



AFRICAN UNION
INTERAFRICAN BUREAU
FOR ANIMAL RESOURCES



ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Coordinating Animal Resources
Development and Utilization in
Africa

ABOUT AU-IBAR

AU-IBAR is a specialized technical office of the Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment (DARBE) of the African Union Commission (AUC). The roles and the institutional set-ups of AU-IBAR, which originated to combat Rinderpest, evolved progressively since its creation in 1951. At present AU-IBAR is a continental institution mandated to play a pivotal role in coordinating and supporting the development of Animal Resources (livestock, fisheries and wildlife) as sources of nutrition and food security and to contribute to the wellbeing, economic development and prosperity of the people in the AU-MSs directly and through the relevant functions of the Regional Economic Communities (RECs).

Vision: An Africa in which animal resources contribute significantly to integration, prosperity and peace.

Mission: To provide leadership and integrated support services for the development of animal resources in Africa

Mandate: To support and coordinate the sustainable development and utilization of animal resources to enhance nutrition and food security and contribute to the wellbeing and prosperity of the people in the AU-MSs.



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LIST OF ACRONYMS

AFADATA	Africa Fisheries and Aquaculture Data Management System
AMR	Antimicrobial Resistance
AU-IBAR	African Union – InterAfrican Bureau for Animal Resources
AU-PANVAC	African Union - Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Centre
AU	African Union
AU-MSs	African Union Member States
AWARFA-N	African Women in Animal Resources Farming and Agribusiness Network
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme
CDC	Centres for Disease Control
COMESA	Common Market for East and Southern Africa
CVO(s)	Chief Veterinary Officer(s)
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
EAC	East African Community
ECCAS	Economic Community of Central African States
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
ICPALD	IGAD Centre for Pastoral Areas and Livestock Development
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
ILRI	International Livestock Research Institute
ISCTRC	International Scientific Council Trypanosomiasis Research and Control
EU	European Union
LiDeSA	Livestock Development Strategy for Africa
Live2Africa	Sustainable Development of Livestock for Livelihoods in Africa Project
MS	Member State
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa’s Development
NSA	Non State Actors
PPR	Peste des Petits Ruminants
RAHC	Regional Animal Health Centre
REC	Regional Economic Community
SADC	Southern African Development Community
STC	Specialised Technical Committee
WOAH	World Organisation for Animal Health

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

AU-IBAR is pleased to present its Annual Report for 2023, which stands as a testament to our collective endeavours in advancing animal resources management across Africa. This comprehensive report highlights the concerted efforts made by all stakeholders involved, demonstrating unwavering commitment and expertise, even in the face of challenges. It underscores the crucial roles played by our esteemed staff and stakeholders in realizing AU-IBAR's mandate.

AU-IBAR extends deepest gratitude to our partners, stakeholders, and donors for their invaluable contributions that allow IBAR to serve AU Member States through the Regional Economic communities (RECs), particularly in implementing strategic frameworks like the Livestock Development Strategy for Africa (LiDeSA) and the Policy Framework and Reform Strategy (PFRS) for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa. AU-IBAR acknowledges the donors' support to AU-IBAR, namely the European Union (EU), the Bill and Melinda Gates (BMGF), GIZ, USAID and USDA. We appreciate highly our key technical partners AU-PANVAC, FAO, WOA, ILRI, multistakeholder partnerships, Non-Governmental Institutions (NGOs) and the private sector.



I.0. OVERVIEW

I.1 2023 Highlights by Region

Program 1: Animal Health, Disease Prevention and Control Systems		
Project/Initiative	Geographical coverage	Donor/Development partners
International Scientific Council Trypanosomiasis Research and Control (ISCTRC)	Continental	African Union-Member States (AU-MSs)
Sustainable Development of Livestock for Livelihoods in Africa Project (Live2Africa)	Continental Senegal, Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Kenya	European Union (EU)
The African Union One Health Data Alliance Africa (OHADAA)	Continental	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)/GIZ
Regional Animal Health Networks	ECOWAS, ECCAS and Eastern Africa	Member State funds and various projects
Standard Methods and Procedures in Animal health 2 (SMP-AH2)	Continental	United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Animal Welfare	Continental Kenya, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Senegal, Burkina Faso, Niger, Nigeria, Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, and Zimbabwe	The Donkey sanctuary, SPANA and the World Animal Protection (WAP), World Horse Welfare (WHW), Brooke Action for working Animals
Program 2: Animal Resource Production Systems and Ecosystem Management		
Fisheries Governance Project (Fish Gov2) Project	Continental coverage	European Union
Conserving Aquatic Biodiversity in African Blue Economy Project	Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Eswatini, Ghana, Gabon, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Nigeria, Seychelles, South Sudan and Uganda	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)
Support to Implementation of Africa Blue Economy Strategy	UMA and CENSA Egypt	Kingdom of Norway
The Resilience Feed and Fodder Project (RAFFs)	Cameroon, Kenya, Nigeria, Somalia, Uganda and Zimbabwe: Continental initiatives	The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF)

Program 3: Access to Inputs, Services and Markets for Animal and Animal Products		
Project/Initiative	Geographical coverage	Donor/Development partners
Sustainable Development of Livestock for Livelihoods in Africa Project (Live2Africa)	IGAD, EAC, ECOWAS, ECCAS, SADC, UMA	European Union (EU)
Strengthening African countries capacities in Sanitary and Phytosanitary Standards (SPS),	ECOWAS and ECCAS: Djibouti, Burkina Faso, Cote D'Ivoire, Chad, DRC, Mali, Nigeria, Egypt, The Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Uganda and Zambia.	United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Enhancing the participation of African Countries in Codex Alimentarius Commission,	Nigeria, Kenya, Ghana, Uganda, Senegal, and Zimbabwe,	United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Containing the Emergence and Spread of Antimicrobial Resistance in Africa (CES-AMR Africa)	Benin, Burundi, Cape Verde, Congo (Brazzaville), Guinea Bissau, Madagascar, Mali, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Sao Tome & Principe, Somalia, South Sudan, Tchad, The Gambia, Togo and Zimbabwe.	United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

1.2 Measuring Our Results

AU-IBAR advances governance and management of animal resources for sustainable development, guided by Agenda 2063's Aspirations 1 and 6. Activities target stakeholders such as national governments, regional economic communities, and various organizations, aiming to influence development outcomes. These include new policies, adaptation plans, knowledge adoption, and institutional reforms. Implementation leads to socio-economic benefits across three core functions:

- i. improved animal health systems,
- ii. enhanced production systems, and;
- iii. improved access to markets.

AU-IBAR's principles of engagement comprise: Partnerships, Subsidiarity, Synergy and Complementarity, Mutual Respect. This engagement is expected to result in several results (summarized in Table I; and outlined in the AU-IBAR 2018–2023 Strategy. This report highlights select achievements from 2023, demonstrating tangible impacts at all levels.



