

OIE AVTA GALVMed Regional Conference on the role of veterinary para-professionals in Africa.

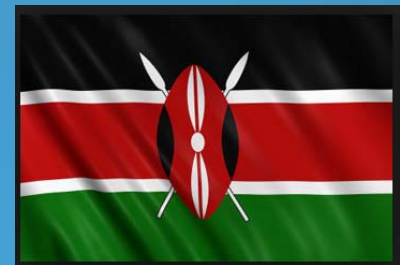
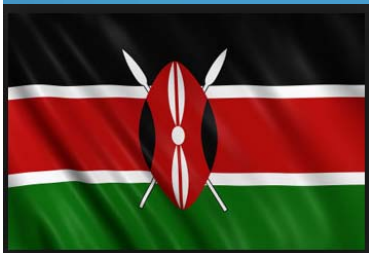
13 – 15 October, 2015. Pretoria [ZA].

Delivery Systems in Food Safety in Kenya.

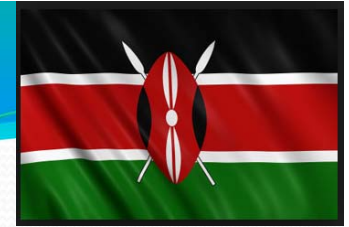
Dr. Agnes Maina, B. Vet. Med.

(Directorate of Veterinary Services)

(Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, Kenya).

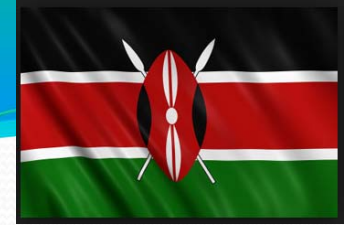


Background



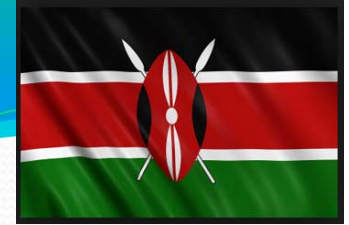
- Food Safety = practices that preserve food quality to protect consumer health.
- Food safety in the Directorate of Veterinary Services (DVS), Kenya, is under its Veterinary Public Health and Animal Products Division.
- It is a collaborative effort of national government and county governments; and with other sectors/departments e.g. Health, Livestock Production, Trade, etc.

Role of DVS in Food Safety delivery Systems.



- Develops food safety regulation.
- Regulates inspection and certification of animal origin foods.
- Regulates abattoirs and meat transport.
- Regulates animal feed production.
- Controls live animal movement to slaughter points.
- Collaborates with other sectors in food safety assurance.
- Offers food safety training e.g. Meat Inspection training for meat inspectors.
- Creates food safety awareness to the general public.
- Tests for residues in animal origin foods.
- Manages food safety risk information.

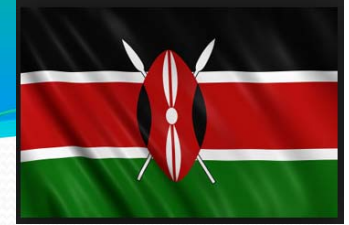
Legal Framework



In its roles, the DVS is guided by some Acts as follows;

Acts DVS implements directly relevant to food safety e.g.	Acts DVS implements in collaboration with other sectors relevant to food safety e.g.
Meat Control Act (Cap 356)	Food, Drugs and Chemical substances Act (Cap 254)
Veterinary Surgeons & Veterinary Para-professionals Act (Cap 366)	Public Health Act (Cap 242)
Animal Diseases Act (Cap 364)	Stock and Produce Theft Act (Cap 355)
Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act (Cap 360), etc.	Wildlife (Conservation and Management) Act (Cap 376), etc.

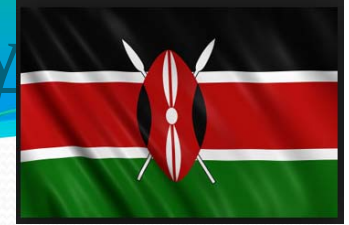
Linkage between the DVS and OIE



- The DVS is the enquiry point for the OIE. This is because the DVS is responsible for animal health in the country.
- Food safety risks that arise e.g. at slaughter are reduced through standards and practices recommended by bodies including OIE and Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) (A body established to protect consumer health in food trade).
- Also, many food safety standards for products in Kenya are set based on guidelines developed by OIE and CAC.

