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CGIAR

Restoration of Livestock Services in Conflict and Drought Affected Areas of Ethiopia (RESTORE)

Baseline study: Field researcher manual

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About this manual

This manual is produced for use by field officers (enumerators), supervisors, and study coordinators involved in the baseline survey for the RESTORE project. It helps to understand the goals of the project, the research tools, and your role as a researcher. You can take notes in your copy during the training and use it as a reference while working in the field. The document contains hyperlinks, so is best viewed digitally, but you can print the information you need for reference.

1 Introduction to the RESTORE project

The Restoration of Livestock Services in Conflict- and Drought-Affected Areas of Ethiopia (RESTORE) project aims to strengthen the livestock service delivery system and enhance resilience in Ethiopia's livestock grazing and feed resources, particularly in drought and conflict-affected areas such as Afar, southern Ethiopia, and Tigray. With parallel projects in the Amhara, Oromia, and Somali regions, it aims to improve food security, nutrition, and livelihood resilience through economic recovery and environmental sustainability. The project emphasizes enhancing service delivery, animal health, and long-term crises resilience for the livestock sector. RESTORE will focus on:

- Rebuilding and improving livestock service delivery systems
- Enhancing veterinary services
- Strengthening health and food safety standards
- Improving fodder production
- Improving hide and skin quality

More information about the project can be found here and here.

1.1 Objective of the baseline survey

The goal of the baseline survey is to gather information and initial data for improving animal health services in places impacted by conflict and drought in Ethiopia, we will use different methods like key informant interviews (KII), household surveys (HH), focus group discussions (FGD), and existing data about feed and health. These diverse data collection tools will help to collect detailed information from individual livestock keepers, the community, and policymakers regarding animal health, as well as feed and forage resources in the country.

1.2 Location

The ILRI RESTORE project will be implemented in drought- and conflict-affected areas in Afar, South Ethiopia, and Tigray. Parallel projects will run in Oromia, Amhara, and Somali regions.

1.3 Duration

2024–2028

1.4 Donor

The European Union

2 Field research roles and responsibilities

2.1 Survey coordinators

The survey coordinators are responsible for the overall planning, implementation, and supervision of the research activities. They ensure the study follows ethical guidelines, maintains quality control, and synthesizes findings for decision-making. Their role is to:

- Develop and refine research tools, including survey instruments and interview guides.
- Coordinate with all stakeholders, including researchers, field supervisors, and relevant organizations.
- Monitor the recruitment of field officers (enumerators) by ensuring that proper procedures are followed.
- Oversee the survey operations in all the sites and ensure that the baseline survey program succeeds.
- Ensure that all field officers and supervisors have been trained and deployed based on the study program.
- Ensure ethical approvals and permissions are secured.
- Manage overall field logistics and coordination.
- Analyse data and ensure quality assurance mechanisms are in place.
- Synthesize findings and prepare reports for stakeholders.

2.2 Field supervisors

Field supervisors ensure that data collection activities are conducted smoothly and according to protocol. They act as the bridge between field officers and survey coordinators, ensuring high data quality and effective problem-solving in the field. They will:

- Provide training and guidance to enumerators on the survey procedures, data collection tools, and ethical considerations.
- Oversee the selection of study participants for face-to-face interviews and FGD according to protocol.
- Oversee field officers to ensure adherence to data collection protocols.
- Conduct spot checks and monitor data quality.
- Provide support to enumerators and resolve issues faced by enumerators in real time.

- Ensure logistics, such as travel and accommodation, are well coordinated.
- Verify and validate collected data before submission to survey coordinators.
- Report on the progress of the survey, including any challenges or issues encountered, and facilitate communication between field teams and survey coordinators.

2.3 Field officers/enumerators

Field officers (enumerators) are the key to the success of the study. They are the single most important actors in baseline surveys and have a direct influence on the accuracy of the data collected. They must be carefully recruited and properly trained to ensure high-quality data collection. Specifically, they will:

- Attend the training course and all other scheduled meetings.
- Conduct interviews, administer questionnaires, or facilitate FGD following standard protocols.
- Ensure ethical data collection and obtain informed consent.
- Accurately record responses from the HH survey on KoboToolbox.
- Manage and organize the collected data from FGD and KII, including transcripts, recordings, and field notes.
- Engage respectfully with communities and stakeholders.
- Report challenges and field observations to supervisors.
- Follow safety and security guidelines while in the field.

The field office can provide language translation or interpretation services, ensuring effective communication during data collection. If the training manual is translated into the local language, the translated document needs to be shared with the RESTORE team at the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) before it is used as a reference.

3 Ethics and rules of conduct

Ethical conduct is paramount for field officers and supervisors in baseline surveys to ensure the integrity of the data and the well-being of the participants. Here is a breakdown of what field officers and supervisors must do and must not do:

Must do:

- Introduce yourself, explain the purpose of the survey, the procedures involved, and the participants' rights, including their right to refuse or withdraw at any time. Obtain their voluntary informed consent before proceeding.
- Ensure that the consent forms are securely stored until they are handed over to project management for long-term storage.
- Protect the privacy of participants and the data collected. Do not share any personal information with unauthorized individuals or entities.
- You must collect data honestly and accurately, without bias or personal opinions influencing the recorded responses.
- You must adhere to the survey procedures and data collection tools provided. Do not deviate from the established methodology.
- Respect the cultural norms and traditions of the study communities. Treat all participants with respect and dignity, regardless of their background, beliefs, or opinions.
- You must arrive on time for interviews and discussions, be well-prepared with the necessary materials, and manage time efficiently.
- If unsure about any aspect of the survey or encountering any difficulties, seek clarification from the supervisor.
- You must use the tablets and other data collection devices exclusively for the intended purpose of the survey.

Must not do:

- Never fabricate, falsify, or manipulate data in any way.
- Do not share any participant information with anyone not involved in the study.
- Avoid leading questions or any actions that might influence how participants respond.
- Do not force or pressure anyone to participate in the survey.
- Do not discriminate against any participant based on their age, gender, ethnicity, religion, or any other factor.
- Do not engage in any behaviour that could compromise the integrity of the survey or harm the participants.

- Never use tablets for any purpose other than the survey, including downloading or installing unauthorized apps, capturing images or recordings outside the scope of the survey, accessing or sharing inappropriate content, and allowing others to use the tablet for personal reasons.
- Never capture photos or videos of participants without their explicit informed consent–only take photos if you want to document environmental conditions, verify observations etc.
- You should NEVER become involved in religious or political discussions while you are working.

Note:

4 Research methodology and data collection protocols

4.1 Key informant interview

Purpose

The key informant interview (KII) is a semi-structured interview conducted with key stakeholders, including government veterinary officers, livestock experts, and service providers. The purpose is to assess the challenges as well as the availability and accessibility of veterinary services and feed resources in these areas. The objectives of the interview are to gather valuable insights into animal health services and feed and forage issues in regions affected by conflict and drought. The information collected will help us understand the current gaps, the impact of conflict and drought on service delivery, and potential strategies for improving animal health and feed security.

Format

During the interview, take notes by following the best practices for recording qualitative data (see Box 1). If you are working in a team, one person can lead the discussion while another takes notes. After the interview, the notes should be transcribed into an online form. When possible, an audio recording should be used as a backup, provided you have the informant's permission. A separate checklist for veterinarians (Annex 3. Key informant interview guide with veterinarian) and feed and forage experts (Annex 4. Key informant interviews with animal feed and forage experts) will be used to guide note-taking, ensuring that key information is captured.

Box 1: Best practices for recording qualitative data

- Ensure you are familiar with the interview guide or checklist, but remain flexible to capture unexpected insights
- Choose a quiet, comfortable setting to ensure clear communication and minimize distractions.
- Ensure that participants are fully informed about the study, understand their role, and consent to audio recording (if applicable).
- Ensure high-quality recording equipment is used, test devices before the interview, inform the participant and obtain consent, and use backup devices, when possible, to prevent data loss.
- Make notes that capture key points, themes, and verbatim quotes during the interview using clear, concise statements and abbreviations, while ensuring not to interrupt the flow of conversation and highlighting important details for later analysis.
- Capture memorable quotations, e.g., 'My animals are my life; without them, I have nothing.'
- Pay attention to the emotional tone and vocal expression, e.g., 'he said in a shaky voice ....'
- Take note of environmental and contextual factors, e.g., 'As we speak, I can hear a destructive sound from the background.'

