminated and to raise awareness amongst livestock farmers, interactive radio programmes have been organised and broadcast, in collaboration with community radio stations, in the Dosso and Maradi regions of Niger.

A preliminary survey highlighted the information needs expressed by livestock farmers (climatic forecasts, availability of fodder resources, watering points, health and safety risks, market situation) and guided the choice of themes for the interactive broadcasts (prevention and management of conflicts between farmers and livestock farmers, regulation of cross-border transhumance).

A partnership has been established with the national radio coordinations to supervise and train the presenters. The community radio stations produced technical content in local languages, focusing on practical advice, SRIP seasonal forecasts, transhumance rules and conflict management. By targeting guests, it was possible to ensure the participation of at least one stakeholder at each decision-making level (decision-makers, technicians, livestock farmers) in order to respond to the various concerns of livestock farmers during interactive broadcasts.



Results of the experiment

A total of 99 interactive programmes were produced in the Maradi and Dosso regions of Niger, and broadcast 3,300 times with over 200 listeners per programme.

According to the testimonies gathered, these broadcasts have had a significant impact on the information and understanding of listeners, by enabling them to put their questions directly to the guest technicians. Livestock farmers and agropastoralists have improved their knowledge of their rights and duties, fostering better cohabitation. This has resulted in the respect of field boundaries, the amicable resolution of damage caused by livestock, the acquisition of land tenure documents and a reduction in conflicts.

Listeners have also improved their technical knowledge of yield improvement and

vaccination. The people involved in the broadcasts have also improved their public speaking and listening skills, and now know where to look for information.

What the stakeholders have to say

«I was about to get into a fight with a farmer when he reminded me of what the radio says: good cohabitation and non-violence.»

«On his return from Nigeria, a herder came to thank the radio station and the livestock services for their advice, which enabled him to vaccinate his animals. Those who didn't do so came back without a single head of cattle.»



Success factors

- **Experience of the community radio stations:** Their knowledge of the terrain, meticulous preparation of the programmes and judicious choice of speakers all contributed to the success of the experiment;
- **Mobilisation of partners:** The support of SRIP/PREDIP, local authorities and livestock breeders' associations played a key role in the production and broadcasting of the interactive programmes;
- **Multi-disciplinary guests:** The interactive programmes, in the local language, enabled listeners to put questions directly to technicians in the field, thus improving their understanding of the subjects covered;
- **Collaboration with decentralised government technical services:** The regular participation of officials from decentralised technical services during broadcasts has strengthened collaboration between community radio stations and the public authorities.



Difficulties and constraints encountered

- **Financial and material constraints:** The lack of financial resources and adequate equipment was a challenge for the production of the programmes. Solutions have been found, such as the provision of reporting equipment and solar panels.
- **Programme format:** The limited length of the broadcasts was identified as an obstacle, necessitating an extension of the broadcast duration.
- **Geographical coverage and connectivity:** The lack of a telephone network in some areas and the radio's poor geographical coverage posed challenges. Partnerships have been set up to extend coverage, in particular through the rebroadcasting of programmes by other media.
- **Stakeholder reluctance:** Some stakeholders, particularly traditional leaders, expressed initial reluctance to answer certain questions. Working with the local authorities and raising awareness helped to overcome these difficulties.
- **Human resource requirements:** The limited availability of local language presenters and qualified staff was a challenge.



Sustainability and scaling up

A major challenge is the uncertainty as to whether the broadcasts will be financially supported after the project. The financial autonomy of community radio stations could be strengthened through the broadcasting of paid advertising pages or press releases. Financial support from the State and local authorities would also be necessary, taking advantage of available press aid funds.

The experience gained from this pilot experiment provides a solid basis for scaling up. Organising exchange trips between radio stations, sharing experiences and enriching the programme schedule are all possibilities for improving the quality of debates and disseminating best practices. Scaling up will nevertheless require ensuring the involvement of all stakeholders, the availability of expertise at community radio level, and the necessary resources and technical equipment.



Component 2 (C2): Regional project dialogue for peaceful transhumance in West Africa (PRODIATA)

FORM 02.C2

Legal and judicial assistance for farmers

An effective tool for securing land tenure

Legal assistance for herders, which has been promoted by AREN and the RBM since 2014, aims to secure livestock farmers' land rights and thwart pastoral land grabbing. The approach in the Dosso and Tillabéry regions of Niger has involved training various local stakeholders in land rights and laws relating to transhumance and pastoralism, and supporting herders to access legal and administrative institutions in their country. Training began in 2019 in Dosso and has been extended to Tillabéry following the adoption of the Schémas d'Aménagement Foncier or Land Use Planning Schemes (SAF) in 2018 and 2021. The SAFs, which identify the areas reserved for various rural activities and the associated rights, are an essential part of the legal assistance provided to livestock farmers.



Photo 9 - Speech by Ms Cissé at the training workshop for judicial actors in Sikasso, Mali, November 2022 (APESS/PRODIATA)



Results of the experiment

Between 2019 and 2022, the **capacity-building** activities have enabled 1,385 livestock farmers and local stakeholders, 50 magistrates and 32 judicial auditors to be trained in pastoral land management and cross-border transhumance. This training has changed their perception of the problems associated with these issues and their management methods. Herders, who used to have recourse to violence to protect their

rights, now use legal means, as illustrated by the example of the herders of Gaya (Niger). The legal system, which used to declare itself incompetent in pastoral land disputes, is now more willing to deal with such cases. The administrative and political authorities, previously lax in their management of pastoral land, are now more involved in securing these areas, as illustrated by the cases of Kollo and Karey Gorou (Niger).

The example of the Gaya breeders

In August 2022, the livestock breeders of the Département of Gaya (Dosso region), who had been trained by RBM, lodged an appeal with the Public Prosecutor at the Gaya court on the grounds that the passage corridors were being obstructed and a grazing area was being encroached upon by crop fields planted by farmers. The public prosecutor asked the offender to comply with the decision of the departmental land commission, which prohibits the cultivation of this disputed area.

Since 2014, AREN's **legal action** has resulted in the sale of 8,537 ha out of 1,500 ha claimed being cancelled, with only 26 successful registrations out of 162 objections. Recently, three cases brought before the courts resulted in the recovery of 1,750 hectares for 2,072 breeders. These efforts are designed to discourage land grabbing. In the long term, they will help to reduce conflicts and establish a climate of peace to ensure equitable access to land resources.



Success factors

Internally, AREN's experience in Niger in providing legal and judicial assistance since 2014, its extensive network of herders, and the availability of a legal assistant and a law firm were essential. The project's implementation has highlighted a number of good practices:

including having a legal assistant within the team, creating meeting frameworks for the various stakeholders in pastoral land tenure, having suitable training tools, and conducting a participatory and inclusive process.