This linkage has been made possible by Kenya's participation in the meetings held by these bodies.

Challenges and successes in Food Safety



Delivery.

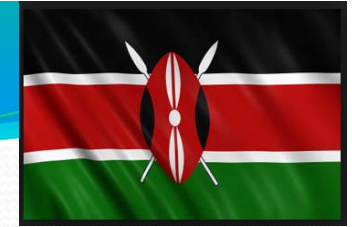
Successes;

- Meat inspection taken over from the State Department of Health in most counties, plans exist to complete the take-over.
- Meat inspectors trained continuously.
- Abattoirs and meat transport containers licensed yearly.
- Sanitary documents issued at abattoirs for all meat consignments.
- Surveillance of meat sale outlets conducted regularly.

Challenges;

- Poor compliance with sanitary measures by stakeholders.
- Inadequate capacity building of stakeholders
- Weak link between research, policy and extension
- Insufficient resources.

Effect of Devolution on Food Safety delivery systems.



Constitution of Kenya (2010) created devolution; thus some veterinary functions were transferred to Counties, others remained under the National Government (Schedule 4, Constitution of Kenya), (Draft Veterinary Policy, 2015).

Role of National Government (Draft Veterinary Policy, 2015):

Development of Protocols for Food Safety Assurance e.g. Codes for inspection of animal origin foods.

Provide regulation for Animal Feed Production.

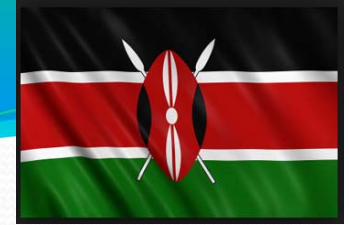
Role of County Governments (Draft Veterinary Policy, 2015):

Implementation of protocols to assure animal-origin food safety.

Implementation of regulations to assure safe animal feed production

Both: Establish 'One Health' legislation and platforms to manage animal-based food hazards.

Food Safety delivery systems and devolution... Cont'd.



Successes and Challenges and owing to Devolution.

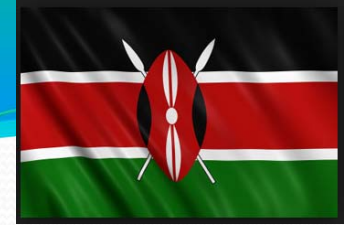
Successes

- Closer collaboration with other relevant sectors e.g. Health, Livestock Production.
- Increased food safety capacity-building forums for stakeholders and the public.

Challenges

- Weak capacity in some counties on food safety issues.
- Varying stringency of food safety regulation and practice across counties.

Role of VPPs in Food Safety Delivery Systems.



- Minimum qualification for a VPP is an animal health certificate/diploma training lasting at least two years.
- For Meat Inspectorate, certificate-level training is undertaken in meat inspection, then meat grading or abattoir supervision.
- Supervision of VPPs is by Veterinary Surgeons who have graduate level training.
- Both the VPPs and Veterinary Surgeons require to be registered with the Kenya Veterinary Board, the regulator of the profession in Kenya.

Role of VPPs in Food Safety Delivery Systems...Cont'd.



VPPs play numerous roles in food safety delivery systems as follows;

- a) Manage and report diseases including those associated with Food Safety e.g. Anthrax.
- b) Conduct ante- and post-mortem inspection at slaughter points.
- c) Create food safety awareness.

Role of VPPs in Food Safety Delivery Systems...Cont'd



d) Oversee hygiene and standard maintenance in abattoirs.

VPPs oversee maintenance of abattoir and meat hygiene to prevent meat contamination as would occur in scenario 1.

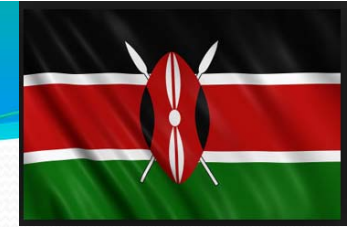
Scenario 1



Scenario 2

Carcasses suspended above ground minimizing contamination, abattoir workers appropriately dressed in white cap, coat and gumboots.

Role of VPPs in Food Safety Delivery Systems...Cont'd



e) Oversee hygiene and standard maintenance at meat transport thus preventing scenario 1.



Scenario 1



Scenario 2

(E.g. of an acceptable meat transport container).

The roof of the container should be raised and dome-shaped to provide adequate interior space for the meat.