Table 1: Summary of 2023 Results

	Result Areas	AU-IBAR 2023 Interventions
1.	Formulation of policies, strategies, and guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> African Swine Fever (ASF) Regional Control Strategy Standards & Procedures Methods in Animal Health Draft Strategic Plan for the RAHC for 2024-2028 Continental Strategy for Gender Mainstreaming in Conservation of Aquatic Biodiversity and Environmental Management in Africa Multifaceted Achievements in Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation and Policy Advancements
2.	Assisted in CAADP integration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusion of animal resources and fisheries and aquaculture sectors in CAADP reporting CAADP Strategic Communications experts meetings
3.	Initiated relevant programmes and projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pan African PPR Programme Resilient African Feed & Fodder Systems Project Initiated the African Union One Health Data Alliance Africa (AU-OHADDA) Project.
4	Formulated common positions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthening Codex issues of common interest to Africa Assisting countries in adopting global instruments to enhance biodiversity conservation and environmental management.
5	Data, information & Content Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrade of Animal Resources Information System (ARIS) Development of Africa Fisheries and Aquaculture Data Management System (AFADATA) Continental and 6 national assessments on African Feed and Fodder Systems. Commencement of upgrade of AU-IBAR Website
6	Knowledge products produced and disseminated to address stakeholder needs for better animal resources development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 50 key publications and videos Working Groups and technical committees in place to validate knowledge products.
7	Advocated for animal resources development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocating for coordinated PPR Eradication efforts for Africa Donkey preservation & animal welfare
8	Provided technical support to AU-MSs, RECs, and networks/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementing standardized methods and procedures for animal health management across AU-MSs Strengthening capacities of Regional Gene Banks Across Africa Strengthening animal health centres Strengthening the capacities of select AU-MSs (Benin, Togo, Ghana, Nigeria, Cote D'Ivoire, and Liberia) in monitoring, control, and surveillance systems Empowering Women in Fish Value Addition Strengthening capacities in Women's involvement in Feed and Fodder Sector Empowering Regional NSAs Strategic Planning in Fisheries & Aquaculture
9	Collaboration with research institutions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting evidence-based decision-making through Centres of Excellence in Production of Research Outputs/ Knowledge products & Fisheries & Aquaculture Database.
10	Multi-stakeholder initiatives (e.g. learning, collaboration & knowledge sharing).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborative Efforts and Funding Commitments on PPR Eradication Project Technical and Steering Committees 36th ISCRC Conference 2nd Kenya Meat Expo Inaugural Coordination Meeting
11	Million dollars' worth of investments (approximately) can be linked to AU-IBAR's interventions in 2023	+ 12, 000, 000

1.3 List of Projects, Donors and Development Partners

Project/Initiative	Donor/Development partners
International Scientific Council Trypanosomiasis Research and Control (ISCTRC)	AU-MSs
Sustainable Development of Livestock for Livelihoods in Africa (Live2Africa)	European Union
The African Union One Health Data Alliance Africa (OHADAA)	GIZ
Regional Animal Health Networks	Member State funds and various Partners
Animal Welfare	The Donkey Sanctuary, SPANA and the World Animal Protection (WAP)
Sustainable Development of Livestock for Livelihoods in Africa (Live2Africa)	EU
Enhancing sustainable fisheries management and aquaculture development in Africa (Fish Gov 2)	EU
Conserving Aquatic Biodiversity in African Blue Economy Project	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)
Support to Implementation of Africa Blue Economy Strategy	Kingdom of Norway
The Resilience Feed and Fodder Systems Project (RAFFS)	The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
Strengthening African countries capacities in Sanitary and Phytosanitary Standards (SPS)	United States Department of Agriculture
Enhancing the Participation of African Countries in Codex Alimentarius Commission	United States Department of Agriculture
Containing the Emergence and Spread of Antimicrobial Resistance in Africa (CES-AMR Africa)	United States Department of Agriculture





2.0. KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

2.1 Programme I: Animal Health, Disease Prevention and Control Systems



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2.1.1 Advancing PPR Eradication: Collaborative Efforts and Funding Commitments

A Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) Control and Eradication Programme for Africa, coordinated under the Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADS), has been formulated. It is anticipated that the EU and other development partners will finance the programme, which starts with a preparatory phase in 2024. Contributions towards the project's implementation will come from the EU, AU-MSs, and partners, thus showcasing a unified commitment to combating PPR. Key collaborators include AU-IBAR, The African Union - Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Centre (AU PANVAC), FAO, World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), RECs, and AU-MSs.

Additionally, a dedicated Pan African PPR Eradication Secretariat was established at AU-IBAR, receiving endorsement from the 5th Specialised Technical Committee (STC) and launched in Paris, France, on the presence of several stakeholders and Ministers. The launch was officiated by Amb. Josefa Sacko, African Union Commissioner for Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment (ARBE).

2.1.2 Developing a Regional Strategy for African Swine Fever Control

The formulation of an African Swine Fever (ASF) Regional Control Strategy is underway, led by AU-IBAR in collaboration with Chief Veterinary Officers (CVOs), AU-MSs, and key stakeholders. Once finalized and adopted, this strategy will

guide coordinated efforts to mitigate the impact of ASF on Africa's swine industry, addressing economic losses and food security challenges. Through a formal review process, feedback from stakeholders will be incorporated to ensure the strategy's effectiveness and alignment with regional priorities. Upon adoption, the strategy will be translated into an action plan and program, facilitating targeted interventions for ASF prevention, control, and management.

2.1.3 Supporting Implementation of Standard Methods in Animal Health

AU-IBAR significantly contributed to the implementation of the Standard Methods and Procedures in Animal Health (SMP-AH2). This on-going initiative aims to strengthen the capacity of national veterinary services and RECs in implementing standardized methods and procedures for animal health management across AU-MSs. By providing dedicated support to this endeavour, AU-IBAR facilitated the adoption of best practices and protocols in animal health management, thereby improving disease surveillance, prevention, and control measures. The implementation of SMP-AH2 is crucial for enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of veterinary services, ultimately promoting the health and well-being of livestock populations. Additionally, harmonizing animal health practices through SMP-AH2 contributes to regional cooperation and collaboration in combating transboundary animal diseases, safeguarding agricultural livelihoods, and ensuring food security across Africa.

2.1.4 Strengthening Regional Animal Health Centres and Networks in Africa

From 2008, AU-IBAR, in collaboration with partners FAO, OIE, have supported Regional

Animal Health Desks, known as Regional Animal Health Centres (RAHCs), primarily focused on coordinating the control and prevention of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (Bird Flu). Throughout 2023, AU-IBAR and its partners continued to bolster the operations of these RAHCs and regional Animal Health Networks across various regions. This support has significantly enhanced regional coordination and collaboration in animal health management, ultimately strengthening capacities for the sustainable development of animal resources. These centres, now integral components of broader Regional Animal Health Networks, serve as crucial hubs for regional animal health efforts. An important highlight was AU-IBAR's collaboration with ECOWAS and FAO during the 9th Annual Animal Health Networks meeting. The meeting focused on reviewing the draft Strategic Plan for the RAHC for 2024-2028, aiming to address pressing challenges within the livestock sector.

2.1.5 Coordinating PPR Eradication Efforts Across RAHCs

In addition to prioritizing animal health, RAHCs serve as essential hubs for fostering the sustainable growth of animal resources within their respective regions. These centres also play a critical role in coordinating efforts to eradicate PPR across their regions. Dialogues initiated last year between partners and the Director of AU-IBAR aim to ensure the involvement of the Northern region, including Morocco, which lacks EU funding support, in the PPR eradication process. This proactive engagement underscores our commitment to achieving comprehensive coverage, addressing regional disparities, and advocating for equitable participation in eradication endeavours.

Table 2: Animal Health Centres

Regional Economic Community/ Region	Country	City
ECCAS	CHAD	N'Jemina
ECOWAS	MALI	Bamako
IGAAD/ICPALD	KENYA	Nairobi
EAC	TANZANIA	Arusha
SADC	BOTSWANA	Gaborone
NORTH AFRICA	TUNISIA	Tunis

2.1.6 Advancing OneHealth Governance in Africa

AU-IBAR has taken significant strides towards advancing One Health governance and management across AU-MSs. In collaboration with partners such as the Africa Centre for Disease Control (CDC), AU-IBAR has actively promoted the One Health approach for providing a framework for addressing complex health issues at the interface of humans, animals, and the environment, with the goal of improving health outcomes for all. To enhance coordination among the AU Commission agencies working in the One Health domain, the African Union One Health Coordination Group on zoonotic diseases was established in 2022, with Africa CDC and AU-IBAR as joint secretariats. This collaborative effort has resulted in the drafting of an AU One Health Strategy for Zoonotic Disease Prevention and Control, aimed at guiding AU-MSs in effectively addressing health challenges.