In terms of external factors, the adoption of the **Schémas d'Aménagement Foncier** (SAF) in the target regions was crucial, as they are key reference points for the rights of rural stakeholders. AREN's local presence and a favourable political and institutional environment meant that the relevant

stakeholders were heavily involved, thus facilitating a shared understanding of the problems of transhumance and a change in attitudes. Finally, legal and judicial assistance provides a concrete response to the needs of livestock farmers in a context of often violent conflicts linked to transhumance.



Difficulties and constraints met

The experiment was met with difficulties, in particular the production of irrefutable proof of the pastoral vocation of the disputed areas. However, the adoption of the **Schémas d'Aménagement Foncier** (SAF) made it easier to identify the areas concerned. Insecurity, as well as the costs involved in moving around have made it difficult to inspect the grabbed areas on the ground, which requires the

presence of defence and security forces to ensure safety and security. The slow pace of judicial deliberations, due to a lack of human resources in the judiciary, was also a problem. The government has been lobbied to address this situation, calling for a massive recruitment of judges to resolve the slowness of judicial proceedings.



Sustainability and scaling up

A favourable political and institutional environment, as well as the willingness and ability of stakeholders to resolve land issues, are essential if this experience is to be replicated. The prerequisites for replication include extending the **Schémas d'Aménagement Foncier** (SAF) to all regions, support for field missions from the Defence and Security Forces in a context of insecurity, and ongoing monitoring of legal cases.

To ensure sustainability, the training of local paralegals in legal texts and procedures is recommended. In addition, local authorities are advised to make the defence of transhumant herders' rights a priority and to include this issue in their communal development plans (PDC) so that they are in a position to fund similar experiments. Finally, the training of young magistrates in pastoral land issues deserves greater attention, as it offers the opportunity to train new cohorts each year.



FORM 03.C2

Revitalising national transhumance committees in Sahelian countries (C2)

A major challenge for the governance of cross-border transhumance

The public authorities in the host countries of transhumant herders, notably Togo and Benin, have set up the transhumance management structures recommended by ECOWAS member countries. In both countries, ministerial decrees have been issued to set up and define the organisation, powers, and operation of transhumance committees responsible for coordinating transhumance activities at national, departmental, communal and district levels. In the Sahelian countries, however, the process of setting up National Transhumance Committees (NTCs) has been slower.

PRODIATA has supported the finalisation of the process of setting up and formalising the CNTs in Niger and Mali and the development of three-year action plans for the three CNTs in Burkina, Mali and Niger financed by PRAPS. In particular, support was directed towards the CNT branches located in the border areas of these Sahelian countries, so that they could fully play their role in organising and facilitating cross-border transhumance with coastal countries. The task of the CNT branches is to make information on the conditions of transhumance available to stakeholders, to help protect the rights of transhumant herders and to negotiate favourable conditions for cross-border transhumance.



Results of the experiment

Support for the revitalisation of the CNTs has produced results at three levels:

- **Recognition of the relevance of CNTs for transhumance management.** The project has strengthened the conviction of all stakeholders that the absence of CNTs is a major obstacle to the peaceful management of transhumance. The high-level meetings held in Cotonou (Benin) and Accra (Ghana), which brought together more than 200 participants from Sahelian and coastal countries, provided a forum for advocating the formal establishment and operationalisation of CNTs. The lobbying was made by pastoral organisations, notably ROPEN and Tassaght, who approached the Niger and Mali ministries responsible for livestock.
- **Involvement of decision-makers and support for CNTs.** The advocacy actions carried out by pastoral organisations have enabled the governments of Niger and Mali to adopt administrative acts for the creation of CNTs in 2019 and 2021, in accordance with ECOWAS recommendations. The PRAPS and PREDIP-supported CNTs have three-year action plans, serving as a reference for effective governance of cross-border transhumance.
- **Confirmation of the CNTs as assistance platforms for livestock farmers.** Mali and Burkina CNTs were heavily involved in resolving the situation of transhumant herders stranded at the Togo border, by providing them with food assistance, thanks to the involvement of the CNTs and financial support from Swiss cooperation.



Success factors

The collective adoption of the concept of peaceful transhumance through the CNTs has encouraged constructive dialogue between the various stakeholders. The success of this initiative is due to the mobilisation of professional pastoral networks, the collaboration of political decision-makers, and the receptiveness of countries such as Mali, Niger, and Burkina Faso to ECOWAS recommendations. Agropastoral organisations have been able to effectively lead the process of setting up CNTs thanks to the political support of governments. The network of

pastoralists, RBM, has played a decisive role by initiating advocacy actions since 2015. The use of a variety of approaches and tools, as well as participatory management of the process, have enhanced the effectiveness of the experiment.

The key to the effectiveness of the CNTs is dialogue, which ensures constant and participatory communication between all stakeholders involved in the transhumance process. These CNTs should concentrate their efforts more in the border areas of

Sahelian countries to optimise cross-border transhumance with coastal countries. They are responsible for informing stakeholders about the conditions of transhumance and protecting the rights of transhumant herders. This includes preventing the unauthorised

exploitation of transit corridors, ensuring that herders have the necessary documents, such as the International Transhumance Certificate, and negotiating favourable conditions for cross-border transhumance.



Difficulties and constraints encountered

The implementation of CNT action plans is limited by the absence of a resource mobilisation strategy. CNTs need sufficient resources and a working framework in order to operate effectively. To this end, the pooling of national resources, in synergy with other projects, is crucial. It is also essential for the CNTs to develop strategies to mobilise endogenous resources and be able to take sustainable action to calm transhumance in this Sahelian region affected by the security crisis.



Sustainability and scaling up

The sustainability of the CNT experience depends on the application of financial recommendations, such as the development of multi-year action plans with budgets, the integration of CNT provisional budgets into annual budget programming, and the inclusion of support for CNTs in projects to promote livestock farming and the rural sector. A national meeting could help to mobilise the necessary financial resources. It is also important to explore funding options through the state or ECOWAS. The emphasis now needs to be on operationalising the action plans to improve governance of transhumance at all levels.

To extend the experience of the CNTs, it is crucial to maintain a harmonised institutional framework, build organisational capacity for lobbying, and develop an integrated approach enabling all stakeholders (ministries, local authorities, customary authorities, pastoral civil society) to feel involved at all levels of transhumance management. It will also be necessary to be able to adapt to changes in the regional pastoral context. Finally, the political will to support the process is crucial, not only to ensure its long-term success but also to guarantee it.



Component 2 (C2): Regional project dialogue for peaceful transhumance in West Africa (PRODIATA)

FORM 04.C2

Strengthening the Ghana Cattle Ranching and Transhumance Committee (C2)

A valuable tool for the governance of pastoralism in Ghana

Ghana faces major challenges in terms of the coexistence of pastoral livestock farming and agriculture. During the dry season, the country welcomes transhumant animals from neighbouring countries. However, public opinion in Ghana remains largely uninformed about transhumance, leading to prejudice and conflict with pastoral communities. To counter this situation, the Ghanaian government has undertaken efforts to support pastoral development and peaceful coexistence between pastoralists, transhumant herders and farmers. A policy and strategy document for pastoral development in Ghana was validated in 2019, and a study carried out in 2021 reports an improvement in the perception of transhumance. In addition, Ghana has been able to learn from the experience of national transhumance committees in other countries, notably Togo, to strengthen the management of transhumance for the benefit of its own local structure, ***the Ghana Cattle Ranching Committee***.



