AFRICAN UNION
INTERAFRICAN BUREAU
FOR ANIMAL RESOURCES



ANNUAL REPORT 2025

Transforming Africa's Animal Resources Sector for Food Security, Livelihoods and Sustainable and Economic Growth

AU-IBAR in Brief

The African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) is a specialised technical office of the Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment of the African Union Commission.

Vision: An Africa in which animal resources contribute significantly to the reduction of poverty and hunger

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



Our Core Areas of Work

- Animal Health & Welfare
- Animal Production & Productivity
- Trade, Markets & Investment

Why It Matters

We are Supporting:

- Food and nutrition security
- Jobs and livelihoods
- Inclusive economic growth

Continental Contribution

We are advancing the implementation of:

- Agenda 2063 (Aspiration 1)
- CAADP 2026–2035
- The Livestock Development Strategy for Africa (LiDeSA)
- AU-IBAR Strategic Plan 2024–2028

Partnerships Driving Impact

AU-IBAR delivers its mandate through strong collaboration with 55 African Union Member States and the 8 Regional Economic Communities (RECs) as key co-implementers, guided by the principles of partnership, subsidiarity, synergy, complementarity, and mutual respect.

Acknowledgements

We acknowledge with appreciation the support of our development partners, including the European Union (EU), the Gates Foundation, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development / Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (BMZ/GIZ), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), and the Government of Norway.

We also recognise the valuable contributions of our technical partners: AU-PANVAC, Africa CDC, GALVmed, ILRI, FAO, WOAH, as well as multistakeholder platforms, Centres of Excellence, NGOs, the private sector, and media, whose collaboration remains essential to delivering impact across Africa.

Executive Summary

In 2025, AU-IBAR strengthened animal health, sustainable livestock production, fisheries governance and trade across Africa

Key Highlights – 2025

15 Member States were supported to update and strengthen their national strategies for the eradication of Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR).



30 African countries were assessed using the PPR Monitoring and Assessment Tool (PMAT) to track progress toward the global goal of PPR eradication by 2030.



11 African vaccine producers were mapped to strengthen continental vaccine supply planning and improve preparedness for disease control.



The **African Union Digital One Health Platform** was operationalised to improve data sharing, coordination, and decision-making across animal, human, and environmental health sectors.



More than **USD 20 million** in investment was mobilised through cooperative livestock feed and fodder initiatives.



6 countries implemented feed and fodder data systems to improve evidence-based planning and strengthen livestock production systems.



28 countries were supported to align national fisheries and aquaculture policies with the Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa (PFRS).



A total of **723** people, including **422** women and **301** men, were trained in fisheries governance and aquatic biodiversity conservation.



African experts coordinated the development of **62** African positions on international animal health and food safety standards to strengthen the continent's influence in global decision-making.



25 MSs supported for the control of vector-borne diseases (Disaggregated by Disease, such as Rift Valley fever and trypanosomiasis)



6 MSs using African Fisheries and Aquaculture Database (AFAData)



6 MSs are PPR Free and **3** MS have submitted dossier to prove their PPR Free Status

Programme Results

Animal Health & Disease Control



- Pan-African PPR eradication Programme launched
- Regional disease surveillance strengthened
- Veterinary regulatory coordination improved

Impact: Stronger animal health systems protecting livestock and rural livelihoods.

Sustainable Livestock & Pastoral Systems



- Feed and fodder policy framework endorsed
- New livestock investment models mobilised
- Pastoral market systems strengthened

Impact: Resilient livestock production and stronger regional trade opportunities.

Fisheries & Aquatic Biodiversity



- Fisheries governance strengthened
- Blue economy initiatives supported
- Women and youth participation expanded

Impact: Sustainable fisheries and improved protection of aquatic ecosystems.

Africa's Voice in Global Standards



- 62 African Positions developed.
- Engagement in WOAH & Codex.
- Harmonised food safety systems strengthened.

Impact: Africa strengthened its influence in international governance of animal health and food safety.

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Acronym

AFADATA	African Fisheries and Aquaculture Database
AfCFTA	African Continental Free Trade Area
AFRM	African Fisheries Reform Mechanism
ALLPI	Africa Leather and Leather Products Institute
AMR	Antimicrobial Resistance
ANAF	African Network on Animal Welfare
APMD	African Pastoralism Management Database
APRIFAAS	African Platform for Regional Institutions in Fisheries, Aquaculture and Aquatic Systems
ASAL	Arid and Semi-Arid Lands
ASF	African Swine Fever
AU	African Union
AU-DOHP	African Union Digital One Health Platform
AU-PANVAC	African Union Pan-African Veterinary Vaccine Centre
AU-Policy	African Union Policy Frameworks
AUC	African Union Commission
AWARFA-N	African Women in Animal Resources Farming and Agribusiness Network
AWFISHNET	African Women Fish Processors and Traders Network
BADEA	Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa
GF	Gates Foundation
BMZ	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
C-ELISA	Competitive Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme
CAG	Continental Advisory Group
CDC	Centres for Disease Control and Prevention
CEN	European Committee for Standardisation
CENSAD	Community of Sahel-Saharan States
CES-AMR	Continental Education Strategy on Antimicrobial Resistance
COEs	Centres of Excellence
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
CVOs	Chief Veterinary Officers
DARBE	Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
EAC	East African Community
ECCAS	Economic Community of Central African States
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EU	European Union
EMPRES-i	Emergency Prevention System – information)
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations
FMD	Foot and Mouth Disease
GALVmed	Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
HPAI	Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFC	International Finance Corporation
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
ILRI	International Livestock Research Institute
ARIS	Animal Resources Information System
IRLVC	Integrated Regional Livestock Value Chains