Participants

The plan is to conduct two key informant interviews (KIIs) with experts from each animal health and feed and forage departments in a district. We will interview a district veterinary officer and an animal production officer to gain a comprehensive understanding of the availability, accessibility, challenges, and opportunities in animal health services, as well as feed and forage resources in areas affected by conflict and drought.

Duration

The interview should last about 1 to 1.5 hours.

Informed consent

Obtain written consent before you start the interview. Ask for consent to use an audio recorder, but this is optional and depends on the willingness of the interview participants.

Steps

- Contact key informants and schedule interviews at their convenient time and place.
- Greet the informant warmly and introduce yourself, your team, and your organization.
- Highlight the objectives of the project (use the project information sheet) and explain the purpose of the interview and why their input is valuable.
- Obtain informed consent for participation and audio recording (if used) and assure confidentiality and anonymity in the interview.
- Engaging the participants using active listening techniques such as nodding, maintaining eye contact, and verbal affirmations.
- Utilize open-ended questions to encourage detailed responses and use probing questions for further detail when answers are brief. However, avoid leading questions that could bias the responses.
- Begin with general, non-sensitive questions to ease the individual into the discussion. Use open-ended questions to allow participants to share experiences at their own pace. Be mindful of the emotional and psychological toll of conflict and drought on participants.
- Ensure all key topics are covered without rushing, keep the conversation on track while allowing flexibility, manage time effectively, and maintain a natural, engaging tone.
- Close the interview by allowing the informant to share any additional insights, summarize key points for confirmation, express gratitude for their time, and provide contact information for follow-up.

Materials

- Key informant interviews with veterinarian guide (Annex 3. Key informant interview guide with veterinarian)
- Key informant interviews with the veterinarian's record form
- Key informant interviews with veterinarian guide (Annex 4. Key informant interviews with animal feed and forage experts)

- Key informant interviews with animal feed and forage experts record form
- Information sheet 2: Key Informant Interview
- Consent form (Annex 1. Informed consent form)
- Audio recorder (optional)
- Notebook and pen

Note:

4.2 Household survey

Purpose: The household survey aims to gather quantitative data on livestock management practices, access to and quality of veterinary services, adoption and use of improved feed and forage technologies, household livelihoods and nutrition, and the impacts of conflict and drought.

Format: The household survey is designed for electronic administration using tablets via KoboToolbox. Field officers will conduct face-to-face interviews with one person from the selected household, preferably the head of the household, to ensure accurate and comprehensive data collection. See Box 2 for details on accessing KoboToolbox and Annex 2: Viewing tools within KoboToolbox for guidance on using viewing tools within the platform. Before deployment, field officers will receive training on survey protocols, ethical considerations, and troubleshooting technical issues to enhance data quality and consistency.

Box 2: Kobo Toolbox

Most project activities use the KoboToolbox software for electronic data collection through tablets. This method improves efficiency compared to paper forms and makes data analysis easier. However, the digital format may provide less flexibility for data entry, and tablets require careful handling. It is crucial to ensure that the tablet stays charged and is in good working order. If any relevant information arises during a research activity that is not recorded electronically, promptly inform the field lead.

Participants

The survey will be conducted in six purposefully selected districts across the three target regions and one non-focal HEARD region. For the baseline household survey, we will choose one district from the RESTORE project intervention and one control district without the RESTORE project intervention. The selection criteria will include factors such as the severity of conflict, the impact of drought, the availability of veterinary services, and input from relevant stakeholders.

Within each district, two kebeles will be chosen. These kebeles will be comparable in terms of livestock dependency, access to veterinary services, history of past crises, and socioeconomic status. The rural kebeles should have a functional veterinary health post that provides basic services, high livestock dependency, and limited access to alternative veterinary care. For peri-urban areas, kebeles will be chosen that are close to government veterinary clinics.

To select villages within each kebele, we will stratify them based on their accessibility to veterinary services. In rural kebeles with health posts, villages will be categorized into two groups based on distance: near and far. This stratification captures variations in service utilization. In peri-urban kebeles with government veterinary clinics, villages will be classified as within walking distance or requiring transport, allowing for an assessment of differences in access and usage. After stratification, villages will be randomly selected from each category to ensure diverse representation. This approach guarantees that the survey captures the impact of veterinary service availability on livestock-owning households across different levels of accessibility. Within each kebele, two villages will be included. In each chosen village, a household survey will be conducted among 20 randomly selected households that own livestock. This means that in each study district, a total of 80 households will be surveyed, resulting in 160 households per target region.

A household refers to a group of individuals, related or unrelated, who live together, share resources, and make joint decisions regarding livestock management and overall livelihood. This unit may include the nuclear or extended family (parents, children, grandparents, or other relatives) and hired labourers or herders who reside with and depend on the family for livelihood. Individuals contribute to and benefit from shared livestock assets, grazing land, feed, and veterinary care.

To ensure a fair and unbiased selection of households for your study, start by obtaining a comprehensive list of all households from local administration offices, community leaders, or previous surveys. If no list exists, conduct a quick census with local leaders to enumerate households that keep livestock. Number the households sequentially (e.g., 1, 2, 3 N) and use a random number generator in Excel or a mobile app to select the households. An eligible household has a consenting adult over 18 years of age and has owned at least one livestock species within the past two years

Utilize a backup list of randomly selected households, initially oversampled by approximately 10–15%, and replace households that refuse to participate or are inaccessible with a randomly chosen neighbouring household, such as the next house to the right. Record refusals and inaccessible households for transparency.

Duration

The interview is expected to last around 40 minutes to one hour, depending on how engaged the household members are.

Consent

While verbal consent is acceptable, it is preferable to obtain written consent documented by the researcher on a paper consent form. As a best practice, always seek consent from the head of the household before interviewing any household member. If the head of the household is nearby but not at home, consider calling them to ask if another household member can proceed with the interview or if there is a more convenient time. Use your best judgment in these situations.

Structure

The data collection tools are organized into four sections, with questions grouped according to their respective themes:

I General Information

II. Animal Health

III. Feed and Forage

IV. Productivity, Livelihood, and Nutrition

Coding

It is important to create a uniform questionnaire ID for each HH survey participant to maintain high-quality data. Each region has unique code information, starting from the kebele to the household level. Two letters will be used to represent the study kebele and the village names, followed by codes 1 or 2, which will represent the control and intervention research groups, respectively, and lastly, households will be two digits. The capital letters will be used during coding to have a similar coding system across all regions.

Table 1. Baseline survey coding system

Code	Description			
2 AA BB01	Research group	Kebele	Village	Household
	2	AA	BB	001

Research group 2 = intervention

Likert scale questions

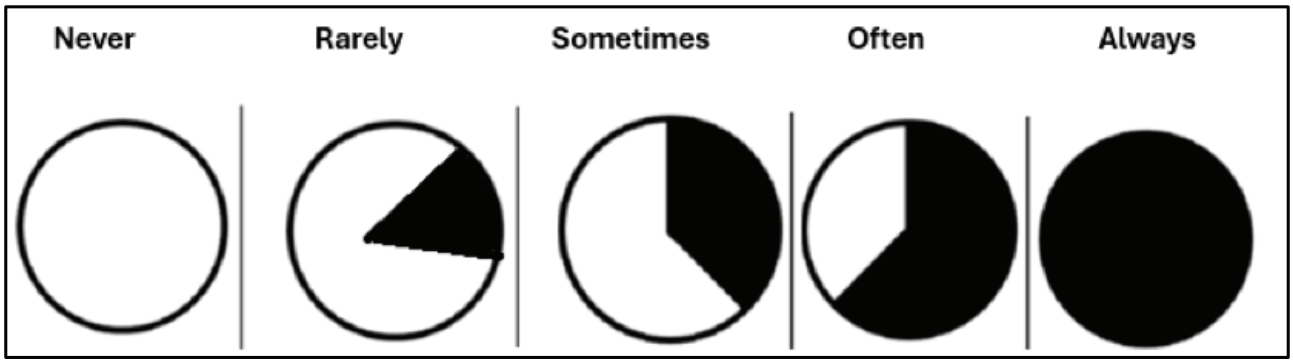
Colour-coded stickers will be used for the 5-point Likert scale questions by assigning a unique colour to each response (indicate colours). The respondents will select the coloured sticker that matches their chosen response. This visual assistance helps respondents understand the scale easily and ensures quality data.

