



USAID KENYA RESILIENCE AND ECONOMIC GROWTH IN THE ARID LANDS-ACCELERATED GROWTH (REGAL-AG)

QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT: FY 2013 QIV

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**Resilience and Economic Growth in the Arid Lands-Accelerated Growth
(REGAL-AG)**

FY 2013 QIV PROGRESS REPORT

(01 July – 30 September 2013)

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The authors' views expressed in this report do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

Table of Contents

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS.....	IV
I. RESILIENCE AND ECONOMIC GROWTH IN THE ARID LANDS-ACCELERATED GROWTH EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....	I
II. KEY ACHIEVEMENTS (QUALITATIVE IMPACT).....	4
III. PROGRAM PROGRESS (QUANTITATIVE IMPACT).....	11
IV. PERFORMANCE MONITORING.....	13
V. PROGRESS ON LINKS TO OTHER USAID PROGRAMS.....	14
VI. PROGRESS ON LINKS WITH KENYAN GOVERNMENT AGENCIES.....	16
VII. PROGRESS ON USAID FORWARD.....	17
VIII. SUSTAINABILITY AND EXIT STRATEGY	17
IX. SUBSEQUENT QUARTER'S WORK PLAN.....	18

Acronyms and Abbreviations

AHSP	Animal Health Service Provider
CAHW	Community Animal Health Worker
CCF	Community Contracting Fund
CFO	Chief Financial Officer
CLB	Community Land Board
COP	Chief of Party
CR	County Representative
DCOP	Deputy Chief of Party
EMC	Environmental Management Committee
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FY	Fiscal year
KARI	Kenya Agricultural Research Institute
KCA	Kenya Camel Association
KLMC	Kenya Livestock Marketing Council
LMA	Livestock Marketing Association
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MELAKO	Merille, Laisamis and Koya
MERL	Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning
MOALF	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries
NDMA	National Drought Management Authority
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
PACIDA	Pastoralist Community Initiatives Development Assistance
PMP	Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Plan
REGAL-AG	Resilience and Economic Growth in Arid Lands-Accelerated Growth
REGAL-IR	Resilience and Economic Growth in Arid Lands-Improved Resilience
SIDEP	Samburu Integrated Development Programme
SME	Small & Medium Enterprises
ToTs	Trainer of Trainers
USAID	United State Agency for International Development
VCA	Value Chain Analysis
WFP	World Food Programme

I. RESILIENCE AND ECONOMIC GROWTH IN THE ARID LANDS-ACCELERATED GROWTH EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Resilience and Economic Growth in the Arid Lands-Accelerated Growth (REGAL-AG) is a five-year project that will increase economic growth in rural communities in Kenya by building a more inclusive and competitive livestock value chain. Through project activities, REGAL-AG will foster a vibrant livestock value chain that generates opportunities for those all along it, including pastoralist livestock keepers. REGAL-AG will encourage growth by improving market access, increasing the availability and affordability of inputs and services needed to benefit from market participation, and working with livestock keepers to reduce their vulnerability.

This report summarizes the activities implemented in the Fourth quarter of FY 2013, spanning the period July –September 2013 and mainly captures the quick wins implemented during the reporting period.

Qualitative Impact

Further to the previous gains made in quarter 3 under component 1, REGAL-AG continued to focus on supporting pastoral community participation in policy making and the identification of development priorities aimed at business development for accelerated economic growth. This involved improving community organizations' capacity for advocacy and service delivery, training of EMC members on land tenure/Land use advocacy and actively involving stakeholders in roundtable discussions on developed policy briefs.

In moving forward the land advocacy agenda, the REGAL-AG project supported Community Advocacy Champions (CCA) to conduct village-level (or *manyatta*) advocacy sensitization meetings. These meetings were done in Balaah, Korr, Namarei and Farakoren (Illaut) within the Laisamis South Sub-county. The peak of these manyatta-based advocacy meetings was the signing of a community petition aimed at lobbying the County Assembly representatives to support community inclusion in land tenure, land use and environmental conservation and protection through county-based legislation. The petition will form the basis for development of policy paper by the livestock sector working group before tabling in Marsabit County for discussion and passing into county laws in FY2014.

Based on the outcomes of two round table discussions held in Saku and Laisamis during the quarter, the REGAL-AG team developed and conducted internal reviews of two policy briefs: one focusing on taxation along the Moyale-Isiolo-Nanyuki-Nairobi livestock transportation corridor, and another one on community-based land tenure, land use and environmental conservation and management. REGAL-AG will use the briefs to guide discussions with partners and key stakeholders (including the ASAL Secretariat), and help create buy-in as appropriate to engage policy lobbying and advocacy. The draft policy briefs have been shared with USAID.

Under component 2 that aims to improve pastoralists' access to markets, strengthen livestock value chains in the pastoral regions, and diversify end markets for Kenyan livestock and meat, REGAL-AG continued to build on the success achieved by the interventions of the previous quarters. During previous quarters' interactions with livestock marketing associations (LMAs), the REGAL-AG team identified leadership and management capacity as a critical gap within the majority of the institutions. As a step towards bridging this gap, REGAL-AG conducted training sessions on governance, leadership and management for 38 members (28 men, 10 women) from Illaut and Korr LMAs in Marsabit South Constituency. The training focused constitution development process, gender perspectives, management of livestock markets, record keeping, leadership and governance, and methods of drafting LMA constitutions. In order to improve accountability and transparency in livestock market operations,

REGAL-AG initiated a process to encourage county authorities to print the necessary financial documents like receipts, invoices and cash books to help the LMAs generate and manage their own finances. The strengthening of the LMA institutions coupled with aggressive campaigns by the county governments to encouragement outside investment is a foundational step in the implementation of market driven joint efforts to improve pastoralist resilience through interventions that will result to vibrant livestock sector.