ISCTRC	International Scientific Council for Trypanosomiasis Research and Control
IsDB	Islamic Development Bank
IUU	Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing
LICS	Livestock Investment Coordination System
LiDeSA	Livestock Development Strategy for Africa
LIRA	Livestock Investment Rapid Appraisal
MCS	Monitoring, Control and Surveillance
MPA	Marine Protected Area
MSs	Member States
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NSA	Non-State Actors
NSPs	National Strategic Plans
PADCO	Pan-African Donkey Conference
PAID	Pan-African Investment Dashboard
Pan-African	Pan-African Initiatives
PAPS	Pan-African PPR Secretariat
PASERA	Pan-African Strategy to Eliminate Rabies in Africa
PFRS	Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa
PMAT	PPR Monitoring and Assessment Tool
PPP	Public-Private Partnerships
PPR	Peste des petits ruminants
PRNFAA	Policy Research Network for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa
RAAHN	Regional Animal Health Network
RAFFS	Resilient Africa Feed and Fodder Systems Project
RAFFSA	Regional Animal Feed Security Alliance
RAHCs	Regional Animal Health Centres
REC	Regional Economic Community
RESEPI	Regional Epidemiosurveillance Network
RESOLAB	Regional Laboratory Network
RVC / RVCs	Regional Veterinary Committee(s)
RVF	Rift Valley Fever
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SAFE	Sustainable ASAL Fodder Economy
SIDA	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SMP-AH	Standard Methods and Procedures for Animal Health
SPANA	Society for the Protection of Animals Abroad
SPS	Sanitary and Phytosanitary Standards
STC	Specialised Technical Committee
STOSAR	Support Towards the Operationalisation of the SADC Regional Agricultural Policy Project
STC-ARDWE	Specialised Technical Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and Environment
TADs	Transboundary Animal Diseases
UMA	Arab Maghreb Union
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USD	United States Dollar
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
WAP	World Animal Protection
WAHIS	World Animal Health Information System
WAS25	World Aquaculture Society 2025
WHW	World Horse Welfare
WOAH	World Organisation for Animal Health


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1. Overview

Table 1: *Highlights of AU-IBAR projects/initiatives*

Project/Initiative	Geographical coverage	Donor/Development partner/s
Program 1: Animal Health, Disease Prevention, and Control Systems		
Continental PPR eradication Programme	Continental	European Union (EU)
The African Union One Health Data Alliance Africa (OHDAA)	Continental	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) GIZ
Regional Animal Health Networks	ECOWAS, ECCAS, and Eastern Africa	Member States funds and funds from various AU-IBAR projects
Standard Methods and Procedures in Animal Health (SMP-AH)	Continental	United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Animal Welfare	Continental	Brooke action for working animals donkey sanctuary, SPANA, The World Animal Protection (WAP), World Horse Welfare (WHW),
Livestock Investment Coordinating System	AU-IBAR, RECs, and MS (Cameroon, Kenya, Senegal and Zambia	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO),
Transboundary Animal Diseases Control Program in African Countries	ECOWAS, ECCAS, SADC, Central African Republic, Cameroon, Niger, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mali, Tanzania, Burkina Faso	Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development (AOAD)
The International Scientific Council for Trypanosomiasis Research and Control (ISCTRC)	Continental	Member States
Pan African Regulatory Authorities Network for Veterinary Products (PARAN-VPs)	Continental	Gates Foundation/ GALVmed
Program 2: Animal Resources Production Systems and Ecosystems Management		
Fisheries Governance Project (FishGov2) Project	Continental	European Union (EU)
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, Uganda, South Africa, and Cote D'Ivoire	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)
Support for the implementation of the African Blue Economy Strategy	UMA, CENSAD, and Egypt	Kingdom of Norway
The Resilience Feed and Fodder (RAFFs) Project	Cameroon, Kenya, Nigeria, Somalia, Uganda and Zimbabwe	The Gates Foundation (GF)

Project/Initiative	Geographical coverage	Donor/Development partner/s
Catalysing transformation towards sustainable livestock systems (LiveSys) Project	Kenya, Nigeria, Zambia	The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), with technical support of the German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ)
National Capacity Building on Data Collection and management of Animal genetic Resources	Uganda, Nigeria, Eswatini and Zambia	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO)
Programme 3: Access to inputs, Services, and Markets for animal and Animal Products		
Strengthening African Countries' capacities in Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS)	ECOWAS, and ECCAS: Djibouti, Burkina Faso, Côte D'IVOIRE, Chad, DRC, Mali, Nigeria, Egypt, The Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Uganda, and Zambia	The United States Department of Agriculture
Enhancing the Participation of African Countries in Codex Alimentarius Commission	All AU Member States	The United States Department of Agriculture



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2. Summary of Key Achievements

Programme 1: Animal health, Disease prevention and control systems

Accelerating Progress Toward PPR Eradication in Africa

Key Deliverables

- **15** Member States supported
- **30** Countries assessed using PMAT
- **11** Vaccine producers mapped
- **3** Regional Animal Health Networks reactivated
- Next phase: PPR Phase II (2026–2030)
- **4** Regional Coordinators deployed

These activities are accelerating Africa's progress toward the global eradication of PPR by 2030, protecting small ruminant production systems and strengthening the livelihoods of millions of livestock keepers across the continent.