In addition, AU-IBAR continued in campaigns and collaborative efforts on rabies prevention. From 6-8 November 2023, AU-IBAR joined global stakeholders at the 2023 United Against Rabies Meeting in Rome; supported by FAO, WOAHA and WHO. The event promotes a One Health approach to combat rabies.

2.1.7 African Union One Health Data Alliance Africa (AU-OHADDA) Project

Drawing from its previous efforts in One

Health alongside partners and in accordance with essential continental policy frameworks, AU-IBAR initiated the African Union One Health Data Alliance Africa (AU-OHADDA) Project. The Project was officially launched in August 2023. This launch underscores AU-IBAR's dedication to assisting AU-MSs in advancing digitalized One Health governance and management. Through these endeavors, AU-IBAR maintains its pivotal role in advocating for comprehensive and integrated health management approaches throughout the continent. The Project receives funding from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and is jointly executed with the German Cooperation and Development Agency (GIZ).

2.1.8 Strengthening capacities of Regional Gene Banks Across Africa

In 2023, significant progress was made under the Live2Africa Project with the support to the existing five Regional Animal Gene Banks across Africa. These institutions, including the Centre International de Recherche-Développement sur l'élevage en zone Sub humide (CIRDES) in West Africa, the Department of Agricultural Research (DAR) in Southern Africa, the National Animal Genetic Resource Centre and Data Bank (NAGRIC & DB) in Eastern Africa, the University of Dschang in Central Africa, and the Banque Nationale de Gènes (BNG) in North Africa, serve as vital hubs for conserving animal

genetic resources. These initiatives aim to safeguard animal genetic diversity and prevent the loss of endangered breeds. A comprehensive technical assessment of existing African Union Animal Resources Seed Centers of Excellence (AU-ARS-CoE) and the continental backup facility was conducted, alongside the development of a governance framework to enhance conservation efforts. These initiatives are contributing to strengthening Africa's capacity to manage and preserve valuable animal genetic resources.

2.1.9 Advancing Donkey Preservation and Animal Welfare Awareness in Africa

The collaborative efforts between AU-IBAR and animal welfare organizations such as The Brooke, Donkey Sanctuary, World Animal Protection, and SPANA have produced significant outcomes in the preservation of donkey populations and raising awareness of animal welfare. Campaigns conducted in Burkina Faso, Cote D'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Kenya, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, and Zimbabwe have sensitized key stakeholders to the critical need for donkey conservation, particularly in light of threats posed by the expanding trade in donkey skins. As a result of these campaigns, stakeholders have collaborated to produce a report titled "Donkeys in Africa now and in the future" which received endorsement from the STC.



2.2 Programme 2: Animal Resource Production Systems and Ecosystem Management



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2.2.1 Advancing Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture Development in Africa

In pursuit of enhancing food security, livelihoods, and wealth creation in line with the AU Agenda 2063, AU-IBAR collaborated with the African Union Development Agency-New Partnership for Africa's Development (AUDA-NEPAD) to strengthen Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture Development in Africa. This partnership aimed to accelerate sectoral reform through the implementation of the Fish Gov 2 Project. Notable achievements included supporting evidence-based African Union decisions on sustainable fisheries and aquaculture policies, ensuring alignment of the PFRS for Fisheries and Aquaculture with other AU priorities, fostering cooperation among related initiatives at continental, regional, and

national levels, and promoting the adoption and effective implementation of relevant global instruments.

AU-IBAR also worked to amplify the African voice in fisheries and aquaculture-related forums and contributed to the development of knowledge products such as policy briefs, notes, and advocacy materials addressing various aspects of fisheries governance. Additionally, efforts were made to align fisheries and aquaculture policies in Africa with the PFRS and other AU priorities, promoting coordination among stakeholders at different levels. This involved strengthening regional collaboration and coordination, resulting in alignment of activities and work plans among RECs, specialized regional institutions, and partners.

2.2.2 *Strengthening Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation and Management*

AU-IBAR worked to strengthen policy environments, regulatory frameworks, and institutional capacities of AU-MSs and RECs for the sustainable utilization and conservation of aquatic biodiversity and ecosystems. Under funding from SIDA, notable achievements include the successful adoption of global instruments by countries like Egypt, South Sudan, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, and Eswatini, resulting in significant improvements in aquatic biodiversity conservation and environmental management. Additionally, AU-IBAR focused on enhancing the capacities of select AU-MSs, such as Benin, Togo, Ghana, Nigeria, Cote D'Ivoire, and Liberia, in monitoring, control, and surveillance systems to effectively combat illegal fishing, thereby safeguarding overall aquatic biodiversity conservation and ecosystems.

Efforts were also made to support Benin and Togo in establishing transboundary marine spatial planning, while coastal communities were empowered with knowledge and skills in nature-based solutions for climate change mitigation in aquatic ecosystems. Furthermore, AU-IBAR facilitated the adoption of global instruments to enhance biodiversity conservation and environmental management, promoted sustainable coastal and marine tourism, and supported the establishment of transboundary Marine Conservation Areas (TMCA) and enhanced regional capacities in monitoring, control, and surveillance (MCS) to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing (IUU).

2.2.3 *Support for Regional Blue Economy Strategies in UMA and CENSAD Regions*

With backing from the Kingdom of Norway,

AU-IBAR is aiding the Union of the Arab Maghreb (UMA) and the Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CENSAD) in crafting regional blue economy strategies. This support enables AU-IBAR to provide technical expertise and capacity building, facilitating the formulation of tailored strategies to harness maritime resources sustainably. These efforts aim to spur economic growth, enhance maritime governance, and promote sectors like fisheries and tourism. By aligning with AU Agenda 2063 and the UN Sustainable Development Goals, this collaboration seeks to foster inclusive development, create employment, and strengthen regional cooperation for long-term prosperity.

2.2.4 *Empowering Regional NSAs: Strategic Planning in Fisheries & Aquaculture*

In an effort to bolster the capacity of regional Non-State Actors (NSAs) platforms in the Fisheries and Aquaculture sector, AU-IBAR, AUDA-NEPAD, with support from FAO, organized a Training and Consultative Workshop on Strategic Planning from August 14th to 18th, 2023, in Naivasha, Kenya. The workshop aimed to enhance the strategic planning capabilities of regional NSAs by providing formalization support, tailored technical assistance, and advocacy efforts to shape policies, resulting in significant progress toward empowering NSAs and fostering sustainable development in the sector.

2.2.5 *Integrating Animal Resources into CAADP Frameworks*

Progress was achieved by integrating animal resources into CAADP, notably through including fisheries and aquaculture sectors in biennial reporting on Malabo Goals. This milestone signifies a vital stride toward holistic

agricultural development and maximizing Africa's livestock sector potential. Recognizing the importance of animal resources and incorporating them into CAADP agendas, African countries pave the way for sustainable growth, poverty reduction, and improved food security continent-wide. The involvement of fisheries and aquaculture sectors in CAADP reporting reflects a commitment to expanding agricultural development's scope. This inclusion acknowledges their significant contributions and highlights the interconnectedness of various agricultural sub-sectors. Advocating for continued integration, coupled with capacity-building and strategic partnerships, is crucial for unlocking new opportunities and realizing comprehensive agricultural development's full benefits in Africa. AU-IBAR's participation in the CAADP Strategic Communications experts meeting in August 2023 further ensures uniform reporting and advances CAADP objectives.