Description of the experiment

Against this backdrop, the country has decided to transform its Livestock Committee into the ***Ghana Cattle Ranching and Transhumance Committee***, broadening its mandate. The GCRTC is tasked with developing sustainable strategies for resolving transhumance-related problems and improving national livestock production, promoting national and inter-state discussions on transhumance, raising awareness of transhumance regulation and dialogue, and ensuring proper coordination between border authorities and grazing and corridor management committees. It is also responsible for strengthening the peaceful management of cross-border pastoral

resources and contributing to an effective disease surveillance system at entry points.

These strategies aim to change the perception of transhumance, promote peaceful livestock mobility, contribute to conflict prevention and management, and facilitate Ghana's participation in ECOWAS regional discussions. Ultimately, the aim is to improve conditions for cross-border transhumance and livestock transport, build capacity for conflict prevention and management, raise awareness amongst the various stakeholders of the socio-economic contribution of pastoral mobility, and finance transhumance-related projects and initiatives.



Success factors

Four imperatives have been identified to ensure the success of this experiment:

- clearly define the roles and responsibilities of each stakeholder and build their capacities.
- involve all stakeholders in the drafting of texts. This is the basis for a collective commitment to the success of the initiative.
- introduce close monitoring and advisory support by a third party.
- conduct the process on the basis of resources that are not project-dependent and identify sustainable sources of funding.



Photo 8 – Workshop to launch Ghana’s activities Cattle Ranching and Transhumance Committee in Accra, Ghana, April 2023 (ROPPA/PRODIATA)

What the stakeholders have to say

«The journey of transforming GCRC into GCRTC began with high hopes for success mixed with uncertainties in the process. As facilitator, I saw many opportunities to push for greater stakeholder collaboration and to improve the scope of existing national structures to serve the interest of all parties in the transhumance sector. However, the process became more complex when our initial engagements revealed serious obstacles such as competing stakeholder interests, mistrust, time, and resource constraints. Yet we persevered, developing and deploying every possible strategy to deal with the inhibiting factors. Thanks to PRODIATA’s technical and financial support, as well as the cooperation of government ministries, we succeeded.» **Mugmin Musah, Grameen Ghana.**



Difficulties and constraints encountered

The implementation of the transhumance policy in Ghana has encountered three (3) major difficulties:

- Poor responsiveness of some ministries. Ministries were unresponsive due to a lack of information on transhumance and a misperception that Fulani herders were reluctant to collaborate. To solve this problem, a note detailing the advantages of transhumance was proposed, supported by the Ministry of Agriculture.

- Mistrust amongst the stakeholders. Some breeders feared that their freedom of expression would be restricted by the presence of ministerial leaders on the GCRC. Separate dialogues with the parties concerned made it possible to understand and resolve this misunderstanding.
- The difficulty of controlling the timing. Because of the participatory nature of the project, setting a precise timetable is a challenge: the stakeholders need to have time to reflect and take ownership of the issues, which is likely to slow down the process.



Sustainability and scaling up

The ***Ghana Cattle Ranching and Transhumance Committee (GCRTC)*** needs to develop a diversified funding strategy, with a substantial contribution from the Ghanaian government, to ensure its long-term financial viability.

In addition, a plan to build the technical capacity of the GCRTC's members is essential to improve their advocacy and lobbying skills, and minimise the risks of dysfunction, which will improve the quality of the services offered by the GCRTC.

Finally, the GCRTC must work on capitalising on practices to build and feed its institutional and operational memory, document the results obtained and make them accessible to other players. This capitalisation must be carried out on an ongoing basis in order to adapt to changes in the context and the evolution of public administration.



Component 2 (C2): Regional project dialogue for peaceful transhumance in West Africa (PRODIATA)

FORM 05.C2

Multi-stakeholder innovation platforms for natural resource management (C2)

A constructive multi-stakeholder dialogue tool for peaceful transhumance

Multi-stakeholder innovation platforms have been set up in Ghana in the Builsa South District and in Côte d'Ivoire in the Autonomous District des Savanes to compensate for the absence of official transhumance management structures. The main aim of these platforms is to reduce conflicts and promote peaceful transhumance. The border areas of the District des Savanes in Côte d'Ivoire and the Fumbisi District in Ghana have been targeted, as they receive large numbers of transhumant herders from Sahelian countries.

The assessments carried out in the two countries led to the creation of the Korhogo Innovation Platform (IP), which was subsequently extended to the entire District des Savanes, and the Builsa South IP. The District des Savanes IP reports to the district governor, while the Builsa South IP reports to the district assembly. To support the IPs, community watch-keeping relays have been set up to collect, process and disseminate information relating to transhumance.

The platforms conducted awareness campaigns and took part in radio broadcasts. The watch-keeping relays collected data to monitor events linked to transhumance and warn of possible conflicts.



Results of the experiment

An evaluation carried out in the **Savanes** IP showed greater involvement by technical services in protecting natural resources, the application of best practices by livestock farmers and greater awareness of the laws governing transhumance by the authorities. In Builsa South, local communities were more involved in raising awareness amongst people living in the areas where transhumant herders are received and transited.

The creation of such frameworks for dialogue has improved the perception of cross-border transhumance. Exchanges of views between stakeholders from different structures and organisations, experience sharing and mutual learning have all helped to change the perception of key stakeholders and local communities.




Success factors

Internally, the expertise of the **Association pour la Promotion de l'Élevage au Sahel et en Savane** (APESS) in setting up innovation platforms in the dairy sector was decisive. In addition, the participatory and inclusive process used to validate the baseline study, choose the sites and set up the platforms encouraged the ownership and commitment of the relevant stakeholders. Good knowledge of

What the actors have to say ?

«The awareness-raising and work carried out by the IP has enabled farmers' and breeders' associations to realise that there is no point in taking the law into their own hands, no point in trampling underfoot the rules and laws that govern transhumance. They have trained themselves, they have made these laws their own, so everyone knows their rights and duties to some extent. When this happens, life in the villages through which the transhumance passes flourishes. This has also enabled the authorities to fully appreciate the importance of this transhumance.»

Dr KOUASSI Koffi Dongo, lecturer and researcher at the Gon Coulibaly University in Korhogo, in charge of training for the Korhogo IP, 22 June 2022.



the intervention areas thanks to the baseline study also contributed to this success.

Externally, the favourable political and institutional environment, fuelled by the increase in the flow of transhumant herders and conflicts in border areas, has aroused strong interest in the project amongst local authorities. The choice of institution to support the platforms was decisive in legitimising them.