Continental and Regional Coordination for the Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (TADs)

Key Deliverables

- **3** Continental strategies developed or endorsed
- **9** Member States supported for diagnostic and surveillance capacity
- **1** Pan-African veterinary regulatory network established (PARAN-VPs)
- **1** regional FMD control framework developed
- Continental coordination strengthened on ASF and trypanosomiasis

These efforts are contributing to stronger animal health systems, improved livestock productivity, and enhanced food security across Africa.

Coordination of One Health initiatives

Key Deliverables

- **1** Continental Digital One Health Platform operational
- **3** platform modules launched
- Training delivered in **2** Member States
- Continental One Health governance structures established
- **1** Zoonotic Disease Prevention and Control Strategy launched

These initiatives are promoting integrated approaches that link animal, human, and environmental health by improving data sharing, collaboration, and coordinated responses to zoonotic diseases across Africa.



Program 2: Animal Resources Production Systems and Ecosystems Management

Fisheries, Aquaculture and Aquatic Biodiversity Development and Conservation

Key Deliverables

- **6** Member States supported to align fisheries policies with PFRS
- **2** countries supported to develop aquatic biodiversity strategies
- **1** regional small-scale fisheries network established (WION-SOF)
- **422** women and **301** men trained
- Regional coordination strengthened to combat IUU fishing

These efforts are strengthening sustainable fisheries governance, aquatic biodiversity conservation, and Africa's participation in the global blue economy.

Strengthening Africa's Feed and Fodder Systems (RAFFS)

Key Deliverables

- **1** continental feed and fodder policy framework endorsed (PFEAFF)
- **USD 500,000** cross-border feed trade secured
- **USD 20 million** mobilised through cooperative investment models
- **6** countries implementing feed and fodder data systems
- **3** national dashboards launched

These efforts are helping to build resilient feed systems, strengthen livestock productivity, and support sustainable livestock economies across Africa.

Advancing Pastoral Livestock Markets (APMD)

Key Deliverables

- **2** countries advancing pastoral data and traceability systems
- **1** regional investment roadmap developed (2026–2028)
- **1** private-sector livestock investment forum convened
- Market-led feedlot and aggregation models demonstrated

These efforts are strengthening investment-ready pastoral livestock markets, improving pastoral incomes, and supporting sustainable livestock trade corridors across Africa.

Catalysing Transformation Towards Sustainable Livestock Systems (LiveSys)

Key Deliverables

- **1** African Common Position endorsed
- **1** continental Climate and Livestock Think Tank established
- **1** AU communication and advocacy strategy under development
- **4** strategic pillars guiding sustainable livestock transformation

These initiatives position Africa's livestock sector as a key contributor to climate resilience, biodiversity protection, and sustainable food systems.

Conservation and Sustainable Utilisation of Animal Genetic Resources

Key Deliverables

- 4 countries strengthening animal genetic resources data systems
- Digital tools developed for breed data collection
- Improved monitoring of indigenous livestock breeds

Efforts towards strengthening the conservation and sustainable utilisation of Animal Genetic Resources (AnGR) by improving national data systems and capacity for breed monitoring.



Programme 3: Access to inputs, Services, and Markets for animal and Animal Products

Advancing Africa's Global Influence

Key Deliverables

- **62** African positions developed on global standards
- **2** major international standards platforms engaged (WOAH and Codex)
- Inter-regional dialogues conducted across **4** global regions

These actions strengthen Africa's influence in global food safety governance and support improved market access for African livestock and animal products.

Enhancing Capacity in Food Safety and Animal Health Standards

Key Deliverables

- **8** countries trained in food safety risk analysis
- **25** countries strengthening Codex systems
- **35** countries implementing risk-based border management
- **10** disease standards revised
- **20** countries trained in harmonised diagnostics

Efforts in strengthening food safety governance, laboratory capacity, and regulatory compliance, enabling African countries to meet international standards and expand opportunities for livestock and animal product trade.

Continental Leadership in Food Safety Governance and Value Chain Compliance

Key Deliverables

- **1** continental guideline developed for engagement of the informal food sector.
- **1** strategic framework validated for Africa's leather value chains (2025–2035)
- **4** global organisations engaged in food safety dialogue
- Public–private dialogue strengthened on food loss and waste management

These efforts reinforce Africa's regulatory competitiveness, food safety systems, and sustainable value chain development.

Strengthening Regional and Continental Coordination on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)

Key Deliverables

- **1** continental AMR control framework revised (Version 2.0)
- **2** regional blocs strengthening AMR coordination (ECCAS and ECOWAS)
- Updated continental protocols for AMR surveillance and preparedness

These actions strengthen Africa's collective response to antimicrobial resistance and safeguard animal health, food safety, and trade systems.