2.2.6 *Advancing Resilience in African Feed and Fodder Systems*

AU-IBAR's initiative, with funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation on 'Evidence-Driven Short-Term Solutions to Enhance Resilience in African Feed and Fodder Systems' – (RAFFS Project) yielded significant outcomes towards addressing pressing challenges faced by these systems. Substantial progress was made in establishing governance structures, recruiting teams, and selecting core AU-MSs and stakeholders. An initiation meeting was held in July, 2023 and country launches were held in each of the selected countries (Cameroon, Kenya, Nigeria, Somalia, Uganda, and Zimbabwe). AU-IBAR conducted a continental survey across 55 AU-MSs, revealing widespread absence of national databases for feed and fodder. The survey explored the impact of triple crises -

Covid-19, climate, and crisis - on the sector, highlighting challenges faced by farmers. Many increased productions to mitigate risks, while governments implemented supportive measures like fostering Public-Private Partnerships and tax adjustments. Pilot country assessments identified critical gaps, informing targeted emergency response measures and emphasizing the need for systemic restructuring and resourcing. The project facilitated improved coordination, stakeholder engagement, and national-level initiatives, fostering ownership and paving the way for sustainable solutions. Overall, these efforts underscore AU-IBAR's crucial role in strengthening African feed and fodder systems, advancing food security, and promoting resilience.

2.2.7 *Transforming the African Livestock Sector*

The culmination of the EU funded Live2Africa Project in the year marked a significant milestone in the transformation of the African livestock sector towards environmentally sustainable and climate-resilient socio-economic development. This comprehensive initiative employed a value chain approach, focusing on enhancing the capacities of stakeholders at the continental, regional, and national levels. Through targeted interventions, the project addressed critical needs within the livestock sector while harnessing regional comparative advantages to drive progress. The outcomes of the Live2Africa Project were far-reaching, contributing to the enhancement of the sector's overall sustainability and equitable growth. By strengthening systemic capacities and promoting environmentally and socially sustainable practices, the project laid a solid foundation for the continued advancement of the African livestock industry through the implementation of the LiDeSA. A week-long closure of the

Project was held in June 2023; comprising the last sitting of its technical and Steering Committees and a Close-out workshop.

In June 2023, the Project culminated in a week-long closure, marking a significant milestone in its journey. This included the final meetings of its technical and Steering Committees, along with a Close-out workshop. This event provided an invaluable opportunity to review and reflect on the project's achievements, address any remaining issues, and officially close out the project. It served as a platform for stakeholders to consolidate lessons learned, share best practices, and celebrate successes. Additionally, it allowed for the dissemination of findings and recommendations, ensuring that the project's impact extends beyond its duration.

2.2.8 *Advancing Sustainable Management of Cross-Border Grazing Resources*

AU-IBAR, in collaboration with IGAD's Centre for Pastoral Areas and Livestock Development (ICPALD), facilitated a two-day workshop in Naivasha, Kenya from 25-26 April 2023. The workshop aimed to validate and update a regional report on the sustainable use of rangelands and cross-border grazing resources in IGAD. Additionally, it sought to build consensus on implementing joint management strategies aligned with IGAD's Regional Rangeland Management Strategic Framework, fostering evidence-based policy changes for sustainable resource utilization.

2.2.9 *Developing and Sustaining an Integrated Livestock Early Warning and Timely Action System in IGAD Region*

The Regional Stakeholders' Validation Workshop and Technical Forum on "Developing and Sustaining an Integrated Livestock Early Warning

and Timely Action System in IGAD Region," co-hosted by AU-IBAR and IGAD/ICPALD, held on 27-28 April 2023, showcased collaborative efforts to enhance sustainable livestock development and livelihoods in the IGAD region. The event facilitated a comprehensive review of existing early warning systems and stakeholders' engagement, leading to insights into critical parameters for integration. The consensus achieved on integrating these parameters promises improved monitoring and alert mechanisms, essential for mitigating livestock-related risks and advocating for Early Warning and Timely Action.

2.2.10 *Regional Mobile Assisted Reproductive Technologies Launch, Handover Training*



The Regional Mobile Assisted Reproductive Technologies (ART) Launch and Handover event, facilitated by AU-IBAR and officiated by the Department of Livestock (Kenya), marked a significant advancement in improving animal reproduction capabilities across the region. Held in partnership with the Kenya Agriculture and Livestock Research Organisation (KALRO) and the Kenya Animal Genetic Resources Centre, the initiative aimed to enhance cattle productivity and genetic diversity by providing mobile ART treatments. This effort

was particularly vital for enabling livestock caretakers, especially those in remote areas, to access modern reproductive interventions. By decentralizing ART services, the endeavour aims to bolster breeding efficiency, animal health, and ultimately, food security and economic prosperity. Beyond addressing livestock reproductive challenges, the event empowered farmers with tools and knowledge to optimize breeding practices, while also fostering knowledge exchange through subsequent farmer training sessions on ART utilization, driving further advancements in the field.

2.2.11 Strengthening capacities of Regional Gene Banks Across Africa

In 2023, significant progress was made under the Live2Africa Project with the support to the existing five Regional Animal Gene Banks across Africa. These institutions, including the Centre International de Recherche-Développement sur l'élevage en zone Sub humide (CIRDES) in West Africa, the Department of Agricultural Research (DAR) in Southern Africa, the National Animal Genetic Resource Centre and Data Bank (NAGRIC & DB) in Eastern Africa, the University of Dschang in Central Africa, and the Banque Nationale de Gènes (BNG) in North Africa, serve as vital hubs for conserving animal genetic resources. These initiatives aim to safeguard animal genetic diversity and prevent the loss of endangered breeds. A comprehensive technical assessment of existing African Union Animal Resources Seed Centers of Excellence (AU-ARS-CoE) and the continental backup facility was conducted, alongside the development of a governance framework to enhance conservation efforts. These initiatives are contributing to strengthening Africa's capacity to manage and preserve valuable animal genetic resources.

2.2.12 Handover of Dairy Genetic Gain System in Tunisia

The handover of the Dairy Genetic Gain System to Tunisia's national focal point in May 2023 signifies a crucial step towards sustainable management and scaling up under the Live2Africa Project. This event marked collaborative efforts aimed at enhancing dairy production and genetic improvement in Tunisia. By transferring ownership to the national focal point, the system is poised to bolster the country's dairy sector and advance its sustainability goals. This initiative highlights the commitment to local capacity building and sets the stage for broader adoption of successful practices across the region, driving progress towards a more resilient dairy sector in Tunisia and beyond.



2.3 Programme 3: Access to Inputs, Services and Markets for Animal and Animal Products



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2.3.1 Building Capacities for Enhanced Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

AU-IBAR systematically strengthened the capacities of veterinarians and animal health experts hailing from the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) regions. Specifically targeting countries such as Djibouti, Burkina Faso, Cote D'Ivoire, Chad, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Mali, Nigeria, Egypt, The Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Uganda, and Zambia, the initiative focused on enhancing competencies in Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures. Through rigorous training and skill development, participants were equipped with advanced knowledge in risk analysis, certification, inspection, and quarantine principles. The overarching goal was to fortify

the implementation of SPS measures, thereby facilitating smoother trade of animals and animal products while simultaneously enhancing the operational effectiveness of national veterinary services across AU-MSs within the ECOWAS and ECCAS regions.

2.3.2 Advancing Food Safety Initiatives

AU-IBAR played a pivotal role in coordinating the development of 30 African positions on food safety for presentation to the African Union Commission's committees. Additionally, AU-IBAR provided crucial support to six AU-MSs - Nigeria, Kenya, Ghana, Uganda, Senegal, and Zimbabwe - enabling their participation in the 2023 Session of Codex Committees addressing Food Labelling, Pesticide Residues, Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems, and Residues of Veterinary Drugs in

Food. Furthermore, AU-IBAR facilitated various activities, including organizing the 2023 World Food Safety Day in Nairobi from June 5 to 7, 2023, and facilitating five inter-regional Codex colloquia. These initiatives served as platforms for constructive dialogue on Codex issues of common interest to Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, and the United States, ultimately fostering greater collaboration and alignment on food safety matters across regions.