Table 2. Colour-coded 5-point Likert scale questions

Code	Satisfaction level question	Colour representation
1	Very dissatisfied	Dark red
2	Dissatisfied	Light red
3	Neutral	White
4	Satisfied	Light green
5	Very satisfied	Dark green

Frequently access questions

Figure 1. Ratio code 5-point Likert scale questions.



Steps for the household face to face interview

Introduce yourself and the team.

Sample introduction

[This is a sample introduction that can be used in addition to the written consent form to help explain the project.]

'Hello, my name is [Your Name], and I am part of the RESTORE Project team. We are conducting a study to understand how drought and conflict have affected livestock services in your area. This information will help restore the livestock services in this area. The interview will take about 40 minutes to one hour, and all responses will be kept confidential. Your participation is voluntary, and you can stop at any time. May I proceed with the interview?'

At the interview

1. Have the participants introduce themselves.
2. Setting the scene: Introduce the project by reading the project information sheet. Information sheet 1: Household survey.
3. Obtain written signed consent (or verbal consent if written consent is a barrier to participation with the researcher documenting this on the consent form).
4. Ask questions systematically following the questionnaire structure.
5. At the end of the project, conclude the interview by thanking the participant.

Materials

- Tablets programmed with a digital survey using the KoboToolbox.
- HH survey consent form (Annex 1. Informed consent form) and Information sheet 1: Household survey
- Notebook and pen for researchers to note additional information about households, request changes to entered data post submission, etc.
- Colour-coded stickers for a 5-point Likert scale questions

Box 3: Field notebooks

We will not maintain paper backups of research activities; however, enumerators are required to keep a field notebook and submit it to the field supervisor afterward. This notebook serves as a space to briefly document daily activities, record any additional information not captured electronically, and note any issues or questions for the field supervisor. It can also be used as a reference if any clarifications are needed regarding electronic data. For certain qualitative activities, such as FGD, and KII enumerators will take paper notes and later enter the information using an Enketo Web Forms.

Note:

4.3 Focus group discussion

Purpose

The purpose of this focus group discussion (FGD) is to assess the farmers'/pastoralists' experience and coping strategies during emergencies, status, challenges, and opportunities related to veterinary services, and the availability of feed and forage in areas affected by drought and conflict. The discussion aims to understand access to veterinary care, the prevalence of common livestock diseases, and the impact of service shortages on communities.

Additionally, it will explore the availability of feed and forage, seasonal variations, and the coping strategies employed by local populations. It will also help identify key barriers, including market constraints, disruptions caused by conflict, and shortages of veterinary supplies. Finally, participants will offer recommendations for enhancing veterinary services and ensuring a sustainable supply of feed and forage. This discussion will serve as a baseline for targeted interventions.

Participants

Two FGDs per study village will be organized. Since individual villages tend to be homogeneous, we anticipate that conducting two FGDs per village will allow us to reach data saturation. However, there are notable differences between villages regarding production systems, scale, location, access to health services, feed resources, and emergency exposure. To capture this diversity, we will conduct research across different villages. The group of participants will be made up of 8 to 12 people purposively identified. Participants should have active engagement in livestock production and prior experience in accessing or attempting to access veterinary services. It is also important to include those who have been directly affected by conflict and/or drought, as they can provide firsthand insights into the challenges and coping mechanisms. The views of both men and women must be heard; therefore, conducting FGDs with separate groups for men and women in each village will help us better understand gendered constraints and facilitating factors in accessing and utilizing the services. During FGD participants selection, try to include the participants according to their distance to health service delivery points, their mobility, wealth, and age.

Duration

The FGD duration should last no more than three hours.

Informed consent

Obtain verbal consent after the facilitator goes over the Information sheet 2: Focus group discussion.

Field team roles

- Facilitator–responsible for introducing the purpose of the discussion, setting ground rules, and creating a comfortable environment where participants feel encouraged to share their experiences. The facilitator ensures that all key topics are covered while maintaining neutrality and avoiding leading questions. They actively manage group dynamics by balancing participation, preventing dominance by a few individuals, and encouraging quieter participants to contribute.
- Note-taker–Responsible for taking detailed notes, and capturing key points, quotes, and observations. This person should not be doing other tasks such as helping with activities or translating. If possible, it can be helpful to have two people each taking separate copies of notes for comparison later. Box 1: Best practices for recording qualitative data.
- Translator (if needed)–is responsible for accurately translating responses as they are spoken, while preserving cultural nuances, emotions, and tone. They should not add or alter any meaning or should not answer on behalf of the focus group participants, even if they are from the area. The translator is encouraged to use simple, clear language and ensure consistency in key terms. When necessary, they should clarify technical concepts with explanations that are relevant to the local context.

Steps

- Engage with village elders, extension workers, and local administrators to introduce the project. Collaborate with them to identify suitable participants for the focus group discussion (FGD) and set a meeting date. Use existing community networks to connect with diverse groups.
- Arrange for a neutral, accessible, and comfortable location that ensures privacy and minimizes distractions. The site should be secure, especially in conflict-affected areas, and chosen in consultation with local leaders. Cultural and gender considerations are essential, with women's FGDs potentially requiring more private or familiar settings. Avoiding noisy, high-traffic areas and ensuring participant comfort will facilitate open and productive discussions.
- Purchasing light snacks and drinks can help maintain energy levels and prevent participants from becoming distracted by hunger or thirst during lengthy discussions.
- Welcome the participants and have one of them open with a word of prayer (or whatever is appropriate in your setting).
- Introduce yourself and the team.
- Begin by asking participants to introduce themselves.
- Set the context by reading through the project information sheet.
- Obtain verbal consent from all participants, including permission for audio recording if applicable.
- Initiate the discussion based on the themes outlined in the community meeting tool. Ask probing questions to gather in-depth information, but avoid leading questions.
- The note-taker from the research team will record the discussion, either in a notebook or on a recording form, depending on preference. The audio recording will be used as a backup to supplement the notes taken during the meeting.

Materials

- FGD tool (Annex 5. Focus group discussion with the farmers guide)
- Information sheet 2: Focus group discussion
- Audio recorder
- Flip chart paper
- Counters
- FGD record form (Annex 5. Focus group discussion with the farmers guide)
- Coloured marker pens
- Notebook and pen

Note:

4.4 Secondary data

Purpose

The secondary data collection aims to establish a baseline for restoring animal health services in conflict- and drought-affected areas. It provides an overview of veterinary service functionality, workforce capacity, livestock health, and access challenges at regional, district, and village levels. This data helps identify critical gaps, prioritize interventions, and support evidence-based planning for service restoration. Additionally, it informs resource allocation, and the design of resilient veterinary service models suited for vulnerable communities.

Format and structure

Tabular formats created in Excel were used to collect data on veterinary and meat inspection service coverage. This included information on the number and types of facilities for animal health, artificial insemination (AI), quarantine, and slaughterhouses. The data distinguished between public and private services and assessed their operational status. Additionally, information on livestock populations and vaccination coverage was gathered at the regional and district levels to gain a comprehensive understanding of service disruptions in areas affected by conflict and drought. Clinical performance data was also collected, including the number of cases handled in health facilities. Furthermore, the total number of filled DOVAR and ADNIS forms submitted by veterinary clinics was included.

To evaluate disease surveillance capabilities and identify common diseases in the area, the regional veterinary laboratory requested to provide the following reports:

1. Annual and quarterly disease surveillance reports
2. Outbreak investigation reports
3. Livestock morbidity and mortality reports

4. Participatory disease search (PDS) reports
5. Contingency plans for disease outbreaks

Secondary data on feed-related aspects at the regional and district level includes a data collection format that captures key factors influencing livestock feed availability and sustainability, such as agroecology, rainfall patterns, feed resources, and the existence of feed processing plants.

The secondary data collection will be conducted in all selected RESTORE districts across the target regions.