In an effort to increase pastoralists’ access to quality services through outreach programs that promote local animal health service providers, the REGAL-AG DCOP and the project’s Animal Health Specialists conducted three workshops for animal health service providers (AHSPs) in Moyale/Sololo, Isiolo and Laisamis. The three workshops were attended by a total of 78 participants (22 female, 56 males) drawn from community animal health workers (CAHWs), agro-vet owners, animal health assistants and technical staff from veterinary departments. The workshop’s main objectives were to introduce REGAL-AG and its facilitation approach to the AHSPs, create awareness of the potential investment opportunities for input and service providers to invest in, and discuss how AHSPs can become key drivers of economic growth, leading to behavior change among livestock producers to adopt better animal health practices. The workshops were officially opened by the Director of Veterinary Services for the respective counties.

Discussions were also held around the strategies that the service providers could employ to improve service delivery and make livestock production in ASALs profitable and commercialized. The final part of the workshop involved the development of action plans to help the participants think about how to take advantage of the identified opportunities and improve inputs markets. With increasing capacity of AHSPs together with project support to land reclamation and pasture rehabilitation, REGAL-AG is expected to contribute to increased livestock productivity by increasing access to animal feed in all seasons and improving herd management and health.

As a step towards increased access to key services including veterinary drugs, animal health services, animal feed and financial services. REGAL-AG team, led by the DCOP organized a two-day animal health upgrading stakeholder workshop in collaboration with Mt. Kenya University. The overall objective of the workshop was to obtain inputs for the design of an animal health certificate program and related capacity building programs, as well as to build understanding on the potential numbers of candidates and appropriate roles of county governments, communities, and financing institutions to undertake these efforts. The workshop was attended by consultants from Mt. Kenya University, REGAL-AG staff, representatives from the Marsabit Governor’s office (including three County Executive Members and the Deputy Governor), two members of the Marsabit County Assembly, a representative from the local community, and commercial pastoralists. Following community and stakeholder input into the skill upgrading program, Mt. Kenya University conducted a capacity needs baseline survey for the community animal health workers (CAHWs) through key informant interviews, focus group discussions, and transect walks in Marsabit central, Loiyangalani and North Horr sub counties. The analysis and documentation of the findings will help Mt. Kenya University and REGAL-AG to make decisions on the nature of support required to upgrade the CAHWs to meet the new requirements as stipulated by the Kenya Veterinary Board and Directorate of Veterinary Services.

Quantitative Impact

During the period of July-September 2013 majority of the quantitative achievements relate to trainings and community based land tenure and land use advocacy. Under component 1, the project supported Community Advocacy Champions and Members of EMC to undertake manyatta-based advocacy efforts by the various EMCs that attracted 367 community participants (126 male and 211 female) distributed as shown in the table below.

	Farakoren (27th July 13)	Korr (29th July 13)	Ballah (28th July 13)	Namarei (28th July 13)	Total
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Men	46	61	89	15	211
Women	30	53	47	26	156
Total	76	114	136	41	367

The policy team also drafted two policy briefs that were validated by stakeholders through two roundtable meetings. As mentioned above, the draft policy briefs have been shared with USAID.

In terms of quantitative progress during the quarter, a total of 38 LMAs members (28 males, 10 females) from Korr and Illaut benefitted from a business management training conducted by REGAL-AG's SME/Market Access Specialist during the quarter under review. The training covered management of livestock-related services, record keeping, leadership and governance, and methods of drafting LMA constitutions; 16 (four women, 12 men) and 22 LMA members (six women, 16 men) were trained from Korr and Illaut markets respectively. In order to improve accountability and transparency in livestock market operations, REGAL-AG initiated a process to encourage county authorities to print the necessary financial documents like receipts, invoices and cash books to help the LMAs generate and manage their own finances. The SME/Market Access Specialist convened a meeting with the Marsabit County Finance Executive to discuss the printing of financial receipts; by the end of September 2013 (FY13) the receipts were ready for printing and distribution.

In the period July-September 2013, the REGAL-AG DCOP and the project's Animal Health Specialists conducted three workshops for animal health service providers (AHSPs) in Moyale/Sololo, Isiolo and Laisamis. The three workshops were attended by a total of 78 participants (22 female, 56 males) drawn from community animal health workers (CAHWs), agro-vet owners, animal health assistants and technical staff from veterinary departments. The workshop's main objectives were to introduce REGAL-AG and its facilitation approach to the AHSPs, create awareness of the potential investment opportunities for input and service providers to invest in, and discuss how AHSPs can become key drivers of economic growth, leading to behavior change among livestock producers to adopt better animal health practices.

To address land degradation and commercial fodder establishment in Marsabit County, REGAL-AG team, and particularly partner RAE Trust, supported 14 participants (four female and 10 male) in the fodder and land reclamation committee's training and exposure tour to Baringo. The participants first engaged in a training session on rangeland rehabilitation and commercial fodder production and thereafter visited various rehabilitated lands and held interactive discussions with various groups. The results of the visits are already evident through the interest in establishing commercial pasture production and starting up of small scale livestock fattening among local groups in Marsabit County.

Subsequent Quarter's Work Plan

REGAL-AG's upcoming activities are captured in detail by the FY2014 work plan submitted to USAID. The key activities planned for the period October-December 2013 period include the following:

- Onboarding of the new COP
- Rapid assessments of ten livestock markets (to be implemented as Fast Track CCF grants)
- Support to County Governments of Isiolo and Marsabit to develop County-Specific Livestock sub-sector master plans
- Support Isiolo County Government to conduct a feasibility study and operationalization of the abattoir/feedlot
- Mapping of the areas for camel milk production and transport routes, with volumes
- Support land reclamation and pasture rehabilitation, improved animal health care, and facilitate training in improved herd management and animal husbandry practices
- Finalization of the gender strategy
- Develop and finalize the REGAL-AG communication strategy
- Set up the ki-project M&E system and prepare baseline survey design and develop survey tools

II. KEY ACHIEVEMENTS (QUALITATIVE IMPACT)

A. Cross-Cutting Activities

1. FY2014 Work Plans and PMP Revisions

Towards the end of the quarter, the REGAL-AG team was engaged in the preparation of project work plans for the period 1 October 2013 to 30 September 2014 (FY 2014). ACIDI/VOCA took a participatory approach to work planning to ensure both complementarity with other initiatives as well as buy-in to our activities. In addition to REGAL-AG staff, the work plan involved the participation of representatives from the county governments of Marsabit and Isiolo, NDMA, NRT, Sidai, REGAL-IR, PACIDA, RAE Trust, Mt. Kenya University (MKU) among other local project stakeholders. Main activities were identified through a facilitated approach that reviewed current targets, indicators,



Figure 1: REGAL-AG staff and partners participate in work plan discussions

achievements and lessons learned from year 1, and arranged a focused, strategic plan for activities in year 2. Through the planning process, the partners came to agreement on specific livestock sector interventions in the two counties that can be leveraged to create a more inclusive and competitive livestock value chain that increases pastoralists' resilience and stimulates economic growth in Kenya's arid lands.

