Stuart Ward

African Livestock, which one, where and when?....some practical pointers?
A few opening remarks..

'I don’t like the look of this.'
A few opening remarks..

Common approach for specifications – always looking to improve and happy to continue to meet ICAR / FAO / OIE standards and guidelines, BUT IT HAS TO MOVE FORWARD

“What is driven by the public sector does not perform very well”… so there is a challenge for the private sector..!

“A livestock identification system needs to be visible”… well we are certainly visible at this symposium, please make use of our experience and observations

“Animal Identification doesn’t stop theft, but it may reduce or solve some cases”… If it is going to happen – make sure it doesn’t happen to you

“Plan, Plan, Plan – Strategic, Implementation, Execution”

(Contingency)
African Livestock, which one, where and when

- We have a basket of products from simple to complex –

  Blank tag plus a pen, - no integrity in a mandatory system but a great start for small farm groups wanting to record some management info.

  Simple numbers can be laser printed as well

  Private use, very simple tool for voluntary systems but not where “compliance” needs auditing
African Livestock, which one, where and when

- We have a basket of products from simple to complex –

Laser printed visual, with country ID, Farm ID and unique number

(remember ISO recommendations on numbering – 3 digits for country and 12 digits for locator and individual)

Tamper-proof
Fade resistant
Good retention
Excellent basis for starting a programme

- Manual recording, accuracy challenge, data transfer
African Livestock, which one, where and when

- We have a basket of products from simple to complex –

  Laser printed EID, with manufacturer code, country ID, Farm ID and unique number
  
  Tamper-proof
  Fade resistant
  Good retention
  Excellent basis for starting a programme

- Automated recording, accuracy of data transfer, time and date stamp

- Understand manufacturer codes vs. country codes
African Livestock, which one, where and when

- We have a basket of products from simple to complex –
  
  Laser printed EID, with manufacturer code, country ID, Farm ID and unique number
  
  **Added tissue sampling – DNA, genetics, audit**
  
  Tamper-proof
  
  Fade resistant
  
  Good retention
  
  Excellent basis for starting a programme
  
  - Automated recording, accuracy of data transfer, time and date stamp
  
  - Understand manufacturer codes vs. country codes
African Livestock, which one, where and when

- We have a basket of products from simple to complex –

  Laser printed tissue sample collection and storage, Biological archive, audit

  Link to national ID number, use with or without tag, viable “invisible” traceability.

  Ultimate audit tool with the gold standard of verification in high value programs
African Livestock, which one, where and when

- Majority of Africa has some livestock ID, but it’s traditional and group based – move to individual
- It doesn’t mean stop the old systems but the new has to offer something more...(use the brand mark on the tag?)
- Please use the tag as a commodity (but best quality and strong reputation) and the print as the customisable element
- Apply the tag correctly to maximise retention
- Individual ID, customise depending on the driver for the ID –
  - Country
  - Region,
  - Farm / property / keeper
  - Year
  - Status
  - Colour of tags can help
African Livestock, which one, where and when

- I want to leave a message that the ID number opens the right file from the database ...... for putting data in as well as getting data out

- In 5 minutes I thought of 17 different pieces of data to collect and record ....

- Build your system with blocks of data, specified a principal driver for that block. You may find each block achieves more than one aim.

- Look for already proven databases, don’t reinvent the wheel and don’t drown trying to record too much at first

- Chapter 1 – Ownership    Chapter 2 - Birth and location
- Chapter 3 - Sex, Breed & Status (disease)    ..................And so on

In countries which didn’t introduce “all animal” identification, the one with tags stands out, but in countries which did the one with no tag is suspect....!
As simple as it gets ...

South Sudan Cattle Program (SSCP)

Newly independent South Sudan has 10 to 12 million cattle managed largely by pastoralists, but cattle raiding plagues the country, particularly in the Northern Bahr el Ghazal (NBeG) state.