2.3.3 *Strengthening Capacity and Collaboration in Combatting AMR in Africa*

AU-IBAR contributed to enhancing the skills of animal health professionals and technicians from various AU-MSs such as Benin, Burundi, Cape Verde, Congo (Brazzaville), Eritrea, Guinea Bissau, Madagascar, Mali, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Sao Tome & Principe, Somalia, South Sudan, Tchad, The Gambia, Togo and Zimbabwe. These trainings encompassed AMR surveillance, laboratory testing, animal pathogen isolation techniques, and data handling. Notably, this initiative strengthened participants' ability to conduct effective AMR surveillance, employ various AMR laboratory testing methodologies, isolate animal pathogens, and manage AMR surveillance data efficiently.

2.3.4 *Establishment of the Africa AMR Surveillance Network (AMRSNET)*

The establishment of the Africa AMR Surveillance Network (AMRSNET) by AU-IBAR has catalyzed collective efforts to address antimicrobial resistance (AMR) across the African continent. The inaugural meeting held from 11-13 September 2023 convened key stakeholders committed to combatting AMR, including representatives from AU-MSs, Africa CDC, USDA-FAS, and other partners. The event underscored the gravity of the AMR challenge

and emphasized collaboration, scientific rigor, and a One-Health approach in tackling AMR. Notable outcomes included commitments from Africa CDC and USDA-FAS to collaborate with AU-IBAR, as well as discussions on AMR surveillance, national action plans, funding, and capacity-building efforts. The meeting facilitated engaging discussions, oral presentations, and country reports on the status of AMR activities in various African nations. Key issues addressed encompassed the One-Health approach, funding sources, stakeholder mapping, and specific value chains like poultry, cattle, and aquaculture. The event culminated in key recommendations for AU-IBAR, AU-MSs, and Regional Economic Communities (RECs), aiming to promote knowledge sharing, strengthen regional cooperation, sustain capacity-building efforts, and allocate resources for AMR activities. Moving forward, AU-IBAR plans to organize online meetings and regional forums to further collaboration and finalize the Africa AMR Surveillance Framework, marking significant progress in combatting AMR and safeguarding the health of Africa's people, animals, and ecosystems.

2.3.5 *Collaborative Efforts in Combating AMR during World Antimicrobial Awareness Week*

AU-IBAR, in collaboration with Africa CDC and other key partners, participated in Zimbabwe's Annual World AMR Awareness Week Campaign from 18-24 November, 2023. Through joint efforts with Quadripartite Partners, including WHO, WOA, FAO, and UNEP, AU-IBAR facilitated a series of events aimed at enhancing awareness and dialogue on AMR. These included media sensitization meetings, university debates, and policy dialogues focused on accelerating the implementation of AMR National Action Plans. Additionally, activities like a mini football

tournament and field visits to farmer poultry schools and laboratories were organized to engage diverse stakeholders and highlight the importance of combating AMR. This collaborative initiative played a vital role in raising awareness and fostering dialogue on the environmental dimensions of AMR, underscoring AU-IBAR's commitment to addressing this global health challenge.

2.3.6 Enhancing Trade Facilitation and Harmonization in ECOWAS

AU-IBAR provided support to AU-MSs in ECOWAS to conduct evidence-based

assessments, informing strategic capacity development and disease risk management interventions. Through coordinated efforts, activities were harmonized to streamline Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) processes, facilitating trade in priority animals and animal products within targeted regional trade corridors in ECOWAS. Additionally, AU-IBAR facilitated dialogues between AU-MSs and counterparts in the EU to address priority standards essential for enhancing trade in animals and animal products.



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3.0 EMPOWERING WOMEN IN ANIMAL RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

3.1 *Continental Strategy on Advancing Gender Equality in Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation*

The formulation of a Continental Strategy for Gender Mainstreaming in Conservation of Aquatic Biodiversity and Environmental Management in Africa represents a significant milestone for AU-IBAR. Through expert workshops, literature reviews, and virtual surveys, valuable insights were gathered to inform this pivotal strategy. Engaging diverse stakeholders from AU-MSs and Regional Seas Conventions underscores the collaborative nature of this endeavour. The resulting strategy outlines actionable steps to enhance women's participation in conservation efforts, promoting inclusivity and sustainability. AU-IBAR's commitment to advancing gender equality and responsible resource management is evident in this comprehensive strategy, aligning with its broader mission to safeguard Africa's animal resources.

3.2 *Promoting Gender-Sensitive Strategies for Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation in Malawi and Ethiopia*

Under the Conserving Aquatic Biodiversity Project, Malawi and Ethiopia received targeted support aimed at developing gender-sensitive strategies for the conservation of aquatic biodiversity and environmental management. This technical assistance was instrumental in fostering inclusive approaches that recognized and addressed the unique roles and perspectives

of women in these critical conservation efforts. The technical support provided enabled Malawi and Ethiopia to develop gender-sensitive strategies that advanced both conservation goals and gender equality objectives. By recognizing and harnessing the contributions of women in aquatic biodiversity conservation and environmental management, these countries have taken significant steps towards achieving sustainable and inclusive development outcomes.

3.3 *Empowering Women in Fish Value Addition*

AU-IBAR, in collaboration with AUDA-NEPAD and with support from the EU-funded FishGov2 Project organized a Training of Trainers workshop in Abidjan, Cote D'Ivoire, in September 2023. The workshop aimed to empower women in the fisheries sector by providing essential skills in fish value addition and marketing strategies through AU-IBAR's collaboration with L'Académie Régionale des Sciences et Techniques de la Mer (ARSTM). By equipping women with knowledge in fish technology, marketing strategies, and regulatory compliance, the training contributed to economic growth and food security across Africa. This initiative aligns with African leaders' commitment to empowering women, as highlighted in the Malabo Declaration and the PFRS for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa.

3.4 *Empowering Women in the Feed and Fodder Sub-Sector*

The RAFFS Project led by AU-IBAR has demonstrated a profound impact on empowering women within the feed, fodder, and livestock-sourced food value chains across

Africa. Through targeted support and focused efforts, the project has catalyzed significant advancements in gender equality and inclusive development. During the launch of RAFFS country chapters, strategic initiatives were directed towards supporting the African Women in Animal Resources Farming and Agribusiness (AWARFA-N) Chapters, enabling women to actively participate and benefit from agricultural activities. Going forward, the RAFFS Project continues to provide tailored support to AWARFA-N chapters, fostering empowerment through resource mobilization, financial partnerships, and capacity-building initiatives within the agricultural sector.



4. KNOWLEDGE, LEARNING, NETWORKING & COLLABORATION

AU-IBAR continued to promote knowledge and learning through several stakeholder engagement processes. These came in different forms such as conferences, workshops, training sessions, and validation meetings for publications on various topics related to animal resources development. These efforts facilitated collaboration, information sharing, and capacity-building. By facilitating consensus-building and promoting the exchange of ideas, AU-IBAR has significantly contributed to the advancement of sustainable practices within the sector.

Strategic Support and Collaborative Impact: Project Steering and Technical Committees Guidance in 2023

4.1 Promoting Project Governance

The Project Steering Committee (PSC) and Technical Committees have been instrumental in supporting AU-IBAR's initiatives in 2023. The PSC, comprising key stakeholders, offers strategic guidance and oversight, ensuring alignment with project objectives. Meanwhile, the Technical Committees, composed of subject matter experts, provide specialized insights and assessments, enhancing the quality and relevance of project outputs. Their collaborative efforts have facilitated decision-making, problem-solving, and coordination, driving the successful implementation of projects while maximizing impact and addressing challenges effectively.

4.2 World Bee Day 2023: Fostering Pollinator-Friendly Agriculture and Economic Growth

AU-IBAR's impact on World Bee Day 2023 was significant, facilitated through its affiliation with the 35 Apiculture Platforms across Africa, established or reinforced under the AU-IBAR - ICIPE Bee Health Project, funded jointly by the European Union and African Union. These platforms, serving as multi-stakeholder engagement hubs, played a crucial role in promoting pollinator-friendly agricultural practices. During the celebrations held in Togo, stakeholders were reminded of the African Union's 2023 theme, "The Year of AfCFTA: Acceleration of the African Continental Free Trade Area's Implementation," highlighting the need for organizing the beekeeping industry to leverage opportunities in Africa's unified market. AU-IBAR's efforts underscore its commitment to fostering economic development and environmental sustainability in Africa through beekeeping.