By discussing the theory of change and role of various stakeholders in achieving project impact, the participants reviewed the project indicators as captured in the PMP and made suggestions of specific indicators that would best capture the project outputs and outcomes. Building on this, the REGAL-AG staff and partners—particularly REGAL-IR and government representatives—agreed on specific initiatives and collaborative opportunities to achieve both the project goals and broader USAID and county government objectives.

The details of these initiatives are defined in the work plan document and revised PMP submitted on October 1st. The REGAL-AG team is eager for USAID's feedback on the work plan to build on the activities initiated in FY 2013 and begin implementation of the FY2014 work plan.

B. COMPONENT 1: Improving the Enabling Environment

Further to the gains made in quarter 3 under this component, REGAL-AG continued to focus on supporting pastoral community participation in policy making and the identification of development priorities aimed at business development for accelerated economic growth. This focus involved improving community organizations' capacity for advocacy and service delivery and training of environmental management committee (EMC) members on advocacy for land tenure, land use, pastoral mobility and grazing management. It also involved roundtable discussions that brought together representatives of community institutions and County Assembly Wards (CAWs) representatives.

During the reporting quarter, the Pastoral Policy Advisor with support from the Community Investment Specialist and the Gender Advisor conducted village- (*Manyatta*-) based advocacy meetings in addition to involving members of the EMCs and county representatives in discussing policy options that are aimed at increasing the pastoral communities' participation for creating an enabling environment for pastoralism as a viable business. The policy team also held a policy exposition meeting with livestock stakeholders based in Marsabit County to discuss and vet two draft policy briefs. These focused specifically on: 1) livestock challenges along the Moyale-Nairobi transport corridor and 2) involvement of community-

based organizations (i.e. EMCs) in community advocacy on land tenure and land use. Inputs from the stakeholders were used to draft the policy briefs that were shared with USAID. This meeting also led to the formation of the Marsabit County Policy Workgroup (LPWG), which will henceforth spearhead livestock policy work in the county. The Marsabit County Minister in charge of livestock, Dr. Dokhe, lauded the formation of the working group and promised to house the secretariat of the group to ensure its sustainability beyond the REGAL-AG program.

1. Land Use Rights and Mobility of Pastoral Communities Protected

During the quarter, the REGAL-AG pastoral advocacy team led by Pastoral Policy Advisor supported selected representatives from four out of the targeted six EMCs to undertake *Manyatta*-based land tenure, land use and environmental conservation advocacy within their respective communities. The facilitators were trained on knowledge and skills for community-based advocacy in the previous quarter (June 2013) in Laisamis and were expected to impart their knowledge to the larger communities in Balaah, Korr, Namarei and Farakoren (Illaut) within the Laisamis Sub-County/constituency. The *Manyatta*-based advocacy efforts by the various EMCs attracted 367 community participants (156 male and 211 female) distributed as shown in the table below.

Table 1: Summary of community members attending community-based land advocacy meetings in Laisamis Sub-County/Constituency

	Farakoren (27th July 13)	Ballah (28th July 13)	Namarei (28th July 13)	Korr (29th July 13)	Total
Men	46	89	15	61	211
Women	30	47	26	53	156
Total	76	136	41	114	367

During the previous quarter, REGAL-AG trained EMCs on community-based land tenure and use, and supported them in developing community action plans (CAPs), for the community-based advocacy activities. Building on this, during the current quarter the REGAL-AG team worked with the EMCs to prepare petitions, which were aimed at lobbying the County Representatives (CRs) to support the inclusion of community members (and especially members of EMCs) in the membership of the soon-to-be constituted Community Land Boards (CLBs). In addition, the CRs were petitioned to support land tenure, land use and environmental conservation and protection through the county assembly-based legislative processes.

To move forward the community policy agenda to the county level within the quarter, the REGAL-AG Community Investment Specialist and the Pastoral Policy Advisor facilitated a round table meeting between the EMCs' representatives and the CRs in Saku constituency; twenty-three EMC representatives (20 male and 3 female) and 3 CRs from the Sagante, Marsabit Central and Karare Wards participated. Similar round table meetings were held with the Laisamis EMC and their CRs in July. The meeting was attended by 22 participants (2 female and 20 male) from 8 areas in Laisamis and Korr/Ngurnit and two CRs, namely Mr. Daud Tawasot, the Korr/Ngurnit CR and Mr. Mohamud Kochale, the Laisamis CR. In both cases, the meetings resulted in the submission of signed petitions by the EMCs to the CRs. The EMCs shared their respective visions, as well as their petition for inclusion in the upcoming county/community land boards. Although there were some initial tensions over a lack of understanding of each other's roles, the CRs' responses were very encouraging as they recognized the contribution of EMCs on environmental protection and conservation while appreciating their expanded role on community land issues. The CRs agreed to support the EMCs by endorsing the petitions with their signatures. The petitions will form the basis for development of a policy paper by the livestock sector working group (see below) before tabling in Marsabit County for discussion and passing into county laws in FY2014.

2. Address Transport Constraints

Within this quarter (July 2013), the REGAL-AG team, led by the Pastoral Policy Advisor with support from the Gender Advisor and Community Investment Specialists, facilitated a workshop in Marsabit County to provide input and gather stakeholder insight on policy constraints affecting the livestock sector. The workshop was attended by 20 participants (19 male and 1 female) drawn from the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Production and Fisheries (MAL&F), the Veterinary Department, the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA), the District Livestock Marketing Council, various NGOs, as well as the Marsabit County Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, Dr. Dokhe. The participants were taken through the policy making process and format, in order to build their capacity to advocate for and drive policy changes. Another outcome of the meeting was the formation and launching of a Marsabit County livestock policy working group, chaired by the County Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, to support the county government in reviewing/guiding REGAL-AG policy briefs and coming up with recommendations for community-driven policies that address particular needs of the livestock sector.