Materials

- Animal health-related data collection template (Annex 6. Animal health-related data collection template)
- Feed-related secondary data collection template (Annex 7. Feed-related secondary data collection template)
- Animal health facilities Performance data collection template (Annex 7. Animal health facilities' performance data collection template)

Box 4: Enketo web forms

Enketo web forms is a web-based data collection tool integrated with KoboToolbox that allows you to enter data offline using a browser and sync it later when connected to the internet. This is useful when collecting FGD, KII, and secondary data manually in the field and entering them electronically afterward.

Note:

4.5 Assessment of animal health facilities

Purpose

The purpose of this assessment is to evaluate the functionality, capacity, and service delivery of animal health facilities. It aims to examine the geographical reach, governance structure, and financial sustainability of these facilities to ensure they are well-managed and accessible to the communities they serve. The assessment will also look at the condition of the facilities, the availability of essential equipment, and the supply of veterinary medicines and vaccines, all of which are critical for effective service provision. Furthermore, it evaluates the availability and quality of veterinary services, the capacity of the workforce, and community engagement in utilizing these services. Another important focus is on the facility's ability to detect, report, and diagnose animal diseases, which contributes to improved disease control and prevention.

Format and structure

The Animal Health Facilities Assessment Tool is a questionnaire integrated into a spreadsheet (Microsoft Excel 2007). Responses entered by assessors are automatically converted into an overall score. This tool was developed to facilitate data collection by both external veterinary researchers and clinical veterinary staff, using a self-assessment approach. Using a combination of interviews, and facility observations, the findings will identify strengths, gaps, and opportunities for improvement.

The structured questionnaire for evaluating animal health facility functionality and capacity is organized into four key sections. These include:

i. Accessibility and governance,

ii. physical infrastructure and resources,

iii. service delivery and utilization, and

iv. disease surveillance and diagnostic capacity.

These five modules encompass 11 categories and 53 subcategories. The assessment will focus on various animal health facilities to identify service gaps and prioritize interventions for restoring veterinary services in areas affected by conflict and drought. Key facilities targeted for the assessment include veterinary clinics and animal health posts.

Step

- Select animal health facilities (clinics or posts) based on geographical spread and service levels.
- If the plan is to do a self-assessment, identify people who fill out the questionnaire, which can be head veterinarians, animal health assistants, or technicians, and provide training on data collection.
- Provide a self-assessment questionnaire and allow sufficient time for completion
- If you choose to assess the clinical service through an external veterinarian or researcher, arrange visits to health facilities and coordinate with facility managers to schedule appointments.
- Ask questions consistently and accurately record the responses
- Observe the conditions of the facility and take notes to cross-check the responses.

Materials

- Animal health facility functionality and capacity assessment form

Note:

4.6 Veterinary laboratories functionality and capacities assessment

Purpose

This assessment aims to determine the strengths and gaps in the laboratory functionality, which establishes a baseline for the status of Mekele, Semera, and Jink regional veterinary laboratories before intervention. This intervention will include the supply of equipment and reagents, as well as capacity-building training to enhance diagnostic capabilities and improve disease surveillance, prevention, and control.

Format

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Laboratory Mapping Tool-core tool (LTM-core) is formatted as a questionnaire embedded in a spreadsheet (Microsoft Excel 2007). Responses entered by assessors are automatically converted into an overall score. It is based on a standardized format that allows data to be captured either by external evaluators or through self-assessment. The tool is designed to facilitate the assessment of laboratory functionality in a systematic and semi-quantitative manner.

Structure

The FAO Laboratory Mapping Tool consists of five modules (Annex 6. Animal health-related data collection template): i) general laboratory profile; ii) infrastructure, equipment, and supplies; iii) laboratory performance; iv) quality assurance and biosafety/biosecurity; and v) laboratory collaboration and networking. These five modules encompass 17 categories and 108 subcategories. These components are considered essential for ensuring optimal laboratory functionality, which is crucial for laboratories to effectively receive samples, diagnose or detect animal diseases, and report on them. This, in turn, enables the timely identification of emerging disease threats.

Steps

- Obtain necessary permissions from relevant government agencies (e.g., regional agriculture bureaus).
- Use FAO LMT-Core scoring to assess laboratory performance.
- Conduct interviews with lab staff and observe workflow.
- Assess the condition and functionality of laboratory facility and equipment, available laboratory tests and methods, staffing levels and competency, and sample handling & storage Conditions
- Obtain key documents related to laboratory governance, diagnostic capabilities, biosafety, quality control, human resources, and infrastructure for further review. The requested documents may include organizational charts, standard operating procedures (SOPs), accreditation certificates, diagnostic test records, biosafety guidelines, equipment maintenance logs, procurement records, staff training history, and details of research collaborations.

Materials

- FAO LMT-core
-

Note:

4.7 Slaughterhouse facility assessment

Purpose

The slaughterhouse facility assessment aims to evaluate the operational capacity, hygiene standards, animal welfare practices, and compliance with safety and regulatory requirements in slaughterhouses. This assessment helps identify areas for improvement, ensure adherence to food safety standards, and enhance meat quality and public health outcomes. By assessing infrastructure, sanitation, processing capacity, animal handling, inspection practices, and compliance, stakeholders can implement targeted interventions to improve slaughterhouse efficiency and safety.

Format and structure

The assessment follows a structured approach, using quantitative scoring and qualitative observations to evaluate slaughterhouse performance. A four-scale scoring system (1–4) is applied across six key categories:

i. Infrastructure and facility conditions

ii. Hygiene and sanitation

iii. Slaughtering and processing capacity

iv. Animal welfare and handling

v. Meat inspection and safety

vi. Compliance and documentation

Each category contains specific indicators and benchmarks, ensuring a comprehensive evaluation of the facility's functionality and regulatory adherence.

Steps

- Obtain necessary permissions from regulatory authorities.
- Conduct a walkthrough of the entire facility, inspecting each category.
- Use structured checklists and scoring criteria to evaluate infrastructure, hygiene, and processes.
- Interview staff, meat inspectors, and facility managers about operational challenges and compliance.
- Document findings with photographs and field notes where necessary.

Materials

- Assessment Checklists covering all categories.
- Camera or mobile device for photographic documentation.

Note:

5 Annexes

Annex 1: Informed consent form

Printable version below

Informed Consent Agreement Form

Region: _____

Site: _____

Type of activity: _____

Study coordinator	
Telephone	
Email	

Field supervisor	
Telephone	
Email	

Enumerator	
Telephone	
Email	

I hereby acknowledge that I have been fully informed about the objectives of the RESTORE project, either through reading the information provided or by the interviewer reading it to me. I give my consent to participate in the household survey and understand that my responses will be used solely for research purposes and will be treated with strict confidentiality.

I agree to participate in the survey: A) Yes B) No

If you selected "Yes," please sign below:

Participant's Name: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____

Certified by Interviewer: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____

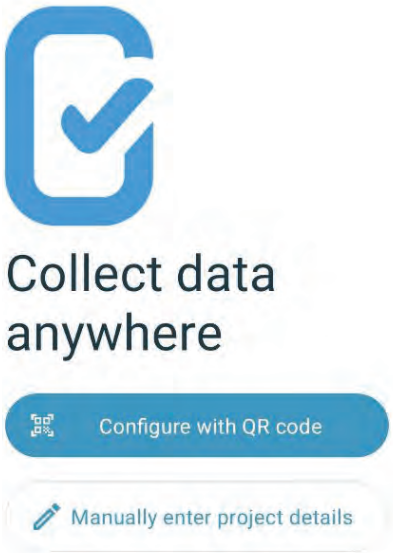
Annex 2: Viewing tools within KoboToolbox

How to view the RESTORE tools electronically within KoboToolbox.

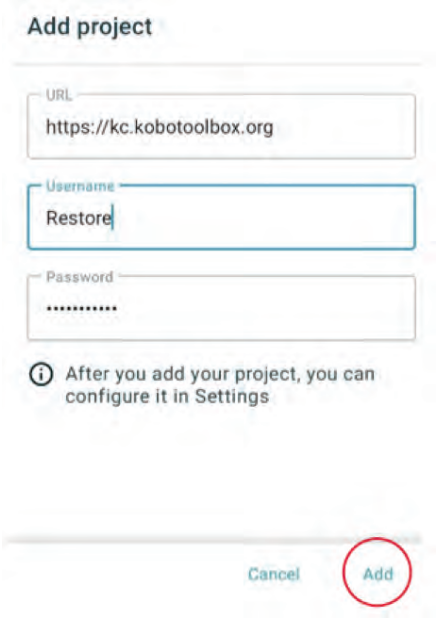
KoboCollect is an Android app for data collection in KoboToolbox. Below is a step-by-step guide to installing, configuring, and using KoboCollect on your tablet or Android device. If you are using a computer, you can use Enketo Web Forms, a web-based data collection tool integrated with KoboToolbox that enables you to enter data offline using a browser and sync it later when you are connected to the internet.