Difficulties and constraints encountered

- **Time challenge:** Setting up innovation platforms takes time. The diagnostic study began in October 2019 and required more than a dozen consultations and discussions for the two zones. The Korhogo innovation platform was established in November 2020 and the Builsa platform in June 2021. The identification, installation, capacity-building and equipment of the community watch-keeping relays were completed in December 2021 and early 2022. These operations cost around €259,076 for the two innovation platforms;
- **Financial challenge:** Financial resources are insufficient to fully implement the platforms' business plans. A strategy to mobilise internal resources from platform members was proposed but failed to raise the necessary funds. The community watch-keeping relays, for example, only had four months (from January to April 2022) to collect data in the field and their support was difficult. The project's resources have been used to carry out several actions, and fund-raising efforts with technical and financial partners are planned to help cover the pending needs.



Sustainability and scaling up

To ensure the long-term viability of the Innovation Platform's actions, it is essential that they are supported by local structures in order to guarantee their institutional anchoring. In Côte d'Ivoire, the Innovation Platform is supported by the Autonomous District des Savanes, headed by a Minister-Governor, while in Ghana it is supported by the Builsa South District Assembly.

The Innovation Platform must draw up an action plan or a transhumance management plan including budgeted actions. This document will enable fund-raising operations to be organised. IP member organisations can also rely on livestock markets and other sources of income to ensure that they continue to operate after the end of the project.

In future, the IPs set up in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana could be integrated into the local deconcentrated bodies that will be set up to operationalise the transhumance management committees. Like these structures, they will become the operational arms of the national transhumance committees.

Scaling up the Innovation Platforms will depend on the commitment of their members and their ability to collect, process and share information on transhumance. This expansion will have to be gradual, targeting the areas of influence of transhumance and building on the results and lessons learnt from their operation.



Component 3 (C3): Livestock Mobility Support Project for Better Access to Resources and Markets (PAMOBARMA)

FORM 07.C3

Monitoring and management of agro-pastoral facilities

Many pastoral facilities have been built under PREDIP Component 3. These include the construction of 1,437 kilometres of secure tracks, 13 grazing areas, 15 rest areas, 43 water points, 7 cross-border veterinary posts and 14 feed banks. At the same time, 283 infrastructure management/monitoring committees have been set up to oversee these facilities.





Results of the experiment

The PAMOBARMA monitoring and evaluation system has shown an improvement in the functionality of the trail monitoring committees between 2019 and 2021, in terms of both the main criteria (state of demarcations; occupation of corridors; committee output) and the secondary criteria (official recognition; legitimacy of committees; participation in the management of damage, disputes and conflicts; financial capacity). The rate of functional agro-pastoral

facilities, specifically for tracks, is 72% in 2021, compared with 64% in 2020 and previous years. This is due to the partial funding of committees by projects and the ongoing efforts of partner organisations, despite the constraints imposed by health measures. In addition, teams carried out physical monitoring to assess the condition of the sections (condition of markers and occupation of tracks) and corroborate the information provided by the committees.



Success factors

Based on this monitoring and previous experiences, lessons have been learnt for setting up management committees for agro-pastoral facilities. Three main points should be borne in mind when drawing up charters for the use of agro-pastoral facilities.

- ***Look at the law and existing arrangements***

It is essential to take account of existing legislation and arrangements when setting up committees. Unfortunately, it is often the case that local committees are set up without any link to existing legislation, or that they duplicate existing arrangements. It is important to understand the functionality of these mechanisms and, where possible, to join them in order to strengthen existing structures.

- ***Propose functional monitoring committees***

The primary objective of a monitoring committee is to ensure local monitoring. It is therefore preferable to have fairly flexible structures, with a limited number of members. In the same vein, when two facilities are being developed at the same time, such as a section of track and a water point, it is preferable, as far as possible, for the same committee to manage both.

As a general rule, the stakeholders who were involved in the negotiation of the areas for the facilities make up some or all of these monitoring committees (for example, 1 adviser, 1 notable, 1 representative of the development associations, 1 representative of the agricultural producers, 1 representative of the livestock farmers, 1 representative of the farmers' organisations and 1 representative of the women's groups). The monitoring system is based on visits to the facility by 2 members of the committee on a rotating basis. The aim is to ensure that the facility is being used properly and that there is no misuse. Each field visit is commented on in a monitoring notebook, which is used for supervision work in particular.

- **Validation of the charter by all stakeholders**

Rules for use have been proposed as a guide for each type of agro-pastoral facility: tracks, watering points, rest and grazing areas (see the full capitalisation note for more details). The rules of use must be validated by all the stakeholders concerned. A validation workshop is essential both to validate the monitoring/supervision systems and to adapt the charters to each specific facility context.



Sustainability and scaling up

Ensuring the long-term viability of the system for monitoring agro-pastoral facilities is a major challenge. Setting up monitoring committees at local level is essential because regular monitoring of tracks and facilities requires long and tedious work that cannot be carried out by a single technical team. However, local monitoring alone is not enough. To be effective, it needs to be complemented by operational monitoring on a wider territorial scale and integrated into a global approach to the sector, with adequate funding.

- **Complementarity between local monitoring and area-wide supervision**

The entire route must be monitored to ensure that the livestock tracks are functional. If one section is no longer operational, the whole route is at risk. Intercommunal or regional monitoring is therefore essential. The proximity of local committees has both advantages and disadvantages. It fosters mutual knowledge and negotiating capacity, but the complex social relationships between

committee members - based on family ties or other personal relationships - can influence decisions and compromise project implementation. To minimise the interference of social logic in the operation of management committees, it is necessary to externalise social control by entrusting it to a structure that is independent of the beneficiaries of the action.

It is therefore recommended that local monitoring committees be supervised by a monitoring committee at inter-municipal or regional level. This monitoring committee should not replace the State's technical

services, but rather be made up of technical teams from professional organisations with in-depth knowledge of the key players in the sector.

- ***Financing monitoring/supervision based on an integrated approach to the sector***

This system of monitoring/supervision of agro-pastoral facilities obviously needs to take costs into account in order to ensure its sustainability. Taxing the use of agro-pastoral facilities is tricky and could lead users to adopt circumvention strategies. On the other hand, the revenue generated by the

commercial infrastructure (livestock markets and loading bays) can be used to cover the costs of monitoring and supervising the various agro-pastoral facilities. In return, the monitoring work of the committees enables the local authorities to better control the development of the sector in their area.



Component 3 (C3): Livestock Mobility Support Project for Better Access to Resources and Markets (PAMOBARMA)

FORM 08.C3

Agreement between an OP and an inter-community body

Feedback on the livestock-meat value chain in North Benin

In West Africa, mobility is a guarantee of herd survival and increased productivity. It is also at the heart of commercial circuits and generates numerous economic spin-offs for the areas through which it passes. This mobility requires an integrated approach to pastoral investment in the area affected by herd movements. Marketing infrastructure (livestock markets, loading bays) and production infrastructure (grazing areas, water points, livestock tracks, vaccination pens, etc.) are totally interdependent. Thus, a market must be supplied by livestock tracks, including the transhumance tracks that supply them when they go up. The development of the sector therefore needs to be considered on a regional scale, usually involving several communes.