Knowledge, Learning, Networking and Collaboration	
AU-IBAR Partner Engagement Meeting **Key Outcomes** • **1** continental partner engagement forum convened • Strategic Plan 2024–2028 implementation strengthened • Multi-stakeholder partnerships reinforced • Private sector engagement prioritised *These meeting strengthened continental coordination and partnerships to accelerate the transformation of Africa's animal resources sector.*	**AU-IBAR Partner Engagement Meeting** **Key Outcomes** • **1** continental coordination meeting convened • RECs, Member States, and global partners engaged • **2** major continental programmes discussed (Integrated Regional Livestock Value Chains and Fisheries Transformation) • Regional value chains prioritised across multiple RECs *This meeting strengthened continental coordination, programme alignment, and partnerships to accelerate Africa's livestock and fisheries transformation agenda.*

2.1 Programme 1: Animal health, Disease prevention and control systems

2.1.1 Accelerating Progress Toward PPR Eradication in Africa

In 2025, the Pan-African Programme for the Eradication of Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) and control of priority small ruminant diseases was officially launched in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, with financial support from the European Union. The programme rapidly transitioned from inception to operational delivery, strengthening continental coordination mechanisms to support Africa's contribution to the global target of PPR eradication by 2030.



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The Pan-African PPR Secretariat (PAPS) was fully established at AU-IBAR, strengthening coordination between African Union Member States, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), and global partners, including FAO and WOAH.

Key Deliverables in 2025

- 4 Regional PPR Coordinators deployed within Regional Animal Health Centres across ECCAS, ECOWAS, IGAD/EAC and SADC
- 15 Member States supported to update and validate national PPR eradication strategies: South Sudan, Rwanda, Uganda, Ethiopia, Burundi, Liberia, Guinea-Bissau, Togo, The Gambia, Congo, Gabon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Tanzania, Malawi and Zimbabwe
- 30 countries assessed using the PPR Monitoring and Assessment Tool (PMAT)
- 11 African PPR vaccine producers mapped, strengthening continental vaccine supply planning
- Regional animal health networks reactivated, including:
  - RESEPI – Regional Epidemiological Surveillance Network
  - RESOLAB – Regional Laboratory Network
  - Regional Veterinary Committees (RVCs)

AU-IBAR, in collaboration with AU-PANVAC, also strengthened vaccine and diagnostic systems through harmonised vaccine registration guidelines, improved quality assurance standards, and the distribution of diagnostic kits to support surveillance and post-vaccination monitoring.

Key Challenges

While significant progress was made, implementation continues to face some operational constraints, including:

- Limited and unpredictable financing for sustained programme implementation
- Logistical challenges, particularly cold-chain management and last-mile vaccine delivery
- Operational limitations in fragile and conflict-affected areas

Addressing these challenges will be important to sustain momentum as implementation expands.

Looking Ahead

Building on the progress achieved in 2025, AU-IBAR and partners will advance the next phase of the programme (PPR Phase II: 2026–2030). This phase will focus on scaling up risk-based vaccination, strengthening surveillance and data systems, and supporting Member States to prepare and submit PPR-free status dossiers to WOAH.

These efforts will accelerate Africa's progress toward the global eradication of PPR by 2030, protecting small ruminant production systems and strengthening the livelihoods of millions of livestock keepers across the continent.

2.1.2 Continental and Regional Coordination for the Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (TADs)

In 2025, AU-IBAR strengthened continental and regional coordination to support the prevention, control, and elimination of priority transboundary animal diseases (TADs) affecting livestock productivity, trade, and food security across Africa.

Key Deliverables in 2025

AU-IBAR supported the development and endorsement of major continental strategies to guide coordinated disease control efforts:

- Pan-African Strategy to Eliminate Rabies in Africa (PASERA 2025–2035) endorsed
- Continental Strategy for Sustainable Control and Elimination of Animal Trypanosomiasis (2026–2035) developed
- Continental Donkey Strategy validated during the Second Pan-African Donkey Conference (PADCO II)
- Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Control Strategic Framework for Eastern Africa (2026–2035) developed in partnership with FAO, IGAD, and EAC



2.1.3 Strengthening Surveillance and Veterinary Systems

AU-IBAR strengthened national and regional technical capacities for disease surveillance and diagnostics:

- 9 Member States supported to strengthen laboratory diagnostic capacities for priority diseases including PPR and FMD
- Enhanced surveillance systems using GIS-based risk mapping and digital tools
- Recommendations adopted at the 37th ISCTRC Conference to guide research and control of tsetse and trypanosomiasis



2.1.4 Strengthening Veterinary Product Regulation

- Pan-African Regulatory Authorities Network for Veterinary Products (PARAN-VPs) established following a continental consultative meeting convened by AU-IBAR, AU-PANVAC, GALVmed, WOAH, and UK-VMD

This initiative will harmonise veterinary product regulation and improve access to quality veterinary medicines across Africa.

2.1.5 Strengthening Regional Disease Coordination

- Support provided to the 5th Standing Group of Experts meeting on African Swine Fever (ASF)
- Regional workshop convened to strengthen ASF coordination, partnerships and resource mobilisation
- Collaboration with FAO and CIRAD to promote the Progressive Control Pathway for Animal African Trypanosomiasis

2.1.6 Coordination of One Health Initiatives

In 2025, AU-IBAR strengthened continental coordination of One Health initiatives, promoting integrated approaches that link animal health, human health, and environmental health. Central to these efforts was the rollout of the African Union Digital One Health Platform (AU-DOHP), hosted at AU-IBAR, to improve data sharing, collaboration, and coordinated responses to zoonotic diseases across Africa.