Step 1: Download & Install KoboCollect from Google Play Store.

1. Configure the server settings:
   - Open KoboCollect on your device. Enter project details by scanning the QR code or manually.

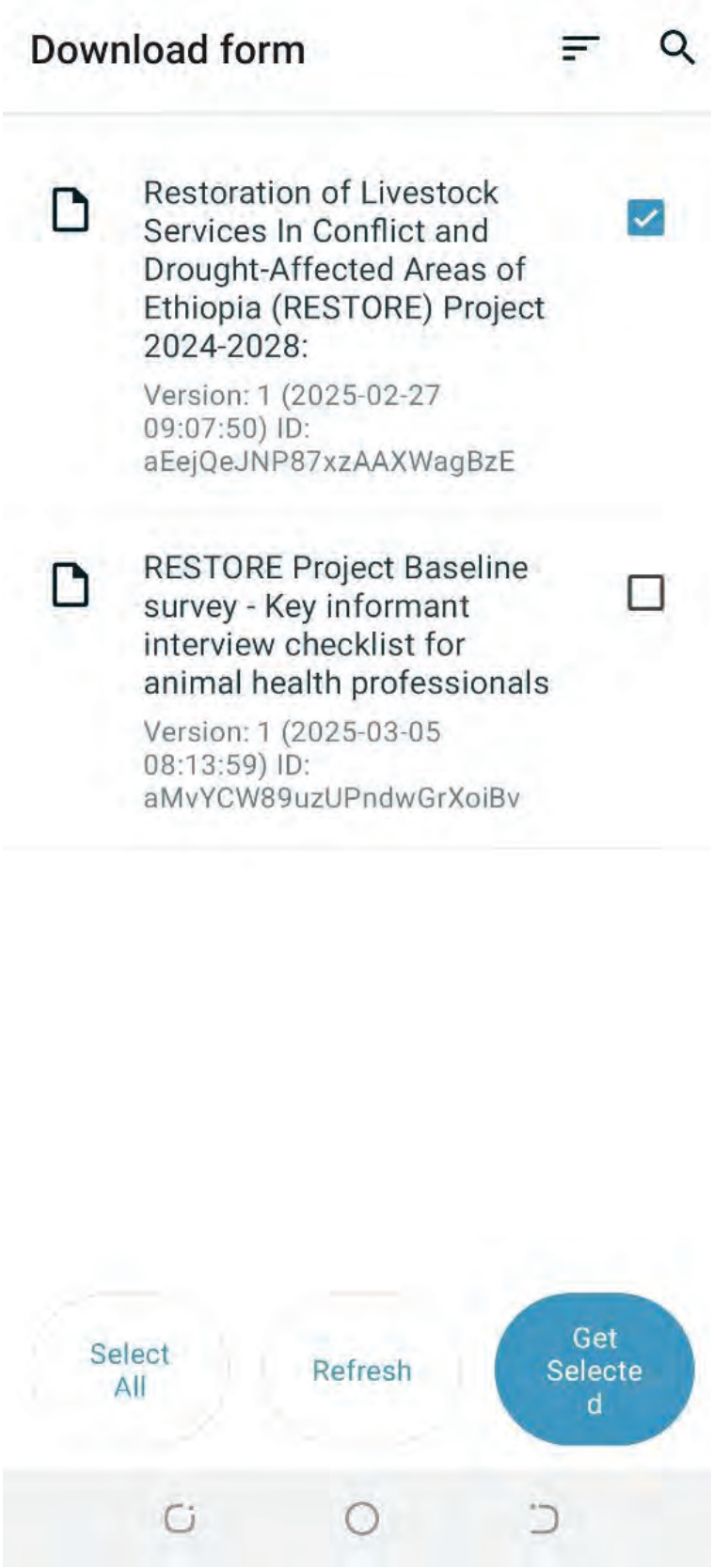


   - Enter the Server URL based on your KoboToolbox account as instructed by the field lead
   - URL: https://kc.kobotoolbox.org
   - Username & Password.
   - Click add to get the survey form



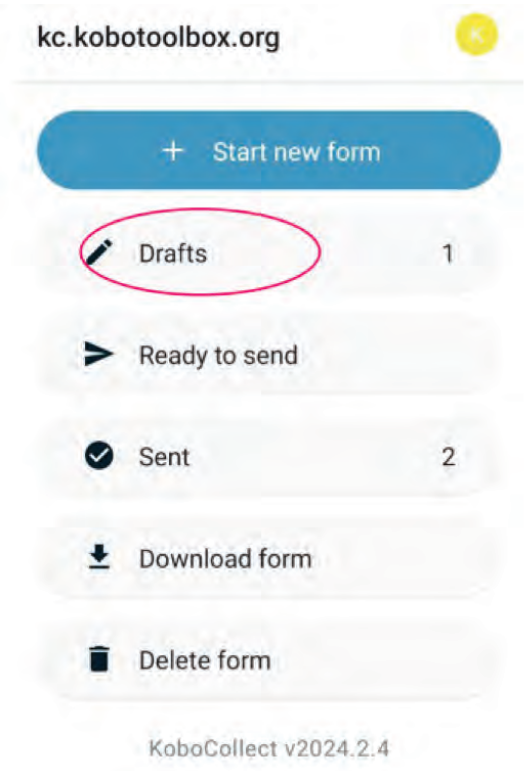
Step 2: Download the Survey Form

1. Go to “Download form” (ensure you are internet-connected).
2. Select the survey tools you want to download and tap Get Selected.
3. Tap the Refresh button to download updated forms from the server

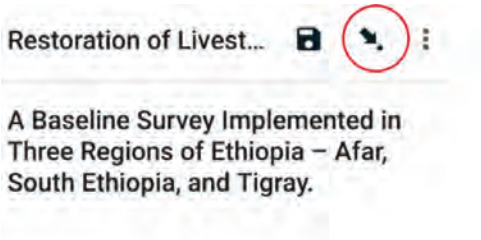


Step 3: Collect Data Using KoboCollect

1. Tap "Start new form" to get a new blank form
2. Enter responses by tapping on each question.
3. Once all the questions are completed, use "Save as draft" to Save the response temporarily and review a filled form later. There may be typo errors, incorrect responses, or missing required fields. Reviewing helps catch and correct these errors.
    - Tap the Drafts from the home screen and select the form you want to review



- Navigate the form by swiping left or right or tap the arrow in the top right corner of the app to check and edit any incorrect or missing responses under each category.



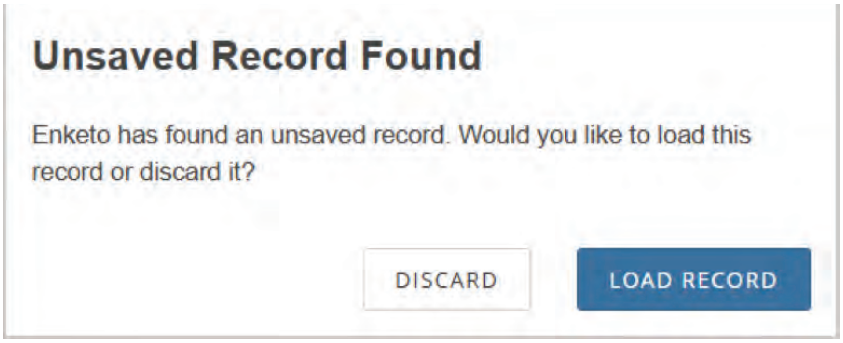
- Once completed, tap "Mark Form as Finalized".

Step 5: Send Data to the Server

1. Ensure your device is connected to the internet.
2. Tap "Send Finalized Form".
3. Select the forms you want to submit.
4. Tap "Send Selected" to upload data to KoboToolbox.