4.3 Kenya Meat Expo 2023

AU-IBAR and partners joined the 2nd Kenya Meat Expo from May 3-5, 2023, in Nairobi. The expo focused on bolstering resilience and growth in the meat industry through investment and innovation. Collaborators included Nation Media, the State Department of Livestock, and key industry players. The event fostered knowledge exchange and showcased strategies for enhancing the meat sector's sustainability and economic impact. Through discussions and exhibitions, AU-IBAR contributed to promoting investment, job creation, and market development within Kenya's meat value chain.

4.4 Advancing Livestock Investment Through Collaborative Efforts

AU-IBAR's participation in the Regional Workshop on Livestock Master Plans, alongside FAO, ILRI, and CIRAD, highlights impactful collaboration in shaping key policies for Africa's livestock sector. The workshop aimed to expedite measures for sustainable livestock transformation, convening delegates from various sectors over two days. Distinguished representatives, notably, Dr. Nick Nwankpa (Acting Director, AU-IBAR), including Ambassador Carla Mucavi from FAO and Ian Wright from ILRI, emphasized collective commitment to advancing sustainable livestock development in Africa. This collaborative effort underscores the significance of multi-stakeholder engagement in driving investments and sustainable development in the region's livestock sector.

4.5 36th ISCTRC Conference: Advancing Sustainable Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis Control for Socio-Economic Development

The 36th ISCTRC Conference, was hosted by the Government of Kenya and held in Mombasa, Kenya from 18th - 22nd September, 2023, under the theme Sustainable tsetse and trypanosomiasis control for socio-economic development, convened over 300 participants. Attendees included representatives from 38 tsetse-infested AU-MSs, stakeholders in disease control, scientists from AU-MSs, researchers from universities worldwide, and experts from international organizations such as FAO, WHO, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and others. The conference facilitated information sharing on tsetse, human and animal trypanosomiasis problem, reviewed control strategies, and recommended appropriate approaches for tsetse and trypanosomiasis



research and control. The key outcomes included the identification of research priorities and recommendations for AU-MSs and stakeholders. Notable achievements encompassed the initiation of a continental strategy for animal trypanosomiasis control and enhanced networking among professionals in this field. This conference underscores our collective commitment to addressing the socio-economic challenges posed by trypanosomiasis in Africa.

4.6 APRIFAAS 6TH General Assembly: Advancing Regional Cooperation in Fisheries and Aquaculture

The Sixth General Assembly of the Africa Platform for Regional Institutions in Fisheries, Aquaculture, and Aquatic Systems (APRIFAAS) successfully convened in Tangier, Morocco, from October 11-12, 2023, focusing on enhancing regional cooperation for environmental integration in fisheries and aquaculture. Key outcomes included technical sessions reviewing APRIFAAS progress, discussions on environmental challenges, strategies to strengthen Africa's voice in international forums, and strategies to strengthen knowledge sharing. The assembly concluded with the election of a new bureau and plans for future meetings, supported by AU-IBAR through the EU under the FishGov 2 Project.

4.7 The 7th African Animal Welfare Conference

The African Animal Welfare Conference (AAWC), an annual event jointly organized by the Africa Network for Animal Welfare (ANAW), in 2023 convened for the 7th time in Kigali, Rwanda and virtually. In partnership with

the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), AU-IBAR, and the Government of Rwanda brought together over 200 delegates, facilitating essential dialogues among a diverse range of stakeholders, leading to increased awareness and coordinated efforts in addressing the intersections of animal welfare, climate change, and sustainable development. These achievements mark significant progress towards cultivating a healthier and more sustainable environment for both animals and communities throughout Africa.

4.8 Participation at the 13th GASL Meeting: Shaping Africa's Livestock Future

AU-IBAR participated in the 13th Multi-Stakeholder Partnership (MSP) Meeting of the Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock (GASL) and the Regional Conference on Sustainable Livestock Transformation in Chiang Mai, Thailand, from October 30th to November 3rd, 2023. Themed "Multi-Stakeholder Partnership Collaboration to Address Drivers of Change in Livestock Systems," the event explored innovative solutions for livestock sustainability, focusing on food security, socioeconomic factors, health, and the environment. AU-IBAR's active participation in the GASL meeting underscores its commitment to supporting sustainable livestock systems in Africa. By addressing the challenges faced by diverse livestock systems and advocating for well-structured policies and youth engagement, AU-IBAR is shaping a more sustainable future for Africa's vital livestock sector. Through multi-stakeholder partnerships, AU-IBAR is driving positive change and ensuring the resilience of Africa's livestock legacy as the continent progresses.

4.7 Inaugural High-level Coordination Meeting

The inaugural High-level Coordination Meeting of AU-IBAR on virtually on November 24, 2023, focused on fostering a Harmonized and Collaborative Approach for Developing Animal Resources in Africa. It will be an annual event, providing a consistent platform for collaboration. Discussions centered on implementing the Livestock Development Strategy for Africa (LiDeSA), identifying key focus areas, and proposing collaborative initiatives. Recommendations emphasized ongoing high-level coordination, strategic planning, and increased awareness creation.



5.0 DATA, INFORMATION AND CONTENT MANAGEMENT

5.1 *Animal Resources Information System Upgrade*

In 2023, significant changes were implemented across AU-IBAR's IT infrastructure and services, aligning them with the upcoming 2024-2029 strategy. The ongoing upgrade of IT infrastructure, set for completion in 2024, promises increased resources to manage larger workloads and enhance data management across multiple projects. Notably, efforts have been made to ensure better service availability through the implementation of a failover cluster, simplifying operations and benefiting various systems including the Animal Resources Information System (ARIS), messaging, and web hosting. Additionally, the long-awaited delivery of the new ARIS version was successfully completed, with conclusive testing indicating its readiness. Successful testing of an Extract, Transform, Load tool further enabled seamless data migration from ARIS2 to ARIS3, covering data from 2013 to 2023, with plans for processing earlier data from 2007 to 2012.

5.2 *Development of the Africa Fisheries and Aquaculture Data Management System*

In collaboration with the University of Cape Coast in Ghana, (An AU Centre of Excellence in Fisheries and Aquaculture), AU-IBAR developed a cutting-edge fisheries and aquaculture information system known as AFADATA. This innovative system was meticulously crafted to cater to the specific needs of the fisheries and aquaculture sector, offering comprehensive data management and analysis capabilities. Leveraging

the robust IT infrastructure provided by AU-IBAR, AFADATA seamlessly integrates into the existing ecosystem, marking a significant milestone as the eighth hosted system under AU-IBAR's purview. This strategic partnership underscores AU-IBAR's commitment to fostering technological advancements in the domain of fisheries and aquaculture, empowering stakeholders with enhanced tools for data-driven decision-making and sustainable resource management. Piloting of the database will commence in the first quarter of 2024.

5.3 *Fostering Online Collaboration and Knowledge Sharing*

AU-IBAR bolstered collaboration and knowledge sharing through its online community platform, which serves as a hub for stakeholders across Africa to connect, exchange ideas, and share resources. This platform facilitated document sharing and knowledge retention on pertinent topics related to animal resources development, fostering a vibrant online community of practitioners, researchers, policymakers, and other stakeholders. By leveraging technology to facilitate communication and collaboration, AU-IBAR effectively promoted networking and information exchange among its diverse audience, ultimately enhancing collective efforts towards the sustainable management of animal resources in Africa. On-going sensitization and training in platform technology were a key outcome of the year, bolstering the number of registered users to 3150. Join at: www.networks.au-ibar.org

Repository

Preserve, Organise and Find Publications, Reports, Articles etc.