The work carried out in West Africa by Acting For Life and its partners on the territorial development of the agro-pastoral sector is based on the structuring of a public/private partnership between local authorities and civil society organisations (CSOs). The experience of the livestock-meat sector in northern Benin is shared here.

The sustainability of the various facilities requires institutional support at three levels: local authorities (communes), producers' organisations (POs) and the decentralised technical services of the ministries responsible for livestock. The latter provide continuity and coherence to national policy and make their expertise available to the inter-communal group. The POs, for their part, contribute their knowledge of the practices and strategies of livestock breeders, farmers and traders to deal with the difficulties. They intervene to facilitate the securing of pastoral land (grazing and resting areas) and to prevent problems with access to water. The role of POs when they intervene to settle conflicts, whether over market infrastructures or agro-pastoral facilities, must be contractualised with the inter-communal body. The revenue generated by commercial infrastructure on the territory of the inter-communal body can be used to pay the POs for their monitoring.



Results of the experiment

In northern Benin, in December 2017, the municipal authorities of Matéri, Coby and Tanguiéta, members of the ***Etablissement Public de Coopération Intercommunale de la Pendjari*** (EPCI-Pendjari), signed a one-year test agreement with the ***Union Départementale des Organisations Professionnelles d'Éleveurs de ruminants de l'Atacora/Donga*** (UDOPER AD) with a financial commitment of 1.8 million Fcfa. Through this funding, the EPCI's member communes have given UDOPER AD a mandate to run the sector in their area. This agreement was renewed in 2018 for two years. Each year, UDOPER AD presents an analysis of the sector over the past year and makes recommendations to the EPCI members. A number of lessons can be learnt after almost two years of contractualisation between the EPCI-Pendjari inter-communal group and UDOPER.



Lessons learnt

- ***Improved monitoring of agro-pastoral infrastructures***
- ***Improving revenues from certain commercial infrastructures***

In the opinion of the elected representatives, this agreement improves monitoring and their understanding of the agro-pastoral dynamic in their area. UDOPER AD presented its annual report at a workshop attended by around fifty participants (elected representatives, local authorities, traditional authorities and members of civil society). This highly detailed report provides an overall understanding of the sector, while also highlighting developments in each market infrastructure.

Statistical monitoring highlights the work carried out by UDOPER to raise awareness amongst livestock market operators. For the Matéri livestock market, there has been a marked improvement in tax revenues over the last three years. At just over 7 million CFA francs in 2017, it rose to 8,601,600 CFA francs in 2019. It is this increase in tax revenue from the communes that facilitates their financial participation in the EPCI and strengthens inter-communal cohesion. The communes thus increase their social and community investments for the benefit of the entire population.

- ***A clearer understanding of the sector's dynamics***

The agro-pastoral sector dynamics cannot be understood by simply limiting it to the Pendjari EPCI area. It is heavily dependent on the situation in neighbouring countries, both upstream, in the Sahelian countries that supply the livestock markets during transhumance, and downstream, in Nigeria, the main terminal market for animals. At the Tanguiéta wharf, animals are shipped mainly to Savé in the ***Département des Collines of Benin***. The animals are unloaded at Savé and transported on foot to Nigeria. However, from December 2015, devaluation has made the Nigerian market much less attractive. Some of the animals were transported to Ghana via Togo. It resumed in earnest in 2019.

- ***Fewer conflicts***

The lack of clearly defined pastoral land often leads to tensions between farmers and herders over the use of resources. To mitigate these tensions, the land needs to be secured and, above all, organisations need to be able to intervene quickly to find agreed solutions to crises. Of course, this decrease in conflicts is not exclusively due to UDOPER's work in coordinating the sector. Other players and programmes are involved in this area and are helping to reduce tensions, and the dynamics of conflicts are often highly complex and their causes multi-factorial. However, it is also clear that the existence of functional agro-pastoral facilities facilitating the mobility of livestock and the interventions of UDOPER/ANOPER to ease tensions are making a major contribution to reducing conflicts.

- ***Strengthening the PO's position and capabilities***

The data produced by UDOPER also enhances the recognition of POs by elected representatives and the general public. They complement the expertise of the government's technical services. The funding received from the EPCI enables the PO to strengthen the services it provides to its members.

- ***Consolidating a community of interest***

The primary objective of this collaboration is to ensure coherent and sustainable development of the agro-pastoral sector, which is crucial to the socio-economic development of the region. This approach helps to bring together a wide range of stakeholders, not just elected representatives and breeders' organisations, around a common interest. All the population can access this information through participation in the annual review workshops and the dissemination of key information on the agro-pastoral sector via radio announcements.



Component 3 (C3): Livestock Mobility Support Project for Better Access to Resources and Markets (PAMOBARMA)

FORM 10.C3

Setting up an inter-community body

Acting For Life encourages a territorial approach rather than a project approach when implementing its programmes. The territorial approach involves setting up an inter-community structure to provide an institutional basis for the various activities implemented. This approach, which is implemented under the PAMOBARMA programme in 8 West African countries, is based on several major methodological stages. To build a territorial approach, it is necessary to follow a process involving 4 key phases:

- (0) defining the territory,
- (1) social engineering,
- (2) investments,
- (3) institutional engineering.



Dam developed by PAMOBARMA, Sinematiali North Côte d'Ivoire



Preliminary phase Pre-defining the area of intervention

The definition of the area will influence the social and institutional engineering phases. The aim is to define the area in which the project will operate. To achieve this, a number of parameters need to be taken into account:

- **Targeting facilities**

Each implementing partner already has an idea of the priority facilities (tracks, market infrastructures, etc.) to be carried out in the region where the project is being implemented. The targeting of facilities must correspond to an overall logic for the sector and avoid dissipating efforts as much as possible. Diagnostic analysis of the value chain in a given area will enable complementary facilities to be targeted. This global approach to the sector therefore makes it possible from the outset to define the communities in which the programme will potentially intervene.

- **Local authorities' knowledge of the scheme**

The implementing partners must ensure the collaboration and commitment of the various local authorities. This is achieved by presenting the objectives of the approach to the local authorities, beyond the benefits of the facility itself. This information will make it possible, in parallel with the targeting of facilities, to start implementing

the inter-community approach and to share the same level of information with elected representatives about the implementation of the process. At this stage, it will be possible to change municipalities and facilities if elected representatives are not convinced by the project.

- **Synergies**

Synergy must be at the heart of the definition of the area. This may involve facilities yet to be built or built as part of other projects and integrating the selected area. It is important here for the implementing partners to ensure that they can modify, if necessary, the management methods for a commercial infrastructure that they did not identify.