National Training of Trainers workshop on the AU-DOHP held in Naivasha, Kenya on 1st – 5th September 2025

Key Deliverables in 2025

AU-IBAR advanced digital health governance and data integration through the operationalisation of the AU Digital One Health Platform, which includes:

- Three operational modules: the Data Link Hub, Training Hub, and Decision-Making Situation Room
- Development of onboarding materials, training manuals, and e-learning resources
- Training-of-trainers workshops conducted in Kenya and Cameroon
- Strengthened data analytics capacity using tools such as Apache Superset and Apache Druid.

The African Union Digital One Health Information Policy and Architecture Framework was also endorsed and disseminated, strengthening governance of digital health information systems.

2.1.4 Strengthening Institutional Coordination

To support implementation, AU-IBAR strengthened institutional mechanisms for continental coordination:

- Establishment of the Continental One Health Secretariat, Steering Committee, and Technical Working Groups
- Strengthened collaboration with Africa CDC, including the launch of the Zoonotic Disease Prevention and Control Strategy

- Alignment of data-sharing practices and capacity-building initiatives with Member States' priorities

Key Challenges

Implementation continues to face challenges, including:

- Fragmented coordination across human, animal, and environmental health sectors
- Limited resources for digital infrastructure and data systems
- Capacity gaps in national data management and integration

Looking Ahead

AU-IBAR will focus on scaling up the AU-DOHP platform, strengthening national capacities through the Digital One Health Curriculum, and supporting Member States to integrate the AU One Health Information Policy into national systems. These efforts aim to build resilient, integrated health systems capable of responding to emerging zoonotic and environmental health risks across Africa.



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2.2 Program 2: Animal Resources Production Systems and Ecosystems Management

2.2.1 Fisheries, Aquaculture and Aquatic Biodiversity Development and Conservation

In 2025, AU-IBAR strengthened fisheries governance, sustainable aquaculture development, and aquatic biodiversity conservation across Africa, supporting Member States to align policies, strengthen institutional capacity, and promote sustainable blue economy opportunities.

Key Deliverables in 2025

AU-IBAR supported the development of technical tools, knowledge resources, and policy frameworks to improve fisheries governance and evidence-based decision-making.

- Methodology on the economic value of fisheries revised in collaboration with FAO and training delivered to Member States
- Development of technical resources including a manual on at-sea inspection of fishing vessels and a briefing paper on fisheries within the blue economy
- Training materials produced to support Member States, RECs, and Regional Fisheries Bodies in designing strategies aligned with continental frameworks
- Advocacy strategies validated to strengthen participation of women and youth fish traders in fisheries governance

High-level engagement was strengthened through the inaugural sectoral committee meeting of Ministers of Fisheries and Aquaculture under the African Fisheries Reform Mechanism (AFRM), establishing a structured reporting mechanism to the AU Specialised Technical Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and Environment (STC-ARDWE).

2.2.2 Strengthening Regional Coordination and Partnerships

AU-IBAR supported regional and continental dialogue platforms to strengthen cooperation and knowledge sharing.

- Engagement with regional institutions including SADC, COMESA, ANAF, AWFISHNET and AfriFish-Net
- 4th Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Platform meeting held in Cabo Verde to strengthen cooperation on sustainable fisheries and aquaculture
- Coordination strengthened across continental networks including RAAHN, AFRM, PRNFAA, APRIFAAS and Centres of Excellence



These platforms enhanced regional collaboration, knowledge exchange, and policy coordination across Africa's fisheries sector.

2.2.3 Supporting Policy Alignment and Global Engagement

AU-IBAR provided technical support to South Sudan, Libya, Niger, Zimbabwe, Chad and Zambia to align national fisheries and aquaculture strategies with the Policy Framework and Reform Strategy (PFRS) and climate adaptation priorities.



Africa's voice in global fisheries governance was strengthened through participation in major international platforms including:

- CAADP Kampala Summit
- United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC3)
- World Aquaculture Society Conference (WAS25)

In addition, AU-IBAR supported the CAADP Biennial Review process, including training, data validation, and development of indicators for the next CAADP action plan.

2.2.4 Strengthening Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation

AU-IBAR supported Member States to strengthen aquatic biodiversity conservation and ecosystem management.

- Technical support provided to Egypt and Cameroon to develop inclusive aquatic biodiversity strategies
- Regional Network of Small-Scale Octopus Fisheries (WION-SOF) established in the Western Indian Ocean region
- Support to Lesotho to strengthen regulatory frameworks for aquatic biodiversity conservation and climate adaptation

- Collaboration with SADC to operationalise the SADC Fisheries Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) Coordination Centre to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing

Promoting Inclusive Participation

AU-IBAR promoted inclusive participation in aquatic biodiversity initiatives and fisheries value chains.

- 422 women trained in aquatic biodiversity conservation and fisheries-related activities
- 301 men trained in related programmes

These initiatives strengthened equitable participation and improved livelihood opportunities within fisheries and aquatic resource value chains.



2.2.5 Strengthening Africa's Feed and Fodder Systems (RAFFS)

The Resilient African Feed and Fodder Systems (RAFFS) Project advanced efforts to strengthen Africa's feed and fodder value chains, improve livestock productivity, and support resilient livestock production systems across the continent.

Key Deliverables in 2025

AU-IBAR supported policy development, data systems, and investment mobilisation to strengthen the feed and fodder sector.