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1.2K
items

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5.4 Repository Management

In 2023, AU-IBAR effectively managed publications and other information outputs through the utilization of DSpace, a digital repository system. This platform facilitated digital organization, storage, and dissemination of research outputs, reports, and other relevant

documents and multimedia. Through DSpace, AU-IBAR centralized its resource management process, allowing for efficient access to resources and ensuring that valuable knowledge is readily available to stakeholders at: <http://repository.au-ibar.org/>. Some key publications and outputs developed in 2023

Publications	
Africa Platform for Animal Welfare (APAW) Operational Guidelines	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1413
African Union 2023 Year of Accelerated Implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA): Learning Event to Promote Harmonized SPS Policies and Capacities in Africa	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1410
Best practices and lessons learnt on functional institutional anchorage between recs and regional fisheries bodies/ regional sea conventions (RFBS/RSC) and framework for effective anchorage: Information Note	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1516
Building from Fish Seed Production Best Practices for a Sustainable Aquaculture Development in Africa (Policy Brief)	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1510
A Continental Strategy for Gender Mainstreaming in Conservation of Aquatic Biodiversity and Environmental Management in Africa	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1534
Continental Guidelines on Marine Spatial Planning for Conservation of Aquatic Biodiversity and Ecosystems in Africa	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1487
Cost effective mechanism for stakeholder's participation and consultation at national and regional level in the fisheries and aquaculture sector in Africa	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1524
Enhancing Resilient African Feed and Fodder Systems - Policy Note	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1533
The first high-level coordination meeting of AU-IBAR with regional, national authorities, and partners: Harmonised and Collaborative Approach for Developing the Animal Resources Sector	

Fish Trade Facilitation	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1509
A Guide to implementation of MPA for conservation of Aquatic Biodiversity and Ecosystems in Africa - Lessons and Best Practices from South and Eastern Regions of Africa	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1417
Harmonised regional biodiversity framework and joint action plan for conservation of aquatic biodiversity and environmental protection in transboundary marine ecosystems	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1435
Identification and analysis of priority instruments related to fisheries and aquaculture in Union Member States (AU-MS): a step towards their domestication for improved fisheries governance	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1518
Impact of antimicrobial resistance on public health and the animal resources sector	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1537
La Promesse de l'aquaculture en Cage Pour la Sécurité Alimentaire Et Le Profit: Équilibrer Croissance Et Préoccupations Environnementales	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1542
Lessons Learned and Best Practices from Contemporary and Emerging Issues in African Fisheries	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1540
Mechanisms for Enhancing the Effective Role and Participation of African Union Member States in Regional, Continental, and Global Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation and Environmental Management Related Fora or Regimes For (North, West and Central Africa)	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1535
Mechanism for effective implementation and ratification of international instruments related to fisheries and aquaculture in African Union Member States (AU MS)	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1520
Mechanisms for establishing and strengthening linkages between specialized regional fisheries institutions and environmental agencies: Information Note	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1514
Mechanisms for rationalization of fisheries and aquaculture platforms and networks in Africa and anchoring them to regional economic communities and regional fisheries organizations	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1522
Mécanismes permettant d'établir et de renforcer les liens entre les institutions régionales spécialisées dans la pêche et les agences environnementales	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1515
National Report on Developing an All-inclusive and Deliberate Strategy for Gender Mainstreaming in Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation and Environmental Management in Ethiopia.	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1530
Policy measures to strengthen regulatory frameworks for sustainable coastal, marine tourism and mining activities towards aquatic biodiversity and environmental conservation in Kenya	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1424
Policy measures to strengthen regulatory frameworks for sustainable coastal, marine tourism and mining activities towards aquatic biodiversity and ecosystems conservation in Nigeria	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1425
The Promise of Cage Aquaculture for Food Security and Profit: Balancing Growth and Environmental Concerns.	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1541
Promoting Work on Antimicrobial Resistance in Africa (Brochure)	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1538
Report on Community Training on Nature-Based Enterprises Involving Blue Carbon Ecosystems	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1532

Replicating Egypt's Tilapia Aquaculture Success Story in Other African Countries	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1539
Strategy for Institutional Coordination Between RECs and RFBs and Strengthening Their Relationships with NSAs	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1508
Strategy for Sustainable Coastal and Marine Tourism Activities to Conserve Aquatic Biodiversity and Ecosystems in Africa: Policy Note	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1449
Strategy for Sustainable Mining Activities for Conservation of Aquatic Biodiversity and Ecosystems in Africa	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1416
Status update on Antimicrobial Resistance activities in animal resources sector in African Union Member States	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1527
Sur le mécanisme pour la mise en oeuvre efficace et la ratification de instruments internationaux relatifs à la pêche et à l'aquaculture dans l'Union Africaine Etats Membres (EM DE L'UA)	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1521
Sur l'identification et l'analyse des instruments prioritaires liés à la pêche et l'aquaculture dans les états membres de l'union africaine (EMS DE L'UA): un pas vers leur domestication pour une gouvernance améliorée des pêches: Note de politique	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1519
Unlocking the potential for strengthening the role of women in conservation of aquatic biodiversity and environmental management in Africa	http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1504
Videos	
Conserving Aquatic Biodiversity in Africa Blue Economy (Long Version)	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P7i-R5yIM5Y
Conserving Aquatic Biodiversity in the Africa Blue Economy: Abridged Version	https://youtu.be/B9_T4J57O8o
RAFS PROJECT: The Feed and Fodder Sector in Africa {Long Version}	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mTDWg07hDZo
RAFFS PROJECT: The Feed and Fodder Sector in Africa	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=580hG5PAtrw
Sustainable Development of Livestock for Livelihoods in Africa (Live2Africa Project) - Documentary	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qFOrN_iK7uU

6.0 COMMUNICATIONS AND VISIBILITY

6.1 Website Upgrade

Work commenced in November 2023 with a revamp of the AU-IBAR website, marking the beginning of a significant effort to enhance its digital presence and accessibility. As part of this initiative, the website underwent a comprehensive redesign, focusing on improving user experience, navigation, and content organization. In March 2024, AU-IBAR is set to unveil the upgraded website, representing a pivotal milestone in its commitment to leveraging digital platforms for effective communication and dissemination of information. The revamped website will feature aligned content to AU-IBAR's program areas, facilitating easy access to information on animal health, production, economics, trade, and marketing. Alongside the website upgrade, support will also be rendered to Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and Regional Fisheries Bodies in 2024 in content enhancement and website upgrades associated with Fisheries and Aquaculture.

6.2 Media Engagement

In 2023, AU-IBAR intensified media engagement, collaborating with over 30 media outlets to ensure extensive coverage of its events and programs aimed at advancing Africa's animal resource management. Additionally, AU-IBAR focused on enhancing media capacity in reporting on animal resources, providing journalists with skills to cover topics such as animal health, production, economics, trade, and marketing. Notable coverage included

advocacy messages, discussions on El Niño, and reporting on Feed and Fodder situations in countries implementing the RAFFS Project. This engagement heightened public awareness and understanding of key sector issues, facilitating informed decision-making for the benefit of African communities and ecosystems.

Regarding multimedia productions, AU-IBAR utilized videos, infographics, and podcasts to effectively communicate its initiatives and messages to diverse audiences. Key videos produced in 2023 included "Conserving Aquatic Biodiversity," "Sustainable Livestock for Livelihoods," and "Resilient African Feed and Fodder Systems." Social media platforms such as Twitter and LinkedIn amplified the reach of this multimedia content, sparking engagement and discussion

6.3 Exhibitions and Visibility

AU-IBAR programmes gained significant visibility through showcasing at key events such as the Africa Climate Summit, the Knowledge Share Fair (a collaboration between EcoFish and IGAD), and the 36th ISCTRC Conference. These platforms provided crucial opportunities to highlight AU-IBAR's initiatives and contributions to addressing climate challenges and promoting sustainable development in Africa's livestock and fisheries sectors. By participating in these events, AU-IBAR expanded its reach to a broader audience of policymakers, experts, and stakeholders, enhancing its influence within the region. Collaborating with esteemed partners like EcoFish and IGAD underscored AU-IBAR's commitment to fostering strategic partnerships for collective action in animal resources management and climate resilience.