Collect data offline using Enketo

- Open the Enketo survey link while connected to the internet and load the record



- Let the form fully load in the browser.
- Enter the account and password provided by the field lead.
- Fill out the form and submit it later when connected.
- If you submit a form without internet access, Enketo stores the data in the queue.
- When an internet connection is available, Enketo automatically sends all queued submissions to the KoboToolbox server.
- Once uploaded, the form disappears from the queue, then ensures all forms are submitted by checking the queue manually.

Annex 3: Key informant interview guide with veterinarian

Printable version

Key informant interview guide with the veterinarian

Interview questions

1. What are the main livestock diseases in the area? Seasonality and occurrence of outbreaks? Mortality and morbidity?
2. What prevention and control exist in place? Do you have vaccine calendar? If yes, how did you develop the calendar? Have you consulted with farmers and considered their perspectives in developing and implementing this calendar? Does it match with livestock keeper's preferred type and time for vaccination? How have you engaged female-headed households or women in this campaign?
3. What are the most common skin diseases affecting livestock in your Woreda? Do you do ectoparasite control campaigns strategically? How effective is it (ineffective, effective, very effective)? What are the challenges and areas of improvement in skin and hide value chain in your Woreda?
4. What proportion (%) of livestock keepers have access to veterinary services in the woreda?
    a. Describe – vet, paravet, CAHW, pharmaceuticals etc.
    b. Explain the gaps/challenges in veterinary services if they exist
    c. What is the impact of the availability of vet services?
    d. What strategies would you suggest enhancing veterinary service delivery in your woreda?
    e. How do you assess the gender-responsiveness of veterinary services? What are the major gender concerns in animal health service provision?
5. How many private animal health providers are there in the woreda? Is there any partnership with the privates to improve animal health service in the woreda?
6. Does an animal disease surveillance system exist in the woreda? If yes, who coordinates it? How is it done? How can it be improved? Are there any feedback mechanisms on this system?
7. Do you have a disease reporting system in place? If yes, who is responsible for coordination? Type of disease reporting? How frequently do you send the report (100 of all required reports, greater than 50% of the required, about 50% of required, below 50% of required)? How effective is it (ineffective, effective, very effective)? What are the gaps for effective disease reporting? How can the disease reporting systems be strengthened? Do you have any feedback mechanisms?
8. What has been the impact of emergency/humanitarian crisis on livestock and animal health service delivery? How did the humanitarian crises alter the disease burden on livestock and impacted productivity in the region? What is the differential impact of this on women and men livestock keepers?
9. Are there livestock movement (trade, market, grazing) route maps in the woreda and is this used in disease risk mapping and intervention? If not, why?
10. Describe the livestock trade routes, the location of markets, grazing areas and watering places in the woreda and the relation of these animal movement to disease risk. Where are the hot spots in terms of livestock disease transmission from other areas?

11. If any emerging livestock diseases or health issues arise that require immediate attention, what resources are currently lacking to effectively address these challenges?
12. How many and what types of (e.g. clinical skills, surveillance, disease control, GIS, AHE, etc.) animal health service-related training have you got in the past three years?
13. What are the capacity development needs to improve animal health service delivery at different levels (for livestock keepers, public and private service providers), including training and material support?

Key informant interviews with the veterinarian's record form

General information

a. Region _____
b. District: _____
c. Date _____
d. Name of interviewee _____
e. Interview code _____
f. Location of interview _____
g. Employer/place of employment of Key Informant _____
h. Role of Key Informant (job title) _____
I. Duration in role _____

Interview questions

1. What are the main livestock diseases in the area? Seasonality and occurrence of outbreaks? Mortality and morbidity?

2. What prevention and control exist in place? Do you have vaccine calendar? If yes, how did you develop the calendar? Have you consulted with farmers and considered their perspectives in developing and implementing this calendar? Does it match with livestock keeper's preferred type and time for vaccination? How have you engaged female-headed households or women in this campaign?

3. What are the most common skin diseases affecting livestock in your Woreda? Do you do ectoparasite control campaigns strategically? How effective is it (ineffective, effective, very effective)? What are the challenges and areas of improvement in skin and hide value chain in your Woreda?

4. What proportion (%) of livestock keepers have access to veterinary services in the woreda?
    a. Describe – vet, paravet, CAHW, pharmaceuticals etc
    b. Explain the gaps/challenges in veterinary services if they exist
    c. What is the impact of the availability of vet services?

d. What strategies would you suggest enhancing veterinary service delivery in your woreda?

e. How do you assess the gender-responsiveness of veterinary services? What are the major gender concerns in animal health service provision?

5. How many private animal health providers are there in the woreda? Is there any partnership with the privates to improve animal health service in the woreda?

6. Does an animal disease surveillance system exist in the woreda? If yes, who coordinates it? How is it done? How can it be improved? Are there any feedback mechanisms on this system?

7. Do you have a disease reporting system in place? If yes, who is responsible for coordination? Type of disease reporting? How frequently do you send the report (100 of all required reports, greater than 50% of the required, about 50% of required, below 50% of required)? How effective is it (ineffective, effective, very effective)? What are the gaps for effective disease reporting? How can the disease reporting systems be strengthened? Do you have any feedback mechanisms?

8. What has been the impact of emergency/humanitarian crisis on livestock and animal health service delivery? How did the humanitarian crises alter the disease burden on livestock and impacted productivity in the region? What is the differential impact of this on women and men livestock keepers?

9. Are there livestock movement (trade, market, grazing) route maps in the woreda and is this used in disease risk mapping and intervention? If not, why?

10. Describe the livestock trade routes, the location of markets, grazing areas and watering places in the woreda and the relation of these animal movement to disease risk. Where are the hot spots in terms of livestock disease transmission from other areas?

11. If any emerging livestock diseases or health issues arise that require immediate attention, what resources are currently lacking to effectively address these challenges?

12. How many and what types of (e.g. clinical skills, surveillance, disease control, GIS, AHE, etc.) animal health service-related training have you got in the past three years?

13. What are the capacity development needs to improve animal health service delivery at different levels (for livestock keepers, public and private service providers), including training and material support?

Annex 4: Key informant interviews with animal feed and forage experts

Printable version below.

Key informant interviews with animal feed and forage experts

Interview questions

1. Major feed resources and their seasonality
    a. Months when each feed resource is relatively sufficient
    b. Months when each feed resource is generally insufficient (deficit)
2. Factors that create feed scarcity in your region, frequency of occurrence and recorded losses of animals due to the factor in the past five years.

Factor	No. of occurrences in the past 5 years	Feed services deterred due to the factor	No. of animals lost due to the factor

3. What mitigation practices are there in place during feed shortage periods? Who leads the practices?
4. Are there large feed / fodder markets in the region? If yes, how many locations are there? What type of feeds are marketed? Who are the suppliers (private, public,) and is the supply sufficient?
5. Presence of forage seed suppliers (public, private, NGO, etc.) If private suppliers are available, their number, efficiency, affordability, etc. Practices of farmer-to-farmer forage seed/planting material exchange and the role of women in this activity.
6. Who provides training to feed value chain actors in the area? What capacity limitations do you observe that need to be strengthened with further training?
7. Partners working in feeds and forages (NGOs, research centers, private sector, extension, etc.). What are their roles? What is the coordination among these actors? What are their key opportunities and challenges?
8. Small scale mechanization (forage choppers, mixers, balers, etc.) and who supplies them? Are there locally available repair and maintenance services for these tools?
9. Any practice of irrigated forage production (large scale, small scale) sources of water and water harvesting and conveyance systems. Any feed conservation practices and feed treatment technologies used.

Key informant interviews with animal feed and forage experts record form

I. General Information

a. Region _____

b. District: _____

c. Date: _____

d. Name of interviewee: _____

e. Interview code: _____

f. Location of interview: _____

g. Employer/place of employment of Key Informan: _____

h. Role of Key Informant (job title): _____

i. Duration in role: _____

II. Interview questions

1. Major feed resources and their seasonality

a. Months when each feed resource is relatively sufficient

b. Months when each feed resource is generally insufficient (deficit)

2. Factors that create feed scarcity in your region, frequency of occurrence and recorded losses of animals due to the factor in the past five years.