Based on the outcomes of these discussions, the REGAL-AG team developed and conducted internal reviews of two policy briefs: one focusing on taxation along the Moyale-Isiolo-Nanyuki-Nairobi livestock transportation corridor, and another one on community-based land tenure, land use and environmental conservation and management. REGAL-AG will use the briefs to guide discussions with partners and key stakeholders (including the ASAL Secretariat), and help create buy-in as appropriate to engage policy lobbying and advocacy. The draft policy briefs have been shared with USAID.

C. COMPONENT 2: Expanding End Market Opportunities and Catalyzing Commercial Investments

Under this component, REGAL-AG aims to improve pastoralists' access to markets, strengthen livestock value chains in the pastoral regions, and diversify end markets for Kenyan livestock and meat.

1. Revitalize Primary Markets through Community Ownership and Improved Security

During interactions over the previous quarter with livestock marketing associations (LMAs), the REGAL-AG team identified leadership and management capacity as a critical gap within the majority of the institutions. As a step towards bridging this gap, REGAL-AG's Community Investment Specialist led training sessions on governance, leadership and management for the Illaut and Korr LMAs in Korr/Ngurnit Ward in Marsabit South Constituency. One of the areas of discussion during the training session was the constitution development process, which culminated in the action plan for the registration of the LMAs. The Community Investment Specialist emphasized gender perspectives, specifically on the importance of fair representation and inclusion of women in the committees and also gender-sensitive task allocation for LMA operations.

During the quarter, the project was successful in supporting the Korr LMA (now named KORBA) to register with the Ministry for Gender and Social Services Development. KORBA has been issued a registration certificate (a copy is available in the REGAL-AG Marsabit offices), which will allow its management to negotiate with the county government on revenue sharing using a co-management model, since the certificate gives its market legal recognition. REGAL-AG will monitor this progress in FY2014 as it partners with the LMA to implement other initiatives including projects supported by the CCF.

The Korr and Illaut LMAs also benefitted from a financial management training conducted by REGAL-AG's Community Investment Specialist during the quarter under review. The training covered

management of livestock markets, record keeping, leadership and governance, and methods of drafting LMA constitutions; 16 (four women, 12 men) members and 22 LMA members (six women, 16 men) were trained from Korr and Illaut markets respectively. The participants were given training transcripts as proof of attendance. This will be followed up with a certificate to help track the level of training for the LMAs in the future (and coordinating with other bodies providing support to LMAs). In order to improve accountability and transparency in livestock market operations, REGAL-AG initiated a process to encourage county authorities to print the necessary financial documents like receipts, invoices and cash books to help the LMAs generate and manage their own finances. The Community Investment Specialist held a meeting with the Marsabit County Finance Executive to discuss the printing of financial receipts, which by the end of September 2013(FY13) had been printed and ready for distribution to the LMAs.

2. Promoting Investment in the Livestock Sector in Marsabit and Isiolo Counties

During the quarter, REGAL-AG provided technical and logistics support to Marsabit and Isiolo Counties in planning their investor conferences.

Isiolo County

The Interim Chief of Party and the Gender Advisor participated in an initial investor meeting, led by the Isiolo County Deputy Governor, Mohamed Gulied. The REGAL program staff provided presentations on how they will support market-led livestock value chain improvements in Isiolo and Marsabit counties.

The meeting was attended by a group of Somali livestock traders that export livestock (both meat and live animals) to the Middle East. The investors would like to expand this export market and are interested in developing Isiolo's livestock market value chain as well as in promoting and investing in new infrastructure such as feedlots and the abattoir.



Figure 2: Isiolo County Commissioner Mr. Wanyama Musiambo addresses the investor forum participants

During the meeting, the investors affirmed the significant livestock market potential in the Middle East, which imports approximately 1 million carcasses and a further 2 million live animals annually, particularly around the Hajj and Ramadan periods. It also emerged during the meeting that Kenyan goats (the white Somali goats) are a delicacy in the Middle East, and thus represent a branding distinction that works to the advantage of Kenyan pastoralists. However, meeting participants also recognized that many factors continue to hinder pastoralists' ability to fully realize these opportunities, including issues of livestock collection and consolidation, especially during drought seasons, which are often a result of poor connections between the traders and the producers and the limited supply of animals to the markets. Transportation to terminal markets (where animals are exported) in Kenya is also a challenge particularly because of the heavy cost of transportation vis-à-vis the capacity of the lorries to carry livestock; currently lorries carry 120-150 shoats whereas in other countries lorries often have double or triple decks that can accommodate 750-1000 shoats. Finally, there is also a lack of proper loading facilities at the Mombasa port.

Before investing in the region, the Somali traders asked the County Government to invest in improved infrastructure, and specifically the creation of popular market days with well-established water and pasture facilities to ensure sustained supply and easy collection/bulking of livestock from pastoral areas,

with increased off-take of livestock. On their part, the traders promised to contribute their resources towards an agreed investment vehicle between the county government and the investors.

Marsabit County

During the quarter, the Interim Chief of Party and the Gender Advisor also participated in an initial pre-investor conference meeting led by the Marsabit County Governor, Ukur Yattani. The REGAL programs again gave presentations on how they will support market-led livestock value chain improvements in both Isiolo and Marsabit counties. The meeting was attended by over 100 participants including representatives from the Chinese, Polish and Australian Embassies. Other attendees included the Governor and Senator from Wajir County, the Deputy Governor of Isiolo County, and other elected leaders. The meeting organizers presented a mapping of investment opportunities and priority expenditure areas where the livestock sector emerged as a top priority.

The planning meetings provided an opportunity for the REGAL-AG project to highlight key constraints and opportunities within the livestock sector in the two counties and called for joint efforts to improve pastoralist resilience through interventions that will result in a vibrant livestock sector. The REGAL-AG team also continued preparation for the main investment conference, to be held in October.

