



LEGS DISCUSSION PAPER ON THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON LIVESTOCK KEEPERS: CONSULTANT TOR

LIVESTOCK EMERGENCY GUIDELINES AND STANDARDS (LEGS)

The Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards (LEGS) are a set of international standards and guidelines for the assessment, design, implementation and evaluation of livestock interventions to assist people affected by humanitarian crises. The ultimate aim of LEGS is to improve the quality and livelihoods impact of livestock-related projects in humanitarian situations. LEGS is recognized and promoted by a growing number of donors globally, and is implemented by a broad range of operational organizations, including NGOs as well as international agencies such as FAO and ICRC.

The LEGS Handbook was first published in 2009, with the second edition in 2015. LEGS draws on evidence-based good practice from around the world, which is incorporated into the Handbook, training materials and other resources. LEGS tracks and uses evaluations, reviews and impact assessments of livestock and livestock-related projects as part of this evidence base. The LEGS standards also promote impact assessment and learning as part of the LEGS Approach to support quality livestock-based responses in emergencies.

The *Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards – LEGS* organisation is a non-profit entity registered in the United Kingdom, managed by a Board of Trustees and supported by a technical Advisory Committee made up of individuals from the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the Overseas Development Institute (ODI), Sphere India, and Tufts University.

LEGS DISCUSSION PAPER

LEGS is commissioning a series of Discussion Papers on current issues of relevance for the LEGS community of practice, to review internal and external learning in order to feed into the preparations for the next edition of the LEGS Handbook, which is planned for 2021/22.

The main objective of the Discussion Papers series is to inform the LEGS Technical Advisory Committee about key and emerging issues and trends that are not yet, or not adequately, covered in the second edition of the LEGS Handbook. The Discussion Papers will be produced in hard and soft copies and will be promoted through the LEGS website and Mailing List. A series of webinars will be held, focusing on each of the Discussion Papers, open to the LEGS community of practice, to discuss and promote the topic further.

The Discussion Papers will focus on evidence-based good practice, presenting a summary of the issue, any key areas where the next edition of the LEGS Handbook could take these issues into account and, where appropriate, case studies to enhance the existing collection of case studies in the Handbook.

The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Small-scale Livestock Keepers

The COVID-19 pandemic is impacting on lives and livelihoods across the globe, including the small-scale livestock keepers that LEGS seeks to support. Many livestock keeping communities around the world are already vulnerable to natural and man-made disasters, including drought, flood, earthquakes, tsunamis and conflict, and some are already in the midst of crises such as the locust infestation in East Africa and the Indian sub-continent. Some will become more vulnerable as a result of the pandemic, as many emergency response operations are restricted or put on hold.

LEGS is commissioning a Discussion Paper to review this issue, with a particular focus on whether and how the next edition of the LEGS Handbook might address guidance relating to emergency response in the context of this type of widespread public health emergency, including in particular any implications for the veterinary support chapter. The paper should also provide a brief overview of:

- How the pandemic is impacting on small-scale livestock keeping communities, in particular how livestock livelihoods, including markets, have been affected
- How livestock keepers and those who work with them are responding to the crisis

CONSULTANT TERMS OF REFERENCE

The objective of the LEGS COVID-19 Impact Discussion Paper is:

- *to provide an overview of the issue and recommendations for the LEGS Advisory Committee on how emergency response in the context of a pandemic such as COVID-19 can be better represented in the revised edition of the LEGS Handbook.*

The Discussion Paper will:

- consist of two sections:
 - first, a summary and analysis of the topic to promote the issue among practitioners and policy makers. This will include a brief review of selected secondary literature, and production of one to three short case studies
 - second, targeted information and recommendations to the LEGS Advisory Committee for the new edition of the LEGS Handbook, in a detachable annex
- be no more than 15 pages in length, including annexes
- have the LEGS Advisory Committee as its key audience
- take into account that LEGS uses a rights-based approach with links to international humanitarian law and hence be written from a humanitarian standpoint.
- bear in mind the global reach of LEGS
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The consultant will therefore:

- Participate in a briefing call with LEGS to agree the scope and focus of the Paper
- Carry out a review of selected secondary/grey literature, coupled with email and/or Skype discussions with a small number of key informants (at least some contacts to be provided by LEGS)
- Draft a contents page for the Discussion Paper, to be discussed and agreed with LEGS
- Submit an initial draft of the Discussion Paper and case studies for comment and feedback by the LEGS Advisory Committee
- Produce a final version of the Paper

Anticipated start date: 14th September 2020

Duration of assignment: 8.5 days

Anticipated output: Discussion Paper of maximum 15 pages including annexes

Reporting to: LEGS Coordinator

Required competencies: background and at least 10 years' experience in livestock and emergency response, with particular understanding of livestock-based livelihoods and markets; excellent writing skills; previous knowledge of LEGS

Interested parties should submit their CV and a brief technical proposal (max 1 page) outlining their suggested methodology and timeline, together with a sample of their writing, to the LEGS Coordinator by **4th September 2020**: Coordinator@livestock-emergency.net.