Factor	No. of occurrences in the past 5 years	Feed services deterred due to the factor	No. of animals lost due to the factor

3. What mitigation practices are there in place during feed shortage periods? Who leads the practices?

4. Are there large feed / fodder markets in the region? If yes, how many locations are there? What type of feeds are marketed? Who are the suppliers (private, public,) and is the supply sufficient?

5. Presence of forage seed suppliers (public, private, NGO, etc.) If private suppliers are available, their number, efficiency, affordability, etc. Practices of farmer-to-farmer forage seed/planting material exchange and the role of women in this activity.

6. Who provides training to feed value chain actors in the area? What capacity limitations do you observe that need to be strengthened with further training?

7. Partners working in feeds and forages (NGOs, research centers, private sector, extension, etc.). What are their roles? What is the coordination among these actors? What are their key opportunities and challenges?

8. Small scale mechanization (forage choppers, mixers, balers, etc.) and who supplies them? Are there locally available repair and maintenance services for these tools?

9. Any practice of irrigated forage production (large scale, small scale) sources of water and water harvesting and conveyance systems. Any feed conservation practices and feed treatment technologies used.

Annex 5: Focus group discussion with the farmers guide

Printable version below

Focus group discussion with the farmers guide

I. Animal health and service-related topics

1. What type of (humanitarian) crisis has occurred in your area in the last three years?
    a. General views on the crisis: Can you describe the crisis – what has been the cause, what are the impacts on the community, what is its Impact(s) on livestock?
    b. What is its impact on animal health and service delivery?
2. What coping strategies have you used to deal with the crisis in terms of livestock-based livelihoods? How did you cope with the crisis's challenges affecting animal health service delivery?
3. What are generally the major constraints to livestock keepers in the community?
    a. Aspects of the household livelihood that have been most affected by these constraints (Food security, Agricultural practices, HH income/market, Children's schooling) and how it impacted HHs livelihood, livestock that could feed, disease, fertility, etc.)
    b. How do you manage the challenges?
4. What are the top five causes of death in Livestock? What are the most common causes of animals becoming sick? What are the top 5 livestock diseases in the last three years? Ensure you get clear definitions of local disease terms- ask them to clarify clinical signs for each of the diseases mentioned.
    a. Assess the overall importance of each disease by distribution of 100 counters and ask them to explain why they allocate a certain score.
    b. Give 100 counters and ask participants to think about the last 12 months and divide the counters to represent what part of their herd became sick and what part remained healthy (they don't need to count them out)
    c. Make a circle for each disease and ask them to divide the sick pile across the circles
    d. Describe the impact of skin diseases in the area and what measures have been taken to improve?
5. What do you suggest improving livestock disease prevention and control?
6. Who is the main animal health service provider in the area? What are the gaps for each animal health service provider? What type of animal health service do you seek for your livestock and the reasons? Are you willing to pay for the service you seek?
7. Where do they get medicines and vaccines? – What are the main products used? For which products do you make payments, and for which do you not? For which products willing to pay?
8. What are the major challenges/constraints to accessing health services? How could it be improved?

II. Animal feed and forage checklist

1. What are the common feed resources in your woreda and where do they come from? (from own farm, purchased, free from government, free from NGOs, etc.)

2. What are the most important man-made or natural factors that affect feed availability in your area?
   a. How did the crises affect feed availability and accessibility? How does the community cope with feed shortage seasons?
   b. Please discuss possible interventions which could fill the gaps.
   c. What are their coping mechanisms during feed shortage such as drought or dry time.
3. Is there any practice of growing and using cultivated forages in your area?

   If not, why?
   If yes,

   a. Can you mention some of the forage varieties which farmers grow in your area?
   b. Please mention forage varieties most suitable and best adopted by the community in your area
   c. Where do the communities get planting material from? Can you score the sources based on their availability, affordability and quality of materials, etc.?
   d. What do you think should be done to increase production of cultivated forages in your area?
4. Please discuss the existing practices in the management of rangelands/pasturelands in the area. And mention possible gaps in the practice and suggest how these gaps could be addressed.
   a. Are there community bylaws for communal grassland management?
5. Please discuss and explain the feed conservation and processing practices in the area. For example: hay making, baling, chopping, mixing, etc. and what percentage of the livestock keepers in the area use each practice?
6. Are there any feed related private service (and input) providers in the area? Where does the service come from and who provides it? Is the service free or does it cost money? If it is free now, would you be willing to pay for it in the future? If not, what problems might prevent you from paying?
   a. What do you suggest strengthening the private service provision in feed resources in your area?
7. Is there any practice of feed marketing in the area? If yes, what feed types are marketed?
   a. How many market centers are there and what is the major gap in the market system and what is needed to strengthen them?
8. How is manure generally managed and used by livestock keepers in the area? Is/was there any in intervention regarding manure management by any project in the area? If yes, by whom/which project and when?

III. Focus Group discussions with farmers record form

FGD code		Group (Men/women)		
Name(s) of facilitator(s)				
Name of note-taker				
Date (DD/MM/YYYY)				
Location of FGD	Region		Kebele	
	District		Village	
Number of participants				Attach the list of participants

III. Animal health and service-related topics

1. What type of (humanitarian) crisis has occurred in your area in the last three years?

    a. General views on the crisis: Can you describe the crisis – what has been the cause, what are the impacts on the community, what is its Impact(s) on livestock?

    b. What is its impact on animal health and service delivery?

2. What coping strategies have you used to deal with the crisis in terms of livestock-based livelihoods? How did you cope with the crisis's challenges affecting animal health service delivery?

3. What are generally the major constraints to livestock keepers in the community?

    a. aspects of the household livelihood that have been most affected by these constraints (Food security, Agricultural practices, HH income, Children's schooling) and how it impacted HHs livelihood,

    b. How do you manage the challenges?

4. What are the top five causes of deaths in Livestock? What are the most common causes of animals becoming sick? What are the top 5 livestock diseases in the last three years? Ensure you get clear definitions of local disease terms- ask them to clarify clinical signs for each of the diseases mentioned.

    a. Assess the overall importance of each disease by distribution of 100 counters, ask them to explain why they allocate a certain score.

    b. Give 100 counters and ask participants to think about the last 12 months and divide the counter to represent what part of their herd became sick and what part remained healthy (they don't need to count them out)

    c. Make a circle for each disease and ask them to divide the sick pile across the circles

    d. If skin diseases are not in the list above, prob the impact of skin diseases in the area and what measures have been taken to improve

5. What do you suggest improving livestock disease prevention and control?

6. Who is the main animal health service provider in the area? What are the gaps for each animal health service provider? What type of animal health service do you seek for your livestock and the reasons? Are you willing to pay for the service you seek?

7. Where do they get medicines and vaccines? – what are the main products used?

8. What are the major challenges/constraints to accessing health services? How could it be improved?

IV. Animal feed and forage checklist

1. What are the common feed resources in your woreda and where do they come from? (from own farm, purchased, free from government, free from NGOs, etc.)

2. What are the most important man-made or natural factors that affect feed availability in your woreda?

   a. How did the crises affect feed availability and accessibility? How does the community cope with feed shortage seasons?

   b. Please discuss possible interventions which could fill the gaps.

   c. What are their coping mechanisms during feed shortage such as drought or dry time.

3. Is there any practice of growing and using cultivated forages in your woreda?

   If not, why?
   If yes,

   a. Can you mention some of the forage varieties which farmers grow in your woreda?

   b. Please mention forage varieties most suitable and best adopted by the community in your woreda

   c. Where do the communities get planting material from? Can you score the sources based on their availability, affordability and quality of materials, etc.?

   d. What do you think should be done to increase production of cultivated forages in your woreda?

4. Please discuss the existing practices in the management of rangelands/pasturelands in the woreda. And mention possible gaps in the practice and suggest how these gaps could be addressed.

   a. Are there community bylaws for communal grassland management?

5. Please discuss and explain the feed conservation and processing practices in the woreda. For example: hay making, baling, chopping, mixing, etc. and what percentage of the livestock keepers in the woreda use each practice?

6. Are there any feed related private service (and input) providers in the woreda? If no, what are the challenges?

   a. What do you suggest strengthening the private service provision in feed resources in your woreda?

7. Is there any practice of feed marketing in the woreda? If yes, what feed types are marketed?

   a. How many market centers are there and what is needed to strengthen them?

8. How is manure generally managed and used by livestock keepers in the woreda? Is/was there any intervention regarding manure management by any project in the woreda? If yes, by whom/which project and when?