In addition to these facilities, synergy must also be sought at the level of the inter-community structures that are being developed or have already been developed. Here again, an inter-community body that is already in place can play a key role in shaping the region's vision.



Phase 1 The social engineering system

Once the area has been provisionally defined, it will first be necessary to define, as precisely as possible, the technical monitoring/supervision system that will be put in place for the facilities planned as part of the project.

The aim will be to obtain a unit operating cost for each type of facility, based on the facilities installed. If this cost is extended to the whole area and multiplied by all the similar facilities, it will give a budget estimate for monitoring/supervision of the agro-pastoral sector over one year.



Phase 2 Investments

In the context of an agro-pastoral project such as PAMOBARAMA, the investment phase corresponds to the securing of tracks, the construction of water points, the building of market infrastructures and the setting up of feed and veterinary deposit banks. This investment phase refers to a certain methodology developed by AFL and its partners in other technical notes and will not be developed here.



Phase 3 The institutional engineering system

If there is no inter-communal structure prior to the implementation of the project, a team of legal consultants will support the partners in choosing the most appropriate structure in line with the approach and legislation of the country of intervention. The objectives of the implementing partners will be to support the setting up of the inter-community body. They will also have to i) present the technical monitoring/supervision system in the territory, ii) lead to a contract being signed between a CSO in charge of this monitoring/supervision and the inter-communal body, iii) obtain a contribution from each local authority that is a member of the inter-communal body to cover some or all of the costs inherent in this system.

Conclusion

AFL's territorial approach remains a process that can constantly evolve. An inter-community body grouping 3 municipalities may very well take on other communities during the course of the project, thereby extending its territorial reach. Similarly, costs and revenues will be more or less precise and may rise or fall over time. Whatever the case, the agro-pastoral sector needs to be approached from an integrated perspective, and this implies a de facto territorial approach. The development of the sector therefore needs to be considered on a reasonable territorial scale, involving at least several communes, and thus justifying the institutional anchoring of this type of intervention by inter-municipal bodies.



FORM 11.C3

Supporting livestock mobility in West Africa

Ruminant farming in West Africa is characterised by mobility. Mobility is a guarantee of herd survival and increased productivity. It also has a significant economic impact (peak animal sales occur during transhumance and homeward journeys). As a result, there is a need to implement and strengthen strategies aimed at facilitating livestock mobility.

However, despite its strategic importance, livestock mobility faces many obstacles. Declining soil fertility, demographic pressure and the development of off-season crops have led to an expansion of cultivated areas to the detriment of pastoral resources. This has led to a reduction in grazing land, the cultivation of lowlands and forest areas, a reduction in transit corridors, and a lack of rest areas and water points. These tensions over natural resources are at the root of numerous conflicts between farmers and herders.

Livestock tracks can facilitate the movement of animals, provided they are properly secured and part of a sustainable system. Through all its programmes, including PAMOBARMA, AFL and its partners have built almost 10,000 km of secure tracks in all the areas where they operate. Several lessons have been learnt from these experiences.



Lessons learnt

A livestock track can be considered secure from the moment it fulfils the purpose for which it was created, i.e. a **demarcated area protected from encroachment**. In other words, the track is secure for users and local residents. It's all the negotiating upstream that makes it possible to achieve this objective, much more so than the installation of a beacon, which is just the end of the process.

To be truly operational, a livestock track must fulfil 3 functions corresponding to the usual needs of a herd: moving around, grazing, drinking and resting. Securing a livestock track must therefore be part of wider, complementary facilities such as watering points, grazing areas and rest areas.

The work of securing a livestock track can be divided into three stages: (1) an initial negotiation stage, (2) a second stage corresponding to the actual marking and (3) a third stage in which the work is part of a system to ensure its viability.

1. The long process of identification and negotiation

Identifying the rangelands used by livestock farmers is a complex task. It requires collecting data to map the grazing areas used, as well as extensive work to cross-reference data between the inhabitants of the host areas and the livestock track users (herdsmen), which can be complex when mobility involves several countries. Then, a

lengthy negotiation process is undertaken to identify the landowners, who are not always the farmers. To ensure maximum acceptance of the negotiated routes, it is important to allow time for validation at several levels. Negotiation time is **crucial, complex, relatively long and costly**.



2. Time for legalisation

Once the negotiation phase is over and the launch of the tender documents for the construction and installation of the beacons can begin, it is time to get the parties involved to officially recognise the various facilities. To complete this legalisation and give it identifiable boundaries, it is important to geo-reference the various corridors selected. This geo-referencing, which is detailed in the decree, ensures that the secured corridors are

measurably recognisable. It is also important to leave a record of the process of obtaining the plots. As the first document, it forms the basis and paves the way for legalisation, which must of course take account of the texts in force, such as land laws, and be validated by the competent authority. The legalisation of corridors is essential if pastoral land is to be established.

3. Sustainability and establishment of monitoring committees

Although meticulously carried out, the identification, diagnosis, and negotiation of livestock corridors do not guarantee the sustainability of these tracks without regular monitoring. This requires the involvement of local committees of 5 to 10 people to monitor the various sections of track (see section 2.7).

To be effective, this monitoring must be combined with supervision on a larger scale, for two main reasons. Firstly, a livestock track is only functional if the animals are mobile along the entire route. Secondly, the proximity of local committees can be both a strength, in terms of its negotiating capacity, and a weakness, as it can lead to interdependence that limits the committee's power. To reduce the influence of social dynamics on the management committees, it is necessary to place control outside the social networks benefiting from the action.

These local committees should be supervised by a monitoring committee at inter-municipal

and/or regional level, which should not replace the State's technical services. It should be made up of the technical teams of the professional organisations, which are often involved in programmes to make tracks secure.

Setting up this monitoring system requires cost considerations to ensure its sustainability. Unfortunately, this financial dimension is often neglected, particularly for local committees. Remuneration or allowances must be provided to cover fieldwork and supervision costs.

To finance this system, it is necessary to consider livestock mobility not only in terms of natural resource management, but also in economic terms. Transhumance routes are often marketing routes, and the peak periods for most livestock markets coincide with transhumance periods. It is therefore at livestock market level that funding should be sought to ensure that the tracks remain functional and the markets remain active.



FORM 12.C4

Regional coordination of vaccination campaigns

A lever for controlling cross-border animal diseases in West Africa

The fight against transboundary animal diseases must be approached with an eye to the crucial role livestock farming plays in West African countries, as a source of jobs, income and contribution to gross domestic product (GDP). The livestock health conditions limits access to many markets in these countries, leading to major economic losses. Although national vaccination campaigns are carried out, effective regional coordination is often lacking. This is where the COMATAO project - PREDIP's Component 4 - comes in. One of COMATAO's aims is to improve the organisation of vaccination campaigns through multi-stakeholder meetings. Thanks to enhanced coordination, the veterinary services of the countries of departure and destination are gradually harmonising vaccination periods and animal marking methods. This will ensure better immunisation coverage, with the participation and collaboration of livestock farmers and their associations.