D. COMPONENT 3: Improving Livestock Productivity

Under Component 3, REGAL-AG seeks to increase livestock productivity by increasing access to animal feed in all seasons, improving the affordability of feed, and improving herd management and health. During the last quarter of the year, the following progress was made under this component:

1. Improve Access to Animal Feed in All Seasons

In its efforts to support land reclamation and pasture rehabilitation, the REGAL-AG team, and particularly partner RAE Trust, supported 14 participants (four female and 10 male) in the fodder and land reclamation committee's training and exposure tour to Baringo. The participants first engaged in a training session on rangeland rehabilitation and commercial fodder production and thereafter visited various rehabilitated lands and held interactive discussions with relevant groups. The group first visited the Salabani sub-location and met with the Saruni Self-Help Group for an overview of the benefits of rehabilitating land. In Salabani, 31 bulls are currently being fattened on the rehabilitated field, which is used for dry season grazing and serves as the members' main source of income; the group also visited a privately owned rehabilitated field, where the owner explained how he reclaimed land infested with *Prosopis Juliflora* (an invasive species) with grass. He and his family have significantly benefited from the well-managed, productive field, in addition to dry season grazing, grass seed harvesting and steer fattening activities. The tour participants next visited the Naitemu Women's Group in the Meisori sub-location where they learned about the group's many income-generating activities, including bull fattening (the most profitable), bee keeping, cutting of building poles, thatching grass, fencing posts and grass seed harvesting. Women from Marsabit were particularly impressed that the Naitemu Women's Group owned their own cattle, which traditionally belong to men in pastoral societies. Finally the group visited the Taparini Self-Help Group in Chepkoi sub-location and the Ngosonoi Self Help Group in the Akorian sub-location, where 14 and 22 bulls owned by the respective groups are fattened.

Through these discussions, the tour participants learned about profitable buying and selling of livestock, weed control in fodder fields as well as different tree and grass species and their varying values and traditional uses. At the end of the tour, the group held discussions with the RAE Trust team to review lessons learned and discuss the way forward. The tour participants were very interested in replicating relevant initiatives from Baringo and establishing fodder and income-generating activities from the grass fields in Marsabit. It was agreed that intensive follow-up of the tour will be a top priority for both the

project team and the tour participants, who will disseminate the lessons from Baringo within their communities. The traditional fields of “Lokeri” (Samburu) and “Kalo” (Borana) were identified as strong initial entry points, with larger-scale rehabilitation to be considered afterwards.

As a follow-up on the action plans developed after the visit, later in the quarter, the REGAL-AG Fodder Specialist held meetings with participants from Turbi and Hurri Hills who reported mobilizing other group members and educating them using the photos taken during the trip. Additionally, the Fodder Specialist visited the Mililima Mitatu women’s group and the JACOFA1 fodder group, and found out that the lessons around pasture seed harvesting and fencing of enclosures for pasture regeneration were quickly learned by 120 community members (20 from Mililima Mitatu and 100 from JACOFA). This was in accordance with commercial requirements, since members of both groups are either planning to trade in fodder or are planning to utilize planted fodder for fattening purposes.

2. Improved Animal Health and Husbandry

The REGAL-AG approach to improving animal health care at the community level is to increase pastoralists’ access to quality services through outreach programs that promote local animal health service providers (AHSPs), upgrade providers’ skills and establish and strengthen both horizontal and vertical relationships through the value chains.

During the period from July-September 2013, the REGAL-AG DCOP and the project’s Animal Health Specialists conducted three workshops for AHSPs in Moyale/Sololo, Isiolo and Laisamis. The three workshops were attended by a total of 78 participants (22 females, 56 males) that included community animal health workers (CAHWs), agro-vet owners, animal health assistants and technical staff from veterinary departments. The workshops’ main objectives were to introduce REGAL-AG and its facilitation approach to the AHSPs, create awareness of the potential investment opportunities for input and service providers to invest in, and discuss how AHSPs can become key drivers of economic growth, leading to behavior change among livestock producers to adopt better animal health practices. The workshops were officially opened by the Director of Veterinary Services for the respective counties. Discussions were also held around the strategies that the service providers could employ to improve service delivery and make livestock production in the ASALs not only profitable but commercial. The final part of the workshop involved the development of action plans to help the participants think about how to take advantage of the identified opportunities and improve inputs markets.



Figure 3: Participants of Isiolo AHSP workshop in group sessions

In the Moyale/Sololo workshop, there were a total of 28 participants (4 women and 24 men) while in Isiolo there were 34 participants (15 female and 19 male). The third AHSP training during the month was held in Laisamis district with 16 participants (3 women and 13 men). At the end of the workshops, participants developed action plans on developing key messages targeted at creating awareness on the importance of commercial pastoralism, creating improved producer-AHSP linkages and identifying potential investments in animal health service delivery that would make it viable and vibrant. The next

¹ Jaldesa Community Forest Association

step will be to review the action plans and identify those that could have a sustainable impact on animal health service delivery, with the goal of identifying ways of facilitating piloting and learning by the other service providers.

E. COMPONENT 4: Expanding Existing and Developing New Input and Service Markets

Under Component 4, REGAL-AG facilitates access to key services including veterinary drugs, animal health services, animal feed and financial services. In the long run, this component will lead to improved availability of vaccines, enhanced linkages between fodder producers to markets, viable savings options for pastoralists, and increased literacy on insurance products and services.

1. Improved Access to Veterinary Drugs and Animal Health Services

During the quarter, REGAL-AG's DCOP organized a two-day animal health upgrading stakeholder workshop in collaboration with Mt. Kenya University. The overall objective of the workshop was to obtain inputs on designing an animal health certification program and related capacity building programs for residents of Marsabit County, as well as understanding the potential numbers of candidates and appropriate roles of county governments, communities, and financing institutions in undertaking these efforts. The workshop was attended by consultants from Mt. Kenya University, REGAL-AG staff, representatives from the Marsabit Governor's office (including three County Executive Members and the Deputy Governor), two members of the Marsabit County Assembly, a representative from the local community, and commercial pastoralists.