The exterior of the container should be painted all white without any writings or graphics. The interior should not be painted. Paint contains Lead, which is toxic.

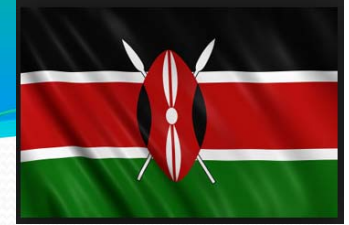
The legend/word 'MEAT' should be written in Chevron Red colour above the red band.

The Licence Number of the meat container should be written in black colour alongside the word meat.

A red band in Chevron Red colour should be painted all around the middle of the meat container.

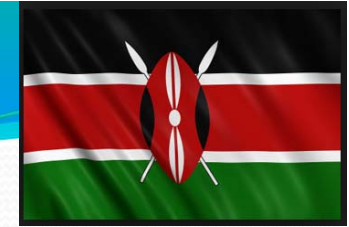
The meat container should be lockable with a padlock to ensure the meat is not tampered with.

Role of VPPs in Food Safety Delivery Systems...Cont'd



- f) Aid in minimization of antimicrobial resistance and drug residues via prudent veterinary drug usage.
- g) Ensure humane slaughter which facilitates proper carcass bleeding thus improved keeping quality.
- h) Aid in 'agroveter' supervision to ensure appropriate animal feed storage that in turn prevents contamination and spoilage; and to ensure controlled sale of veterinary drugs.
- i) Participate in collaborations between the DVS and other sectors.

Role of VPPs in Food Safety Delivery Systems...Cont'd



j) Issue Sanitary Documents for meat and live animal transport.

Sample movement permit (For live animal movement)

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
PERMISSIONS DEPARTMENT
PERMIT TO MOVE
CATTLE/SHEEP/GOATS/PIGS
CHIFTI CHIA KUHAMISHA
NG'OMBE/KONDOO/MBUZI/NGURUWE
This permit is issued for a maximum of 30 days
This permit is valid for
Chief and Districts for use in
This permit is valid for
Chief and Districts for use in
This permit is valid for
Chief and Districts for use in
This permit is valid for
Chief and Districts for use in

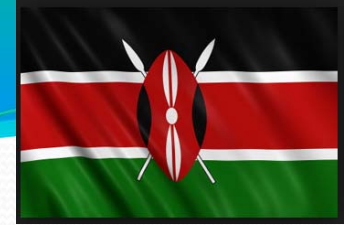
Sample meat container licence

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
VETERINARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT
THE MEAT CONTROL ACT
Chapter 305
MEAT CONTAINER TRANSPORT AND UTILITY
REGULATIONS, 1995
MEAT TRANSPORT PERMIT No.
This permit is issued in respect of
MEAT
CONTAINER
Description and explanation of work and the method
Name and address of the owner
This permit expires on the
Date of issue

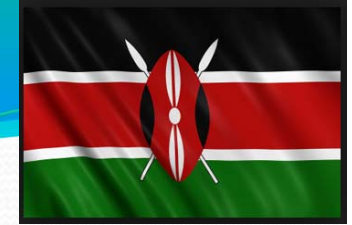
448 107
VETERINARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT
VETERINARY ANIMAL LABORATORY
P.O. BOX KARITI
CERTIFICATE OF TRANSPORT
Issued in accordance with regulation 8 of Meat Control
(Transport of Meat) Regulations
Persons hereby permitted to transport the meat described below:
2 - two bovine carcasses
1 - one caprine carcass and
2 - two goats
to be transported to
Kisumu
Name of person responsible for consigning meat
Name of driver
Names of attendants
Date and time of departure 8.45 Am Date of issue 30/11/18
Official Stamp
Inspecting Officer

Sample Certificate of Transport (For transport of meat)

Conclusion



- VPPs in their role are intimately involved in overcoming the significant food safety challenges that exist globally (FAO, 2012).
- Additionally, the increased food trade, rising demand for animal protein and increasing consumer awareness of food safety are indicators of the immense influence VPPs have now, and will continue to have.
- Thus, VPPs have a vital role in food safety delivery systems for the benefit of society.



Thank you

“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.”
(Hellen Keller).

agnesga@yahoo.com

***DIRECTORATE OF VETERINARY SERVICES,
P.O. BOX, PRIVATE BAG, KANGEMI,
NAIROBI, KENYA.***

veterinarydep@gmail.com