

LIVESTOCK EMERGENCY GUIDELINES AND STANDARDS

ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS 2023



LEGS



Photo: Michael Benanav



Photo: Kelley Lynch

WELCOME LETTER

2023 was an important year in LEGS' history. It is likely that the LEGS approach reached more people in more places around the globe than ever before. Of course, the reason for this was the highly anticipated release of the **3rd edition of the LEGS Handbook** in English, French, Arabic, and Spanish.

Hundreds of members of the LEGS community of practice attended our three global launch webinars. They were held in English, French and Spanish, and for the first time, we used simulcast technology to include Arabic and Portuguese speakers.

To increase LEGS' geographic reach, LEGS launched the **Core Training – Online course**. Commissioning organisations can now offer LEGS Core Training regardless of where their participants work or live. Seven online trainings have been held to date, with more in the works for 2024. LEGS Trainers continued to roll out the **in-person LEGS Core Training Course** as well, reaching 453 participants over 23 trainings. In addition, LEGS worked with its partners on training and awareness initiatives in the three countries where LEGS is being **actively institutionalised** in the national government: Colombia, Kenya and Mongolia.

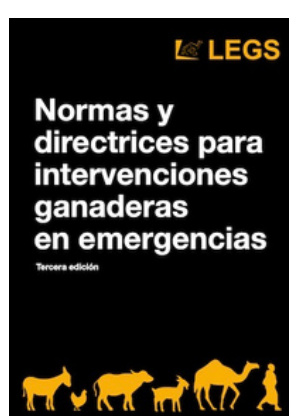
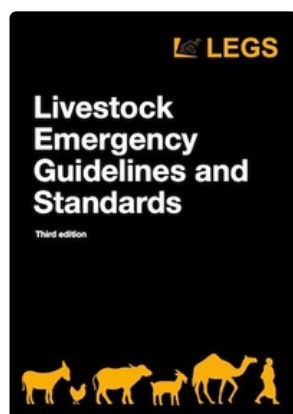
So many people were key to LEGS' tremendous success this year, including donors, trainers, partners, my Trustee and Advisory Group colleagues, and everyone involved in the Handbook launch events. I particularly would like to thank LEGS Coordinator Cathy Watson, Technical and Projects Manager Suzan Bishop, Finance and Admin Manager Lucy Margetts, and Handbook Revision Editor Helen de Jode.

Looking forward, we plan to continue to expand our community of practice even further. We hope you will contribute to this effort by encouraging your friends and colleagues to access and use LEGS resources, such as the new Handbook, webinars and publications, which all are available for free on the LEGS website.

Thank you for your support.

CED HESSE
CHAIR, TRUSTEES

THE NEW LEGS HANDBOOK



3rd Edition Release

After an extensive revision process that incorporated input from a wide range of individuals and organisations, as well as reviews of new evidence and current trends, the 3rd edition of the LEGS Handbook (English version) was released with much excitement on 27th June. The Arabic and French versions were then released on 4th October, and the Spanish version followed on 18th October.

Content

In this 3rd edition, there is greater focus on the principles that underpin LEGS, as well as step-by-step guidance on how to use the LEGS tools to develop an emergency response plan. The first three chapters focus on general principles and decision making:

- Chapter 1 introduces LEGS and provides an overview of emergencies, livestock and livelihoods.
- Chapter 2 presents the eight LEGS Principles that underpin all LEGS-based interventions.
- Chapter 3 provides step by step guidance and tools for emergency response planning.

The remaining chapters focus on the six LEGS technical intervention areas: feed, water, veterinary support, shelter, livestock offtake, and the provision of livestock.

"I welcome this third edition of the LEGS handbook, which is even more reader friendly, easy to use, relevant to changing contexts, and supported by more case studies...The consultative process and outreach have gone beyond the previous edition. I am sure the tools in the handbook will be very useful for both humanitarian and development actors working in the area of food security focusing on livestock-based livelihoods."