The program provided an opportunity for REGAL-AG, Sidai, Equity Bank, and County Government representatives to present on their roles and activities, and how their involvement in the above partnership could impact the county economy. Sidai's engagement would allow them to access qualified people who had undertaken the certificate course and would be candidates for opening up franchises and running the super service centers. Equity Bank indicated that they would be interested in developing products that would support all training beneficiaries as well as commercial pastoralists, including access to finance to start-up such franchises.

After the conclusion of the stakeholder meeting, REGAL-AG supported Mt. Kenya University to undertake a feasibility survey in Marsabit as the next step in launching the certification program. The exercise started with a partner's meeting attended by 21 participants (20 males, one female) aimed at creating awareness on the objectives of the baseline study and involved discussion around the following issues related to the study:

- a. Opportunities, priorities and challenges in animal health/production service delivery
- b. Community resource mapping and livelihood analysis
- c. AHSP analysis; their roles, inter-linkages, strengths, weaknesses, analysis of training needs, and capacity building opportunities

The Mt. Kenya University team conducted a capacity needs baseline survey for the CAHWs through key informant interviews (with Ministry of Education, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Fisheries, and NGO representatives, for example), focus group discussions, and walks around villages for the purpose of observation in Marsabit central, Loiyangalani and North Horr sub-counties. The analysis and documentation of the findings will help Mt. Kenya University and REGAL-AG to make decisions on the nature of support required to upgrade the CAHWs to meet the new requirements as stipulated by

the Kenya Veterinary Board and Directorate of Veterinary Services, which the certification program will be centered around.

The implementation of the skill upgrading program for CAHWs or other individuals interested in providing animal health services will be instrumental in accelerating economic growth through the livestock value chain. In the arid and semi-arid context, the skilled human resources to provide animal health services have been non-existent, leading to the mushrooming of training of CAHWs, whose work in disease prevention, surveillance and treatment has been invaluable. However, in order to meet the World Organization for Animal Health standards to enable the export of livestock products, the government has recently passed a bill reaffirming that the government does not recognize CAHWs unless they are under the supervision of a district veterinary officer. The initiative of Mt. Kenya University and REGAL-AG to provide veterinary certification training targeted in Marsabit and other arid regions attempts to meet the new regulations. Discussions are currently underway between Mt. Kenya University and Marsabit County government to have the program kick-off by January 2014.

In addition to the Mt. Kenya University initiative on animal health capacity development, the DCOP met with the CEO of Kenya Livestock Finance Trust (K-LIFT) to discuss how they could be involved in providing credit access for AHSPs and the pastoralists that would engage in commercial pastoralism. K-LIFT's future engagement with REGAL-AG is geared towards working with K-LIFT in mobilizing pastoralists to enroll with K-LIFT products.

F. Lessons Learned

Many of the lessons learned in previous quarters are applicable for the period under review. However, the participatory planning process in the preparation of the REGAL-AG 2014 work plan brought out key synergies between the various agencies working in the livestock sector within Marsabit and Isiolo Counties. A good example is the utilization of available human resources; whereas REGAL-AG planned to employ a civil engineer to oversee the field implementation of market infrastructure through the CCF mechanism, Marsabit County offered to second a government engineer to provide input, reducing the time required (and subsequent cost) by the civil engineer on REGAL-AG. Other leverage opportunities will be pursued to increase project efficiency and effectiveness.

III. PROGRAM PROGRESS (QUANTITATIVE IMPACT)

This section provides a cumulative overview of the quantitative impact achieved. Table 2 below shows the indicator performance for FY2013.

Table 2: Summary of indicator achievements for FY2013

REGAL-AG Indicator Tracking Table				
Indicator	Baseline value and date	12 - month target cumulative	12 - month achieved cumulative	Explanations of Significant target Variances

Number of rural households benefiting directly from USG interventions	TBD	4,765	1,763 (973 males, 795 females) **2	Budget realignment and revision of project strategy slowed down pace of project implementation
Number of enabling policies / regulations analyzed	0	2	2	
Number of individuals who have received USG supported short-term agricultural sector productivity or food security training as a result of REGAL-AG	0	2,118	450 (340 males, 105 females)	Budget realignment and revision of project strategy slowed down pace of project implementation

Though the results above are cumulative, the majority of the achievements captured in the table above were recorded in the quarter under review; particularly through the July-August quick wins plans.

1. Quantitative Progress: Land Use/Land Tenure System Advocacy and Strengthening of Environmental Management Committees

As described above, during the quarter, the REGAL-AG pastoral advocacy team selected representatives from four out of the targeted six EMCs to undertake *Manyatta*-based land tenure, land use and environmental conservation advocacy with their respective communities. The facilitators were trained on this process in the previous quarter (June 2013) in Laisamis and were expected to impart their knowledge to the larger communities in Balaah, Korr, Namarei and Farakoren (Illaut) within the Laisamis constituency. The *Manyatta*-based advocacy efforts by the various EMCs involved 367 community participants (126 male and 211 female) distributed as shown in the table below.

Table 3: Summary of Manyatta-based advocacy efforts

	Farakoren (27th July 13)	Korr (29th July 13)	Ballah (28th July 13)	Namarei (28th July 13)	Total
Men	46	61	89	15	211
Women	30	53	47	26	156
Total	76	114	136	41	367

To move forward the community policy agenda to the county level within the quarter, the REGAL-AG Community Investment Specialist and the Pastoral Policy Advisor facilitated a round table meeting between the EMCs' representatives and the CRs in Saku constituency; twenty-three EMC representatives (20 male and 3 female) and 3 CRs from the Sagante, Marsabit Central and Karare Wards participated. Similar round table meetings were held with the Laisamis EMC and their CRs in July. The meeting was attended by 22 participants (2 female and 20 male) from 8 areas in Laisamis and Korr/Ngurnit and two CRs, namely Mr. Daud Tawasot, the Korr/Ngurnit CR and Mr. Mohamud Kochale, the Laisamis CR. In both cases, the meetings resulted in the submission of signed petitions by the EMCs to the CRs.