- Policy Framework for Economic African Feed and Fodder Sectors and Industries (PFEAFF) endorsed by the STC-ARDWE, providing continental guidance for the development of the sector
- USD 500,000 cross-border trade contract secured by AWARFA-N chapters in Uganda and Kenya for feed ingredient trade
- Feed and fodder data ecosystems operationalised in 6 countries, with national dashboards launched in Cameroon, Nigeria and Zimbabwe
- Feed inventories validated in Nigeria and Cameroon, supporting evidence-based planning
- Policy reform roadmaps and investment profiles developed to guide sector growth

Strengthening Investment and Financing Models

Innovative financing mechanisms were introduced to strengthen private sector participation and reduce risks across feed value chains.

- Dairy Cooperative Fodder Model implemented in Kenya and Uganda, mobilising over USD 20 million in commitments from 9 cooperatives in Kenya
- Sustainable ASAL Fodder Economy (SAFE) model adopted in Kenya to strengthen livestock production in arid and semi-arid areas
- Nigeria launched its first national feed balance report, strengthening institutional coordination and planning

Looking Ahead

To sustain progress beyond the project's completion in June 2026, AU-IBAR developed an exit and sustainability pathway and prepared the RAFFSA concept note to attract additional partners and investment.

Future efforts will focus on institutionalising feed and fodder initiatives, strengthening national policy frameworks, and mobilising public funding, private investment, and foreign direct investment to close Africa's feed deficit and strengthen livestock value chains.

2.2.6 Advancing Pastoral Livestock Markets (APMD)

The African Pastoral Markets Development (APMD) Platform strengthened its role as a continental catalyst for market-driven transformation in pastoral livestock systems. Guided by its three pillars: private sector integration, enabling policy alignment, and functional data ecosystems. The platform focused on creating scalable, investment-ready pathways to strengthen pastoral livestock markets.



Key Deliverables in 2025

APMD supported the development of structured livestock market systems and investment pathways across pastoral regions.

- Pastoral data and traceability systems strengthened through harmonised standards in Kenya and Nigeria, linking pilot initiatives to national governance mechanisms
- Market-Linked Transhumance Investment Roadmap (2026–2028) developed jointly with ECOWAS and IGAD, positioning pastoral mobility corridors as structured trade and investment systems under AfCFTA
- Private-sector roundtable and B2B deal room convened in Kenya, connecting processors, feedlot operators, and financiers to advance structured commercial partnerships and investment opportunities

Strengthening Market Integration

APMD promoted scalable livestock market models to improve standards, compliance, and pastoral incomes.

- Feedlot and aggregation models demonstrated, including the MacKinnon Feedlot case, highlighting the benefits of structured finishing systems, quality assurance, and stronger processor linkages

- Regional policy dialogue facilitated in the Horn of Africa to strengthen feed and rangeland security
- Data systems and policy reforms supported to address feed deficits and climate risks affecting pastoral livestock systems

Looking Ahead

Building on progress made in 2025, APMD will prioritise capturing lessons and best practices from pilot and existing initiatives, documenting scalable market models, and strengthening knowledge sharing across regions. These insights will inform future policy reforms, investment strategies, and private-sector partnerships aimed at scaling investment-ready pastoral livestock systems across Africa.

2.2.7 Catalysing Transformation Towards Sustainable Livestock Systems (LiveSys)

The LiveSys Project advanced efforts to promote climate-resilient, nature-positive livestock production systems across Africa. Through consultations with Member States and partners, AU-IBAR strengthened policy dialogue on integrating livestock systems within global climate and biodiversity agendas.

Key Deliverables in 2025

AU-IBAR facilitated the development and endorsement of strategic continental actions to guide the sustainable transformation of Africa's livestock sector.

- African Common Position on Sustainable, Resilient and Nature-Positive Livestock Food Systems presented and endorsed at the 6th STC-ARDWE
- Decision adopted to establish the Africa Climate and Livestock Think Tank to support coordinated policy dialogue and knowledge exchange
- Development initiated for an African Union Communication and Advocacy Strategy to promote climate-resilient and nature-positive livestock systems

Strategic Pillars of the African Common Position

The draft African Common Position is anchored on four pillars:

- Nature-positive livestock production systems that protect biodiversity and ecosystems
- Resilient and inclusive livestock-dependent communities
- Coordinated and equitable climate governance for the livestock sector
- Innovative financing and strategic partnerships to mobilise investment for sustainable livestock systems

Looking Ahead

Moving forward, AU-IBAR will support the operationalisation of the African Common Position, strengthen the Africa Climate and Livestock Think Tank, and expand partnerships to mobilise climate finance and investments for sustainable livestock systems.

2.2.8 Conservation and Sustainable Utilisation of Animal Genetic Resources

AU-IBAR supported Member States to strengthen the conservation and sustainable utilisation of Animal Genetic Resources (AnGR) by improving national data systems and capacity for breed monitoring.

Key Deliverables in 2025

- 4 Member States supported to strengthen breed-specific data collection systems: Uganda, Zambia, Eswatini and Nigeria
- Digital tools developed and applied to support systematic collection and management of livestock breed data
- Improved national capacity to monitor and conserve indigenous livestock breeds

Looking Ahead

AU-IBAR will continue to support Member States to strengthen national animal genetic resources information systems, enhance breed monitoring, and promote the sustainable use and conservation of Africa's diverse livestock genetic resources.