Vikrant Mahjan, CEO, Sphere India

HANDBOOK LAUNCH EVENTS

- 28th June: LEGS global launch webinar
- 5th July: LEGS and NDMA launch event in Nairobi
- 5th October: launch webinar in French *with Arabic translation*
- 19th October: LEGS launch webinar in Spanish *with Portuguese translation*
- 26th October: LEGS and BLAC launch event in Managua, Nicaragua



A launch event was held in Nairobi for 25 members of LEGS community of practice. LEGS' partner was the **National Drought Management Authority (NDMA)**. Isacc Githui, Office of the Cabinet Secretary, delivered remarks on behalf of Hon. Rebecca Miano, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of East African Community, Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs) & Regional Development. Jeremiah Kithama attended on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development, State Department for Livestock Development.

THANK YOU

We appreciate everyone who contributed to making the release of the 3rd edition of the LEGS Handbook such a success!



LEGS and **Brooke Latin America and Caribbean (BLAC)** held a launch event in Managua, which was attended by 60 senior government staff members from both Nicaragua and Honduras.

PUBLICATIONS

Technical Briefs

Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)

In October, LEGS published a brief on Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)* by Emma Jowett, due to increased interest from the community of practice and to supplement the CVA material in the new LEGS Handbook. Emma delivered a webinar on 2nd November, which was LEGS' most highly attended webinar to date.

Floods & Tropical Storms

In March, LEGS published a brief on Floods and Tropical Storms* by Hansen Thambi Prem. It provides an additional resource for emergency response to the increasing number of floods experienced globally, such as the severe flooding in Pakistan in 2022. Hansen delivered a webinar on 18th May to expand on this topic and provide guidance on interventions.

**also available in Spanish and French*

Arabic-Language Publications

Thanks to funding from **ICRC Iraq**, LEGS was able to translate these three publications into Arabic:

- Livestock and Nutrition
- The Quality of Veterinary Pharmaceuticals
- LEGS Drought Tool: the Horn of Africa

LEGS was also able to translate these four publications into Arabic using **BHA** funds:

- Cash and Voucher Assistance
- Gender and Livestock in Emergencies
- LEGS Core Standards and Community-Based Animal Health Services
- Putting the Best Foot Forward: Localisation, Contextualisation and Institutionalisation



TRAINING

23

number of in-person
trainings in 2023

510

total number of in-
person trainings to date

11,188

individuals reached to date

59

countries reached to date

Training to Support Institutionalisation

Colombia

Two courses were held—one in Bogota and another in Monteria—with a total of 50 participants, including government staff, producers' associations and NGOs. Both courses were supported by LEGS, with FAO-Colombia sharing the costs for the Monteria course.

Kenya

In August, the **National Drought Management Authority (NDMA)** held a course in Nakuru County for 24 participants that was funded by LEGS. A second course was held jointly between NDMA (with LEGS support) and World Vision Kenya in Malindi for 16 participants.

Mongolia

With LEGS' support, the **Mongolian Ministry of Agriculture and Light Industry** conducted six courses in the eastern and western regions. The trainings were attended by 96 local livestock production and animal health officers, as well as disaster management practitioners.

Training of Trainers (TOT) Courses

In April, a TOT commissioned by **Tufts University** and organized by LEGS and the Karamoja Resilience Support Unit was held in Soroti, Uganda for 20 participants. In May, a TOT commissioned by **BHA** was held in Washington, D.C., for 17 participants.

Awareness-Raising Session

FAO Colombia organized a half-day session, which was delivered by LEGS trainers Julia Lema and Diego Hernandez. There were 30+ attendees, representing numerous agencies.

ONLINE TRAINING

In March, we rolled out the LEGS Core Training – Online course in English, French and Spanish. This virtual course mirrors the in-person LEGS Core Training course and is carried out entirely online. It was developed in response to feedback from the LEGS community of practice that greater diversity of training options would be beneficial, with both in-person and online trainings available.

The course, which uses the LEGS Learning Platform, consists of seven modules of self-paced learning and live workshops (each around 2-2.5 hours, 29 hours in total), with quizzes to help embed learning throughout the course. It is designed for up to 15 participants and delivered by LEGS accredited trainers who have undertaken the Core Training Online Induction Course.

To date, LEGS has delivered seven online trainings. In August, LEGS and the Brooke held a LEGS Core Training Course – Online for 18 participants, drawn from across Brooke Ethiopia. The training was delivered by two LEGS trainers, Dr. Alemayehu Hailemariam, Head of Programmes for Brooke Ethiopia, and Nelly Shonko, an independent consultant, over the course of three weeks.