Additionally, the REGAL-AG team, led by the Pastoral Policy Advisor with support from the Gender Advisor and Community Investment Specialist, facilitated a workshop in Marsabit County to provide input and gather stakeholder insight on policy constraints affecting the livestock sector. The workshop was attended by 20 participants (19 male and 1 female) drawn from the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Production and Fisheries (MALF), the Veterinary Department, District Livestock Marketing Council, various NGOs, as well as the Marsabit County Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries.

² The achievements relate to community members who attended REGAL-AG awareness meetings to discuss land policy and advocacy issues, households who benefitted from REGAL-AG training and EMC members reached through *manyatta*-based advocacy

Based on the outcomes of the workshop, REGAL-AG developed and conducted internal reviews of two policy briefs, which have been shared with USAID.

2. Quantitative Progress: Establishment of Co-Managed Markets

In terms of quantitative progress during the quarter, a total of 38 LMA members (28 males, 10 females) from Korr and Illaut benefitted from a financial management training conducted by REGAL-AG's Community Investment Specialist during the quarter. The training covered management of livestock markets, record keeping, leadership and governance, and methods of drafting LMA constitutions; 16 members (4 women, 12 men) and 22 members (6 women, 16 men) were trained from Korr and Illaut markets respectively.

3. Quantitative Progress: Livestock Productivity and Animal Health

In the period July-September 2013, the REGAL-AG DCOP and the project's Animal Health Specialists conducted three workshops for AHSPs in Moyale/Sololo, Isiolo and Laisamis. The 3 workshops were attended by a total of 78 participants (22 female, 56 males) drawn from community animal health workers (CAHWs), agro-vet owners, animal health assistants and technical staff from veterinary departments.

In the Moyale/Sololo workshop, there were a total of 28 participants (4 women and 24 men) while in Isiolo there were 34 participants (15 female and 19 male). The third AHSP training was held in Laisamis district with 16 participants (3 women and 13 men). The details and outcomes of these workshops are described above.

To address land degradation and commercial fodder establishment in Marsabit County, the REGAL-AG team, including partner RAE Trust, supported 14 participants (4 female and 10 male) to undertake a training and exposure tour to Baringo. The participants first engaged in a training session on rangeland rehabilitation and commercial fodder production and then visited various rehabilitated lands and held interactive discussions with various groups.

IV. PERFORMANCE MONITORING

During the quarter, and especially towards the end of the fiscal year, the REGAL-AG team led by the Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning (MERL) Advisor and Gender Advisor reviewed implemented activities since project inception in addition to identifying critical upcoming opportunities that informed the FY2014 work planning session and PMP revisions. During the visit, the team reviewed all the activities undertaken in Marsabit County except those in Moyale and Sololo (see the challenges section) and held meetings with project beneficiaries and partners, including the County Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Development, Dr. Dokhe Aboran, land advocacy and environmental committees, LMA members, commercial fodder producers and AHSPs. The visit was also used to oversee a smooth transition in the management and implementation of project components that had previously been spearheaded by ACIDI/VOCA subcontractor, SNV. The findings of the field visit informed the FY2013/2014 work planning meeting, especially during the reflection sessions.

Other monitoring related activities during the quarter included the following:

- 1) During the quarter under review, the MERL Advisor attended a USAID-organized training on data entry in the USAID TrainNET portal. The training, which was facilitated by USAID Kenya Participant Training Coordinator, Mr. Francis Kahihu, was very interactive and highlighted the following:
 - All beneficiary trainings need to be planned for, including budget estimates. It was agreed that each implementing agency will submit quarterly training plans to the USAID Participant Training Coordinator. Key data needs to include:

- Name of training, start and end dates, participant numbers disaggregated by gender, training provider and address, type of training and USAID Strategic Result area linked to budget (broken down to instruction, participant and travel costs)
 - All training information relating to the project’s previously implemented activities will be updated in the TraiNET portal; and
 - TraiNET will be the first point of interaction between project evaluators/auditors and project teams in the future regarding issues on participant training.
- Apart from REGAL-AG, other organizations represented included Adeso, DAI and the Futures Group.

Following the training, REGAL-AG has updated its project information in the TraiNET portal.

- 2) Additionally, the MERL Advisor and the Gender Advisor attended a two-day USAID-organized training on photography, which aimed to impart knowledge and skills on basic photography, camera manipulation, controls and reviews of pictures. The training, which was facilitated by USAID Kenya Feed the Future Communication team (Robin Johnson and Steva Nyawade) was very interactive and highlighted the need for the following:
 - Considerations of the 1/3 rule in photography and focusing on the eye
 - The relationship between ISO (light entry) and shutter speed
 - The need to take as many shots as possible to aid in choosing the best photos for the activity
 - The need for implementing partners to invest in high-resolution cameras and establish image banks

Apart from REGAL-AG, other organizations represented included Adeso, DAI, Fintrac and One Acre Fund. The knowledge gained from this training has been shared with other field staff implementing the REGAL-AG project in order to improve the quality of photos and better communicate our project work.

V. PROGRESS ON LINKS TO OTHER USAID PROGRAMS

As reported in previous quarterly reports, the REGAL programs (REGAL-AG and REGAL-IR) are collaborating closely through joint reviews and regular discussion on the progress of the wider REGAL efforts. One of the main areas of collaboration during this quarter was through the process of developing the Year 2 work plan. REGAL-AG and REGAL-IR frequently held discussions and shared draft activity plans to define the specific roles and collaborative efforts across both programs’ components. Managers and staff from each program participated in joint work planning days, the results of which are reflected in both work plans. Specific areas of complementarity were highlighted throughout the documents, and care was taken to avoid any duplicative initiatives.

The two programs were part of the inter-agency layering team that is comprised of WFP, REGAL-AG and REGAL-IR. This 9-5-2 layering strategy involves a plan for county overlap where WFP implements activities in nine counties, REGAL-IR implements activities in five of those nine counties, and REGAL-AG supports higher-level economic growth efforts in two out of the five counties covered by REGAL-IR.