Annex 6: Animal health-related data collection template

Animal health and veterinary public health facilities											
Region	Zone	Woreda	Number of Facilities in the Public Sector						Number of Facilities in the Private Sector		
			Health Clinic	Animal Health Post	Laboratory	Slaughter-houses	AI centers	Animal quarantine	Export Abattoir	Vet Clinic	Drug Shop

Human resources													
Region	Zone	Districts	Public Human Resource							Private Human Resource				
			Sex	DVM	BVSC/BSC	AHA	AHT	VLT	CAHWs	DVM	BVSC/BSC	AHA	AHT	VLT
			Male											
			Female											
			Total											

Livestock population											
Region	Zone	Woreda	Cattle	Sheep	Goat	Poultry	Camel	Donkey	Mule	Horse	Dog

Vaccination data						
Region	Zone	Woreda	Species	Diseases	Number vaccinated	Year of vaccination (last three years)

Deworming and ectoparasite control								
Region	Zone	Woreda	Kebele	Species	Dewormed/ sprayed	Number dewormed/ sprayed	Frequency of deworming/spray per year	Year of deworming/ spraying (last three years)

Short-term training						
Region	Zone	Districts	Type of training	Number of trainees	Public Sector	Private sector
				Male		
				Female		
				Total		

Disease reporting performance				
Region	Zone	Woreda	Annual number of DOVAR reports sent	Other reports (ADNIS)

Annex 7: Feed-related secondary data collection template

Animal health facilities' performance data collection template

Date of assessment: _____

Region: _____ District/woreda: _____

Facility name: _____ Clinic type (A/B/C/D/post) _____

Number of staff _____ qualification level of staff

(DVM/Master's/BSc/Diploma)_____

Catchment area: No. of households served _____ animals served _____

Case book reviewer name: _____

Caseload trends (last 12 months data)

	Veterinary service performance assessment form						
	Disease condition	Number of cases treated					
		Cattle	Goats	Sheep	Poultry	Equine	Camels
1	Respiratory diseases						
2	Gastrointestinal diseases						
3	Skin disease (e.g., external parasite infestations)						
4	Metabolic & nutritional disorders						
5	Reproductive disorders						
6	Neonatal diseases						
7	Udder disease (e.g., mastitis)						
8	Neurological disorders						
9	Musculoskeletal & lameness disorders						
10	Vector-borne diseases (e.g., trypanosomiasis, heartwater)						
11	Surgical cases (wound, fracture, castration)						
12	Zoonotic diseases (e.g., rabies, BTB, anthrax)						
13	Other (Specify)						

Information sheet 1: Household survey

Introduction: You are invited to participate in a survey conducted by the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) and its partners as part of the RESTORE Project. This project focuses on the restoration of livestock services in regions severely affected by conflicts and drought, specifically in Afar, Southern Ethiopia, and Tigray. The project is funded by the European Union.

Purpose of the study: The purpose of this survey is to collect data on the provision of veterinary services, the availability of animal feed and forage, livestock productivity, livelihoods, and the nutritional status of local communities in the project area.

Design of the study: This study involves conducting individual household surveys to gather information on veterinary services, animal feed, livestock productivity, and community livelihoods and nutrition. The data collected will help to inform future recovery efforts in the affected areas. The research is part of a collaboration with regional partners and is already known to the local regional offices.

What I will ask you to do: If you agree to participate, we will ask you to answer a series of questions about veterinary services in the area, animal feed, livestock productivity, and your household's livelihood and nutritional status. The interview will take up to 60 minutes to complete. This is the first visit to your household, and your responses will contribute to a broader understanding of the situation in your community.

Risks and benefits: There are no significant risks associated with participating in this study. Your involvement may provide valuable insights into the challenges faced by your community and contribute to improving livestock service restoration strategies in the region. Your time spent during the interview will be compensated by the project at the end of the interview.

Confidentiality: All information you provide will be treated with the utmost confidentiality. Your responses will be used solely for the purposes of this study and will not be attributed to you in any published scientific papers. No personal information will be recorded or shared outside the context of this project.

Taking part is voluntary: Participation in this study is entirely voluntary. You are free to withdraw from study at any time without any consequences. Your decision to participate or not will not affect your relationship with ILRI or any of its partners, now or in the future.

Questions: If you have any questions or concerns regarding this study, feel free to ask during the interview or contact the research team.

1. Theo Knight-Jones, Principal Scientist, International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)
   Phone: +255 682 068 004
   Email: t.knight-jones@cgiar.org

2. Biruk Alemu, Research project coordinator
   Mobile phone: +251-944-12-17-68
   Emails: b.a.gemeda@cgiar.org
   ILRI IREC Secretariat Phone Number +254 711 03 3887

We are happy to provide any further information or clarification you may need.

Information sheet 2: Key informant interview

Introduction: You are invited to participate in a Key Informant Interview (KII) conducted by the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) and its partners as part of the RESTORE Project. This project focuses on the restoration of livestock services in regions of Ethiopia affected by conflicts and drought, specifically in Afar, Southern Ethiopia, and Tigray. The project is funded by the European Union.

Study purpose: The purpose of this KII is to gather data on veterinary services, the availability of animal feed and forage, livestock productivity, livelihoods, and the nutritional status of local communities in the project area.

Study design: This study involves selected key informants from the project site to gather the necessary information. The data collected will help inform future recovery efforts in the affected areas. The research is conducted in collaboration with regional partners and is well known to the local regional offices.

What I will ask you to do: If you agree to participate, we will ask you to answer a few questions as a key informant regarding animal health and/or feed and forage in the area. The interview will take approximately 30 minutes. Your responses will contribute to a broader understanding of the situation in your community.

Risks and benefits: There are no significant risks associated with participating in this study. Your involvement may provide valuable insights into the challenges faced by your community and help improve livestock service restoration strategies in the region. At the end of the interview, you will receive compensation for your time.

Confidentiality: All information you provide will be kept confidential. Your responses will be used solely for the purposes of this study and will not be attributed to you in any report or published scientific papers. No personal information will be recorded or shared outside the context of this project.

Voluntary participation: Participation in this study is entirely voluntary. You are free to withdraw at any time without consequences. Your decision to participate or not will not affect your relationship with ILRI or any of its partners, now or in the future.

Questions: If you have any questions or concerns regarding this study, feel free to ask during the interview or contact the research team.

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We are happy to provide any further information or clarification you may need.

Information sheet 2: Focus group discussion

Introduction: You are invited to participate in a Focus Group Discussion (FGD) conducted by the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) and its partners as part of the Restore Project. This project focuses on the restoration of livestock services in regions of Ethiopia severely affected by conflicts and drought, specifically in Afar, Southern Ethiopia, and Tigray. The project is funded by the European Union.

Purpose of the FGD: The purpose of this FGD is to gather insights from local communities about their experiences with livestock management, veterinary services, animal feed, and the impact of conflict and drought on their livelihoods. The FGD will provide valuable insights into the challenges, needs, and priorities of community members regarding livestock services. Your feedback will help us design and implement effective interventions to improve livestock services in the area.

What to expect: The FGD will take approximately 1.5 to 2 hours. We will discuss yours/community experiences, challenges, and recommendations related to the livestock system, access to veterinary services, feed and forage, and the impacts of conflict and drought in the area. With your consent, the session may be audio-recorded for accurate data collection. No personal identifiers will be included in the recordings.

Voluntary participation: Your participation is completely voluntary. You are free to refuse to answer any question or to withdraw from the discussion at any time without consequence. Choosing not to participate or leave the discussion will not affect your access to any services or support available through the project.

Risks and benefits: There are no significant risks associated with participating in this FGD. However, if any topic discussed is uncomfortable, you are free to skip it or withdraw from the session without any concerns. Your participation will help to shape future interventions aimed at improving livestock services in the areas, ultimately benefiting the broader community. Additionally, the project will compensate for your time spent during the FGD.

Confidentiality: All information provided will be kept strictly confidential. No identifying information (such as your name) will be included in any reports or publications. Only aggregated data will be shared in the project's findings. The data will be used only for the purpose of this project and will not be shared with unauthorized parties.

Questions: If you have any questions or concerns regarding this FGD, feel free to ask during the interview or contact the research team.

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