Sheep selected for Eid Adha, Bamako (Lamine Dia)



Results of the experiment

- **Harmonisation of vaccination periods:** A roadmap has been drawn up to harmonise vaccination periods. It provides for mass vaccination campaigns against contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP) and peste des petits ruminants (PPR). Initially planned for the 8 PREDIP countries, these campaigns have been extended to all ECOWAS Member States.
- **Stakeholder buy-in:** The main producer organisations were involved at every stage of the process. Their active participation enabled the veterinary services to take their concerns into account.
- **Improved vaccination coverage:** Vaccination targets have been reassessed, taking into account the concerns of the main beneficiaries of vaccinations. For example, forecasts for CBPP have risen from 18,070,075 head of cattle in 2020 to 27,835,234 head in 2022, an increase of 35%. Some countries have already achieved a 77% implementation rate for the 2021-2022 campaign.
- **Seromonitoring:** Some countries (Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger) have begun carrying out serological evaluations of vaccination campaigns as part of the PRAPS. This method makes it possible to assess the quality of vaccination operations and the level of animal protection. All ECOWAS Member States have now adopted seromonitoring.
- **Joint communication:** The stakeholders have agreed to develop and implement a joint communication plan. The aim of this plan is to specify the start-up period for the vaccination campaigns, define the area of intervention and choose the appropriate communication channels and media.

These achievements have enabled the COMATAO project to strengthen regional coordination, improve vaccination coverage, evaluate the effectiveness of vaccination campaigns, and establish effective communication between the various stakeholders. Vaccination coverage rates for the 2022-2023 campaign are higher than those for 2021-2022 in almost all countries. This should make it possible to combat transboundary animal diseases more effectively and reduce the associated economic losses, while promoting trade in the livestock sector in West Africa.



Success factors

- The involvement of livestock farmers and their associations is essential in coordinating vaccination campaigns. As the owners of the livestock to be vaccinated, they are a key link in the chain.
- It is necessary to create an enabling environment for dialogue between the various stakeholders involved in vaccination campaigns. It enables veterinary services to take breeders' concerns into account when making strategic decisions about the organisation of campaigns.
- The motivation of breeders' associations to raise awareness amongst breeders is an important factor in success.
- The gradual adoption of the marking of vaccinated small ruminants is making campaigns more effective by preventing some animals from being vaccinated twice.
- The concerted annual programming of vaccination campaigns at regional level means that the periods, areas of intervention and information tools can be harmonised across the different countries.



Difficulties and constraints encountered

- The reluctance to mark animals on the part of some breeders, who are attached to the integrity of whole males, is an obstacle. Effective awareness-raising by breeders' associations could help to convince the most sceptical.
- Advocacy is needed to mobilise resources and train laboratory technicians to carry out effective seromonitoring.
- Inadequate resources are being mobilised to protect livestock in some countries.
- The lack of harmonisation in the approach to vaccination campaigns (access to vaccines, periods, methods) is a challenge to achieving good immunisation coverage.
- The limited involvement of the private sector (veterinarians and manufacturers) limits the success of joint vaccination campaigns.



Sustainability and scaling up

The ECOWAS Regional Animal Health Centre (RAHC) was chosen to coordinate these activities with a view to ensuring that they are sustainable over time and space. Scaling up must target cross-border areas with high livestock mobility in order to gradually raise stockbreeders' awareness of regional and national decisions. The support of livestock farmers and their commitment to raising the awareness of their peers is also a guarantee of sustainability and scaling up for the harmonisation of vaccination campaigns.



FORM 13.C5

Setting up administrative focal points

Effective PREDIP implementation system

PREDIP does not have any national coordination units in the countries. To fill this gap and improve the implementation of activities, and with a view to ensuring the coherence of interventions in the countries, CILSS - which is responsible for regional coordination - and the other PREDIP stakeholders deemed it useful to set up country focal points. It was agreed that each country would have a single contact person from the public sector.

The role of the focal points is to support the implementation of the project's activities across all its Components and to act as an interface, firstly between the project and the countries' institutions on issues relating to pastoralism and transhumance and, secondly, between the project and the stakeholders (NGOs, local development associations and other projects working in the sector) by sharing and feeding back information and seeking synergies and complementarities between activities.



Results of the experiment

The focal points have played a crucial role in facilitating and implementing the activities of the various PREDIP components in the field.

- **For Component 1**, their role has been essential in collecting data on transhumance, organising training courses on the digital library and the geoportal and updating them, setting up a community radio network, and recruiting technical focal points.
- **For Component 2**, the focal points played an active role in setting up innovation platforms and building the capacities of their members and helped to obtain official recognition of these platforms from the authorities in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana. The focal points also played a key role in strengthening the Ghana Cattle Ranching and Transhumance Committee.
- **For Component 3**, they facilitated the visibility of the project and the collection and dissemination of results on the economic impact of the markets. They have also facilitated discussions with ministries and technical departments, enabling the removal of constraints that could block the construction of certain infrastructures.
- **For Component 4**, they contributed to the appointment of technical focal points, the organisation of review meetings, the programming of vaccination campaigns, and the choice of sites for veterinary posts and vaccination parks.
- **For Component 5**, they facilitated the implementation of the project, in particular the organisation of meetings and steering committees in the various countries and enabled the project to continue despite travel restrictions linked to the COVID-19 pandemic. The administrative focal points strengthened the project's foothold within the ministries in charge of livestock and thus facilitated acceptance of all the components in the countries.

PREDIP focal points have been recognised in their role as interlocutors and have been approached by other CILSS projects on pastoralism. The focal points in the 4 coastal countries (Benin, Togo, Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana) actively contributed to the formulation of the *Programme de Développement de l'Élevage dans les pays Côtiers* (Programme for Livestock Development in Coastal Countries) (PRIDEC). Their action has also led to greater involvement of technical services, increased visibility of the project and greater involvement of the authorities. Finally, they have played a crucial role in changing the perception of pastoralism, promoting understanding of the issues, and facilitating the scaling up of the studies carried out as part of the project.



Success factors

- The consensus reached on setting up the administrative focal points as a single entry point for the various Components in the countries was essential.
- CILSS' high profile has encouraged the rapid appointment of focal points by countries, and their acceptance by all implementing partners.
- Prior awareness-raising activities have made it easier to understand the role of the focal points.
- The selection criteria targeted senior officials involved in pastoralism and transhumance, making it easier to communicate with and mobilise decision-makers.
- Technical and material capacity building has helped the focal points to fulfil their facilitation and reporting roles.
- Their ease of contact with all the stakeholders and the fact that they are familiar with the issues involved have been an asset.



Difficulties and constraints met

- The targeting criteria established by consensus in order to select the right people as a team were not always respected.
- The focal points are not solely dedicated to PREDIP activities, which limits their availability, especially when PREDIP activities conflict with their own.
- The focal points were not included in the institutional set-up of the project and therefore did not have their own budget, which limited their involvement in the field missions and their appropriate support.
- The fact that the Component sites were not evenly scattered made it difficult for the focal point to monitor and support all the activities of each of the Components in the field.