The training was very well received—participants appreciated both the easy-to-understand self-paced guide along with opportunities to share during the live workshop.

"The LEGS training was very important, and it totally changed my view on emergency response intervention."

Brooke online training participant

Photo: Michael Benanav



E-MODULES

E-modules are short online courses that complement the LEGS Core Training, and provide topic-specific information and analysis. These two e-modules were released in December, joining the Gender E-module. All are free to complete; however, registration may be required.

Drought E-Module

The Drought e-Module aims to support livestock and humanitarian practitioners responding to drought emergencies. It has been designed for those who have attended the LEGS Core Training course, complementing the training and providing additional information and analysis for planning and implementing emergency response in drought contexts.

LEGS Refresher E-Module

This LEGS Refresher e-module is aimed at those livestock and humanitarian practitioners who have already attended a LEGS Core Training course and have been applying the LEGS approach in their country or region. It provides a rapid and practical recap for applying the LEGS Handbook and tools in emergency situations.

SPREADING THE WORD

- 14th-16th November: Presented on LEGS and livestock responses in emergencies to the Agriculture Working Group at the global **Food Security Cluster** partners meeting in Rome
- 25th-27th September: Presented "Livestock in emergencies and resilience" at the **FAO Global Conference on Sustainable Livestock Transformation** in Rome
- 21st August: Participated in the online **World Water Week** session, "Putting Animals on the WASH Agenda"
- 28th-31st July: Presented "Supporting livestock-based response in emergency through the LEGS training programme" at the online **Global Animal Management Disaster Conference**
- 6th to 10th May: Attended **Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week (HNPW)** in Geneva to spread the word on the launch of the 3rd edition of the LEGS Handbook and attend the annual Humanitarian Standards Partnership (HSP) meeting

MANAGEMENT

Trustees

- Ced Hesse, Chair as of January 2024
- Abdurahman Sharif, Chair from March 2023 to January 2024
- Dr. Bashair Ahmed
- Kate Sadler

Strategic Planning Committee

- Abdurahman Sharif, Chair
- Dr. Mathias Lutz Frese
- Dr. Eilia Jafar

Technical Advisory Group

- Dr. David Hadrill, Chair
- Dr. Andy Catley
- Wendy Fenton
- Dr. Guido Govoni
- Rosanne Marchesich
- Vikrant Mahajan
- Emmanuella Olesambu
- Dr. Piers Simpkin
- Cathy Watson, LEGS Coordinator

FUNDING

In 2023, LEGS received funding and in-kind support* from:

- Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance, USAID (BHA)
- Feinstein International Center, Tufts University
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- Humanitarian Policy Group, ODI*
- International Committee of the Red Cross
- Sphere*
- Sphere India*
- The Brooke*

Unless otherwise stated, all LEGS activities were funded by BHA.

Photo: Ana Urgoiti





PLANS FOR 2024

- Revise and update the LEGS Core Training and TOT curricula to align with the new LEGS Handbook
- Translate revised training materials into Arabic, French and Spanish, and disseminate to all LEGS Trainers
- Promote LEGS training: in person, online and self-paced e-modules
- Provide further/ongoing support to LEGS Trainers and community of practice
- Further support institutionalization of LEGS in three target countries
- Produce more technical briefs on key topics

JOIN OUR GOOGLE GROUP

In 2022, we launched a Google Group, so members of the LEGS community can ask questions, and share experiences and advice related to understanding and implementing the LEGS Approach. If you would like to join, please email communications@livestock-emergency.net.

ABOUT

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, in support of people affected by humanitarian crises.

The LEGS organisation is a non-profit entity registered in the United Kingdom, managed by a Board of Trustees, and supported by a small central secretariat.

It also has a Technical Advisory Group made up of experts from FAO, ICRC, ODI, Sphere India, and Tufts University. LEGS draws on evidence-based good practice from around the world, which is incorporated into the Handbook, training materials and other resources. It is recognised and promoted by a growing number of donors and networks globally, and is implemented by a broad range of operational organisations, UN agencies and NGOs.

CONNECT WITH US



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