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

2.3.1 Advancing Africa's Global Influence

AU-IBAR strengthened Africa's participation in international food safety and animal health governance, enhancing the continent's voice in global standard-setting processes that influence trade, market access, and food safety.

Key Deliverables in 2025

- 24 African common positions developed on WOAH draft animal health standards
- 38 African positions developed on Codex food safety standards
- Strengthened Africa's technical coordination and participation in global standards discussions
- Inter-regional dialogues conducted with partners from Latin America, the Caribbean, the Near East, and North America

These efforts strengthened Africa's credibility and collective voice in shaping global food safety and animal health frameworks.

Looking Ahead

AU-IBAR will continue supporting Member States to strengthen coordination in global standard-setting processes and enhance Africa's preparedness to influence international trade, food safety, and animal health governance frameworks.



2.3.2 Enhancing Capacity in Food Safety and Animal Health Standards

AU-IBAR strengthened the capacity of Member States to implement international food safety and animal health standards, supporting safer trade and improved compliance with global regulatory frameworks.

Key Deliverables in 2025

- 8 Member States trained in food safety risk analysis and Codex work management
- 25 Member States supported to strengthen national Codex coordination structures
- 35 Member States equipped to implement risk-based border management approaches for safer trade in animals and animal products
- Technical standards for 10 transboundary animal diseases revised, including Newcastle Disease and Avian Influenza, improving regulatory predictability and market access
- 20 countries trained through AU-IBAR–IAEA collaboration on harmonised laboratory diagnostic methods to strengthen certification systems and reduce export rejections

Looking Ahead

AU-IBAR will continue to support Member States in strengthening food safety governance, laboratory capacity, and regulatory compliance, enabling African countries to meet international standards and expand opportunities for livestock and animal product trade.

2.3.3 Continental Leadership in Food Safety Governance and Value Chain Compliance

AU-IBAR advanced efforts to strengthen food safety governance, regulatory coordination, and value chain compliance across Africa, supporting safer food systems and more competitive animal resource value chains.

Key Deliverables in 2025

- Continental visibility on food safety strengthened through the joint commemoration of World Food Safety Day with FAO, WHO, CCAFRICA, and WFP
- In collaboration with ILRI, continental guidelines developed to support the structured engagement of Africa's informal food sector, recognising its central role in food supply, livelihoods, and market access
- Strategic Framework for the Sustainable Transformation and Competitiveness of Africa's Leather and Leather Value Chains (2025–2035) validated in partnership with ALLPI and Regional Economic Communities
- Awareness and policy dialogue on food loss and waste convened with IFC, equipping regulators with tools to strengthen collaboration with the private sector

These initiatives strengthened risk-based food safety governance, improved regulatory coordination, and enhanced Africa's capacity to compete in regional and international markets.

Looking Ahead

AU-IBAR will continue to strengthen inclusive food safety governance frameworks, support compliance across value chains, and promote strategic partnerships that enhance food safety, trade competitiveness, and sustainable value chain development across Africa.

2.3.4 Strengthening Regional and Continental Coordination on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)

AU-IBAR strengthened Africa's coordination and governance on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR), reinforcing the continent's capacity to address this growing threat to animal health, public health, food security, and trade.

Key Deliverables in 2025

- AU Framework for Antimicrobial Resistance Control (Version 2.0) jointly revised with Africa CDC, aligning the framework with One Health principles
- Strengthened coordination across animal, human, and environmental health sectors to support integrated AMR surveillance and risk monitoring
- Updated Standard Methods and Procedures in Animal Health (SMP-AH) to strengthen regional preparedness and early warning systems
- Regional coordination strengthened in ECCAS and ECOWAS, improving cross-border collaboration on AMR surveillance and response

These initiatives provide Member States with a harmonised continental framework to guide AMR governance and coordinated implementation.

Looking Ahead

AU-IBAR will continue to support Member States and regional institutions to strengthen AMR surveillance, cross-sector coordination, and policy implementation, reinforcing Africa's capacity to address antimicrobial resistance through a One Health approach.



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3. Knowledge, Learning, Networking and Collaboration

3.1 AU-IBAR Partner Engagement Meeting

AU-IBAR strengthened strategic partnerships and stakeholder alignment to support the implementation of the AU-IBAR Strategic Plan (2024–2028). A Partners' Engagement Meeting, held on 25–26 March 2025 in Nairobi (hybrid format), brought together development partners, regional institutions, and private sector stakeholders to enhance coordination and mobilise support for Africa's animal resources agenda.

Key Outcomes

- First continental partners' dialogue convened to support implementation of the AU-IBAR Strategic Plan (2024–2028)
- Strengthened alignment among partners on livestock-driven poverty reduction, One Health, and inclusive value chains
- Enhanced engagement with private sector stakeholders to promote investment and innovation in livestock value chains
- Reinforced collaboration on priority areas including animal health, climate resilience, and sustainable livestock systems

The meeting emphasised the role of livestock in poverty reduction, nutrition, and economic development, highlighting opportunities to promote small stock, dairy, and non-traditional livestock species through business-oriented and digitally enabled value chains.

Strategic Priorities Identified

Key priorities highlighted during the dialogue included:

- Strengthening One Health approaches and integrated livestock systems
- Promoting animal welfare and efforts to combat illegal donkey trade
- Expanding women and youth participation in livestock value chains
- Scaling private sector engagement through PPPs, blended finance, and livestock-focused financial products

These priorities aim to strengthen resilient, inclusive, and investment-ready livestock systems across Africa.