Sustainability and scaling up

Although the focal point mechanism was set up with PREDIP funding, discussions should focus on its institutionalisation and ownership by the countries, as it now plays an important role in supporting a number of pastoralism projects beyond PREDIP.

If the focal point mechanism were to be replicated effectively in future pastoral initiatives, it will be essential to provide for the mechanism from the project design stage

with the necessary resources, to comply with agreed targeting criteria, and to systematically share the activity programmes of the partners implementing these initiatives, to facilitate their mission.

In the future, rather than appointing one individual, it would be more appropriate to designate a small team, equipped with the necessary logistical and technical resources to enable effective teamwork.

3

Looking back at the «ongoing» capitalisation process

The capitalisation of PREDIP's experience has followed an innovative approach of «ongoing capitalisation», which aims to document the achievements and lessons learnt from a project on an ongoing basis, as and when it is implemented. In this respect, it offers a number of advantages over traditional, one-off capitalisation process carried out at the end of a project:

- Gradually building up the project memory;
- Involve stakeholders to a greater extent in order to reinforce their capacities and the appropriation of a culture of capitalisation within their organisations;
- Regularly share questions, difficulties, innovations, and best practices to inform the project's direction.

PREDIP set up a capitalisation group bringing together all its Components to carry out this process. The process was steered by CILSS, with methodological support from *Inter-réseaux Développement rural* (a network specialising in knowledge management), and contributions from resource persons at INSAH, ECOWAS and UEMOA.

The «ongoing» capitalisation process followed 5 key stages:

- **The initial workshop** provided an opportunity to build the capacity of the stakeholders involved, to define an overall guideline for capitalisation, and to target the relevant experiences to be capitalised at the level of each Component.
- **A methodological note** including data collection and analysis tools was produced, and **remote advisory support** was provided by Inter-réseaux to each **Component**.
- **A writing workshop** was needed to provide the Components with a framework and «living» support for drawing up their capitalisation notes.
- **The proofreading workshop** was also organised to cross-read the forms and finalise the notes by the Components according to their level of progress.
- A questionnaire and B2B discussions with the Components were necessary to document PREDIP's achievements more widely and to draw up the **overall report**.



Results of the experiment

The PREDIP capitalisation process resulted in the production of 13 capitalisation notes and this global report. The methodological note on «ongoing» capitalisation, which has been enriched and adjusted, as well as the tools used, are also important assets for other projects and actors wishing to replicate this approach.

In addition to the deliverables, the stakeholders involved have been able to build their capacity through the assisted management of the capitalisation process, discussion sessions and cross-reading of the materials. In turn, they will be able to act as a driving force to facilitate the adoption of a culture of capitalisation within their organisations.

Lastly, the experience has enabled us to learn a number of methodological lessons that will be useful in gradually improving and stabilising this experimental «ongoing» capitalisation approach.



Success factors

- The definition of a common approach guided the overall process of capitalising on PREDIP - despite the very different nature of the experiences capitalised on - and enabled the link to be made with strategic regional issues on pastoral mobility.
- Defining the themes to be capitalised on, with a specific angle, helped to frame the process and deepen the analysis without being unfocused.
- The face-to-face workshops were necessary to provide time and a suitable framework for the various Components to draw up the capitalisation sheets.
- Cross-reading of the capitalisation sheets has helped to improve the documents, but also to promote collective learning about capitalisation and the sharing of experiences between Components.
- **Inter-réseaux's** external support and the mobilisation of resource persons were of considerable value in guiding the methodological process and providing an outside perspective on the structuring and formulation of the capitalisation notes.



Difficulties and constraints encountered

- The lack of human and financial resources earmarked for capitalisation at the level of the Operational Components hampered their mobilisation. The turnover of certain respondents for the capitalisation and resource persons mobilised affected the continuity of the process.
- The variable duration of the Components and the lack of connection between the targeted experiments have made it difficult to conduct an overall capitalisation process and a cross-cutting analysis of PREDIP experiments.
- The lack of data collected made it difficult to draw up the capitalisation sheets when the time came, as the information and testimonies had not been collected in real time during the implementation of the activities.
- Documenting the impact of experiences that have been capitalised on is a challenge due to the lack of hindsight. Ongoing capitalisation should focus on results and induced effects. The «**Outcomes mapping**» approach, which systematically documents changes in interventions, could be used for this purpose.



Photo 14 – Validation workshop for the PREDIP experience capitalisation report, June 2023 (CILSS/PREDIP)



Sustainability and scaling up

To ensure the dissemination of this «ongoing» approach, the methodological tools developed must be disseminated within CILSS and more widely to other stakeholders. The stakeholders that have been involved in capitalising on the PREDIP could become resource persons on whom to draw in the future.

Future experiments in «ongoing» capitalisation will be able to draw on the methodological lessons learnt (offering face-to-face time in addition to remote support and monitoring, initiating the process as soon as the project is launched and systematising the ongoing collection of data, simplify the data collection and analysis tools, link the capitalisation system to the monitoring-evaluation system, anticipate the dissemination and communication of results) and continue to document what has been learnt in order to achieve a stabilised methodological approach to capitalisation «as the project progresses».



To find out more

Component 1 – SRIP

- References and URL links to the capitalisation sheet
- References and URL links to other studies and notes produced by the Component

Component 2 – PRODIATA

- References and URL links to capitalisation
- Capitalisation of existing cross-border consultation committees/frameworks and dialogue experiences in other cross-border areas, PRODIATA, 2019
<http://roppa-afrique.org/gestcon/web/uploads/DocText/document/80.pdf>
- Capitalisation des comités et cadres de concertation transfrontaliers et des expériences de dialogue, Note aux décideurs, PRODIATA, 2020
<http://roppa-afrique.org/gestcon/web/uploads/DocText/document/81.pdf>
- References and URL links to other studies and notes produced by the Component.
- Study on the perception of transhumance, commercial transport, conflict management and the socio-economic contribution of pastoral mobility in coastal countries (Togo, Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire). Final report March 2021

Component 3 – PAMOBARMA

- References and URL links to capitalisation
- Partenariat Organisations de producteurs et Inter-collectivités pour la filière bétail-viande du Nord Benin, Cédric Touquet, Grain de Sel n°81, 2021
<https://www.inter-reseaux.org/wp-content/uploads/GDS81-P30-31.pdf>
- References and URL links to other studies and notes produced by the Component

Component 4 – COMATAO

- References and URL links to the capitalisation sheet
- References and URL links to other studies and notes produced by the Component

Component 5 – Regional Coordination

- References and URL links to the capitalisation sheet and to other studies and notes produced by the Components
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1byCF6w_i27N2WA3Fj6oSPpHtnfbavqzs?usp=sharing

CILSS (Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel)

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