7.0 KEY ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR 2024

Key projects, activities, and initiatives approved by the 5th Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment STC for implementation in 2024

Animal Health and Welfare:

- Implementation of the Pan African Programme for the Eradication of Peste des Petits Ruminants and Control of other priority small ruminant diseases (2023-2027).
- Execution of the “Donkey in Africa Now and in the Future” initiative aimed at preserving the donkey species on the continent.
- Development of the African Union Digital One Health Information Policy and associated One Health Information Architecture Framework to enhance digitalized governance and management.
- Preparedness efforts in African countries to eliminate rabies by 2030.

Animal Production:

- Operationalization of the Pan-African Civil Society Organizations in the fisheries and aquaculture sector (AFRIFISH-net).
- Enhancement of Aquatic Animal Health and Biosecurity measures.
- Support provided to six AU-MSs in developing National Blue Economy strategies coherent with the African Blue Economy Strategy.
- Establishment and operationalization of the African Pastoral Markets Development (APMD) platform.
- Implementation of mechanisms to enhance the effective role and participation of AU-MSs in regional, continental, and global aquatic biodiversity conservation and environmental management-related forums or regimes.
- Promotion of Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) in fisheries and aquaculture through a guide for developing and implementing sustainable models.
- Operationalization of the Continental Strategy for mainstreaming gender in aquatic biodiversity conservation and environmental management.
- Strengthening regional cooperation on the management of transboundary aquatic ecosystems and biodiversity.
- Development of harmonized minimum terms and conditions for fisheries access in AU-MSs.
- Operationalization of the Strategy for rational management of African inland fisheries.
- Strengthening institutional capacity of the Aquaculture Network for Africa (ANAF) to promote coherent and sustainable aquaculture development.
- Implementation of urgent actions to address feed shortages and prevent future feed-related disasters.



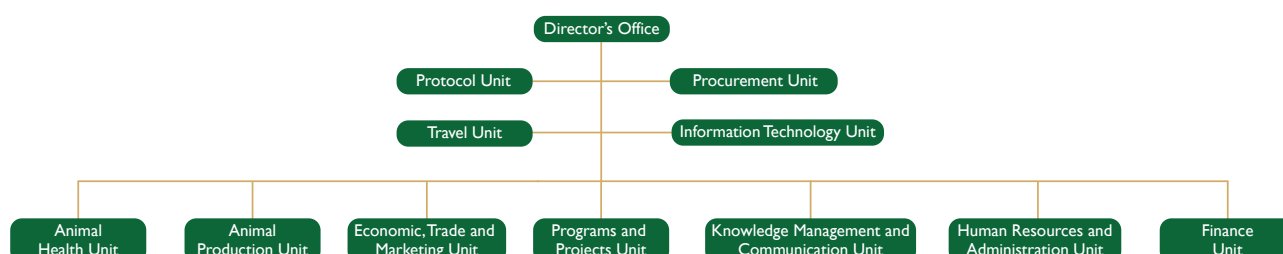
8.0 2023 CAPACITY AND BUDGET

8.1 AU-IBAR Human Resource Capacity

Position/s	Number	Terms of engagement
Directors Office		
Director-AU-IBAR	1	Regular
Administrative Assistant	1	Regular
Webmaster	1	Regular
Systems Administrator	1	Project Staff
Protocol assistant	1	Regular
Travel Assistant	1	Project Staff
Driver	1	Regular
Procurement consultants	2	Consultants
Administrative Assistant, Procurement	1	Consultant
Administrative Assistant, Protocol	1	Consultant
Animal Health Unit		
Animal Health Officer	1	Regular
Technology, Innovations & Skills Development Expert	1	Project Staff
Administrative Assistant	1	Project Staff
Animal Health Expert	1	Consultant
Animal Production Unit		
Fisheries Officer	1	Regular
Project Officer	1	Project Staff
Animal Production, Natural resource management and resilience expert	1	Project Staff
Administrative Assistant	1	Project Staff
Sustainable Blue Economy Expert	1	Consultant
Environmental Expert, Fisheries	1	Consultant
Aquatic Biodiversity Specialist	1	Consultant
Fisheries and Aquaculture Trade investment expert	1	Consultant
Fisheries and Aquaculture Resources Management expert		Consultant
Legal and institutional officer, natural resources and environmental law consultant	1	Consultant
Gender policy and strategy expert	1	Consultant
Feed & Fodder Business Development Expert	1	Consultant
Information Systems & Data Analytics Expert	1	Consultant
Programs assistant, communications and visibility	1	Consultant
Junior consultant/administrative assistant	1	Consultant
Trade and marketing Unit		
Food Safety Expert	1	Project Staff
Administrative Assistant	1	Project Staff
Animal Health Expert	1	Consultant
Anti-microbial Resistance Expert	1	Consultant
Administrative Assistant	1	Consultant

Position/s	Number	Terms of engagement
Programs and projects Office		
Senior Programs and projects Officer	1	Regular staff
M&E officer	1	Project Staff
Planning & Strategy Expert	1	Consultant
Knowledge Management, Communications and Visibility		
Senior Knowledge Management Officer	1	Regular staff
Graphics Designer	1	Project Staff
Programme Assistant, Communications & Visibility	1	Consultant
Content Migration & Website Maintenance	1	Consultant
Finance and Internal Audit Office		
Head of Finance	1	Regular
Finance Officer Projects	1	Project Staff
Senior Certifying Officer	1	Project Staff
Assistant finance officer	3	Project Staff
Accounts Assistant	1	Regular
Filing Clerk/accountant	1	Consultant
Human resource Office		
Senior Resource Officer	1	Regular
HR Assistant	1	Project Staff
Stores/Registry clerk	1	Regular
Drivers	2	1 regular, 1 Project Staff
Receptionist/secretary	1	Regular
Mail runners	2	Regular

8.2 Organogram



8.3 2023 Procurement Activities

Key procurement activities were conducted, highlighting key initiatives undertaken during the year. These included advancing the technical and financial evaluation for the African Union campus design and build tender, with the evaluation process currently progressing through its later stages. Additionally,

procurement efforts focused on acquiring essential IT equipment and engaging Centres of Excellence in the FishGov2 Project. These procurement processes initiated in 2023 reflect strategic endeavours aimed at enhancing infrastructure development, technological capabilities, and collaborative partnerships within the African Union's diverse projects and programmes.

ITEM	AMOUNT IN USD
Consultancy	1,048,919.12
Non-Consultancy (includes conference facilities, interpreters, etc)	1,694,127.37
Goods	199,874.32
TOTAL	2,942,920.81

8.4 AU-IBAR 2023 Annual Budget

Below is the 2023 budget breakdown with donor contribution percentages.

AU's fiscal year is January to December. Budgets, approved by Headquarters, are prepared annually.

Partner's Name	Contribution (USD)	% Contribution to total budget
Africa Network for Animal Welfare	169,505	1.3 %
BMGF	1,540,371	12%
EC-IBAR to Strategic Plan strength-ADMIN	259,110	2%
EU-Continental IBAR	1,660,751	12.8%
FAO fund to IBAR	135,000	1%
EU Continental IBAR - FishGov2	466,0751	36%
Germany Technical Cooperation	192,129	1.5%
Member States for Programs	151,350	1%
Norway to the AU	250,000	1.9%
SIDA Aquatic Biodiversity Project	1,814,269	14%
USDA for IBAR	308,000	2.4%
Support the construction of the AU Campus	2,000,000	15.5%
IBAR admin	1,449,286.97	11%
Total	12,929,772	100%



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