3.2 Third AU-IBAR High-Level Coordination Meeting

AU-IBAR strengthened continental coordination and strategic alignment through the Third AU-IBAR High-Level Coordination Meeting, held virtually on 27 November 2025. The meeting brought together Regional Economic Communities (RECs), Member States, development partners, and technical institutions to review progress and align priorities for the transformation of Africa's livestock, fisheries, and aquaculture sectors.

Key Outcomes

- Strengthened coordination among RECs, Member States, and development partners to support AU-IBAR's continental agenda on animal resources development
- Validation and discussion of emerging programmes, including the Integrated Regional Livestock Value Chains (IRLVC) Programme and the Fisheries and Aquaculture Transformation Programme
- Enhanced collaboration with partners such as FAO, WOAH, and ILRI on priority areas including disease control, antimicrobial resistance, One Health, feed systems, and investment planning

The proposed IRLVC Programme was highlighted as a key catalyst for regional economic development, focusing on priority value chains such as dairy in EAC and UMA, poultry meat in ECOWAS, poultry eggs in ECCAS, and red meat and leather in SADC, IGAD, and COMESA.

Strategic Priorities Identified

Participants emphasised the need to:

- Strengthen climate-smart livestock and fisheries systems
- Improve laboratory capacity and disease surveillance systems
- Facilitate cross-border trade and regional value chains
- Expand youth and women participation in livestock and aquatic value chains

- Strengthen data systems such as IRIS and AFADATA to support evidence-based decision-making

Delegates also highlighted the importance of coordinated resource mobilisation, including stronger engagement with development banks and private sector investors.

Looking Ahead

AU-IBAR will integrate partner recommendations into programme design and continue consultations with RECs and Member States to refine implementation frameworks. Progress will be reviewed during the Fourth AU-IBAR High-Level Coordination Meeting scheduled for November 2026.

3.3 Strengthening Data Systems to Guide Livestock Investment in Africa

AU-IBAR strengthened data and knowledge systems to support evidence-based decision-making and coordinated livestock investments across Africa.

Key Deliverables in 2025

- Livestock Investment Coordination System (LICS) launched in collaboration with FAO to improve coordination and visibility of livestock sector investments across the continent
- Livestock investments mapped and tracked across countries and regions to support better alignment of development initiatives
- Interactive dashboards developed to enable AU-IBAR and Regional Economic Communities (RECs) to monitor investments and align programmes with continental priorities
- Analytical tools applied, including the Livestock Investment Rapid Appraisal (LIRA) and the Pan-African Investment Dashboard (PAID)



Looking Ahead

AU-IBAR will continue strengthening continental livestock data systems by expanding the LICS platform, improving data sharing across institutions, and supporting RECs and Member States to use investment data for strategic planning and resource mobilisation.



4. Conclusion and Outlook

In 2025, AU-IBAR made significant strides in advancing the sustainable development and utilization of Africa's animal resources. Working closely with AU Member States, RECs, development partners, research institutions, and the private sector, the organization translated continental commitments into practical actions that strengthened animal health systems, enhanced livestock productivity, supported sustainable fisheries governance, and expanded trade and investment opportunities. Key achievements included progress toward eradicating PPR, advancing strategies for transboundary animal disease control, and promoting One Health approaches to address emerging threats—efforts that safeguard livelihoods, improve food security, and facilitate safe trade.

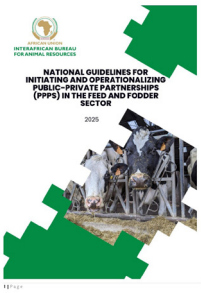
The year also saw notable progress in strengthening sustainable livestock production systems and creating an enabling environment for investment in animal resource value chains. Initiatives to improve feed and fodder systems, pastoral livestock markets, and climate-resilient production practices contributed to building more resilient and productive livestock economies.

In the fisheries and aquatic resources sector, AU-IBAR supported Member States in strengthening governance, aligning national policies with continental frameworks, and promoting conservation and sustainable use of aquatic biodiversity. These efforts are unlocking the potential of Africa's Blue Economy while ensuring the protection of ecosystems for future generations. Additionally, AU-IBAR amplified Africa's voice in international governance processes, enabling African experts to shape global standards on animal health and food safety.

Despite these achievements, challenges such as limited financial resources, capacity constraints, and the need for stronger coordination persist. Addressing these will require sustained commitment, strengthened partnerships, and increased investment.

Looking ahead, AU-IBAR will prioritize strengthening data systems and digital platforms, supporting evidence-based policymaking, mobilizing investment in animal resource value chains, and enhancing coordination across regional and continental initiatives. Through continued leadership and collaboration, AU-IBAR remains committed to building a resilient, competitive, and sustainable animal resources sector that contributes to Africa's economic transformation, food and nutrition security, and environmental sustainability.

Explore AU-IBAR's Knowledge Repository

	**AU-IBAR Strategic Plan 2024-2028 -** *http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1634*
	**National Guidelines for initiating and operationalising Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) in the Feed and Fodder Sector -** http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1837
	**Conserving Aquatic Biodiversity in African Blue Economy: Fact Sheet -** *http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1789*
	**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*

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