In the current quarter, REGAL-AG hosted a mission comprising representatives from USAID, WFP, FAO, REGAL-IR, UNDP, APHIA Plus Imarisha and Millennium Water Alliance (MWA) during joint project visits in Isiolo and Marsabit counties from 16th to 18th September 2013. This 9-5-2 field trip was the second for the 9-5-2 Resilience Partners; the first field trip took place in March 2013. The mission's main aim was to visit the implementing partners to monitor how the layering approach to project implementation was being achieved. The layering process is meant to ensure expansion and value addition to existing Community-Food for Assets (C-FFA) projects for sustainability and resilience building. For this visit, the REGAL-AG team hosted the partners in visiting the Merille market and dispensary, Arimet Community Participatory Learning, Planning and Action, the SIDAI Super Service Center, the County Governor, the Isiolo abattoir and feedlot, the Emeret Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) project and Webera primary school.

Figure 4: Members of 9.5.2 USAID Mission in Sidai super store in Isiolo County

The trip demonstrated practical examples of program cooperation taking place, such as efforts between MWA and APHIA Plus Imarisha (around the Amerit/Emerit dispensary) and the REGAL programs (in working with county government to support the Isiolo abattoir). It also supported the partners in recognizing the potential for new areas of cooperation, including support to the Wabera Primary School (APHIA Plus and WFP) and the Amerit community (REGAL-IR, MWA, and APHIA Plus). These examples demonstrate the value of the trips to increase communication and leverage activities.

Lessons learned from the visit include the following;

- There is a need for more precision on areas of linkages between the 9-5-2 partners; for example many of the same communities could benefit from the sanitation, participatory engagement, and infrastructure efforts of WFP, REGAL-IR and REGAL-AG
- UNDP COBRA research may provide ideas on progressive resilience strengthening
- Specifically, the team became aware that the previous abattoir feasibility study needs to be reviewed carefully and updated to reflect emerging issues

Further to the joint project review and learning processes, REGAL-AG Interim COP and the DCOP participated in the USAID-ABEO COP monthly meetings that discussed leverage between the various USAID-funded programs. Other meetings included the following;

- i. The REGAL-AG COP attended the ABEO monthly meetings and in one of the meetings, the new ABEO Director, Mark Carrato, shared his initial observations regarding the USAID Mission's future engagement with the ABEO-funded projects. He emphasized the importance of teamwork between the ABEO team and ABEO-funded projects, as well as the importance of proactively collaborating with the devolved government and engaging the private sector to ensure sustainability. The Director also emphasized that the ABEO-funded projects are expected to have transformative goals that focus beyond the award and are anchored on sustainability that is infused at program start-up, and involves scaling up beyond the targets and the use of technology. The long-term vision should be supported by strong work plans and success stories told through effective communications.
- ii. The REGAL-AG COP and DCOP attended joint meetings between REGAL-AG, REGAL-IR, MWA and FIRM to discuss collaboration and synergy opportunities in Isiolo. During one of the meetings, seven themes around the main areas of operation for the programs were identified by the participants (namely: livestock markets and production, WASH, peace nutrition enterprise development, range land management/NRM and financial services), who included primarily the COPs of the above organizations. Based on these identified themes, participants developed a matrix of areas of convergence among the programs and organized bilateral meetings between the different groups as relevant to further define the specific areas of collaboration.

VI. PROGRESS ON LINKS WITH KENYAN GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

REGAL-AG has continued to engage with the government of Kenya both at the county and national level. During the reporting quarter, several partner meetings were held that REGAL-AG arranged and/or participated in. The meetings were mainly aimed at streamlining coordination among partners whose activities and areas of influence had the potential to overlap in addition to facilitating discussion on collaborative arrangements with partners like SIDAI and Mt. Kenya University. These included the following:

- i. The Interim COP and the DCOP held additional consultative meetings with Mt Kenya University and SIDAI to help define the specific elements for partnership with each organization, which will be formulated into MOUs (these elements are defined in the recently approved technical strategy). During the work planning meetings, support to Mt. Kenya University was identified as a key activity to aid in the implementation of animal health service delivery trainings and upgrading of skills for service providers.
- ii. The DCOP attended a workshop for all NGOs and other organizations working in the animal health and welfare services sector at KARI HQ, organized by the Kenya Veterinary Board (KVB), aimed at sensitizing NGOs about new regulations enacted in March 2013. The NGO executive council was represented and the group present was informed that the NGO council will provide information to KVB regarding activities of various organizations operating in the sector in collaboration with KVB to ensure regulations are enforced. All NGOs that have activity components related to animal health are now required to register with the KVB at a cost of Ksh 1,000 (non-refundable). An inspection of the NGO will be done to ensure certain standard conditions are met prior to approval of the registration, and if so, an additional one-time payment of Ksh 100,000 will also be required. Furthermore, the KVB now requires that any NGO involved in any aspect of animal health should have a qualified veterinary surgeon registered by the board on staff and managing the component on a day to day basis. Thereafter, the organization will pay an annual fee of Ksh 30,000. Lastly, the regulations place a requirement on NGOs to monitor the compliance of their partners. The primary purpose of these regulations is to help ensure that Kenya meets the OIE standards and can export products to international markets. This means that NGOs will not be allowed to provide training to CAHWs directly, but will be required to work through other institutions. REGAL-AG will liaise with USAID over these new requirements early in FY2014.

Joint Planning and Collaboration with County Governments

In quarter four, REGAL-AG held the following collaborative and planning meetings with the Marsabit and Isiolo County governments:

- i. In both counties, the County Director of Veterinary Services' office was involved in mobilizing service providers for the AHSP workshop, and also attended and participated in deliberations on how to revitalize and position animal health service delivery as a purveyor of accelerating economic growth. The County Directors also officially launched each of the workshops and enabled the district veterinary officers under them to participate.
- ii. The Marsabit Regional Manager/Livestock Specialist together with other REGAL-AG staff participated in a committee meeting tasked by the Marsabit County Governor to prepare for the planned investment conference. In attendance were the Deputy Governor, His Excellency Umar Abdi Ali, and seven county executives. During the meeting, two REGAL-AG staff members were requested to support the sub-committees on 1) budget and fundraising; and 2) branding,

promotion and marketing. The budget and fundraising sub-committee deliberated on required funds to oversee the successful implementation of the conference and came up with an estimated cost of Kshs 26 million.

- iii. In Isiolo, the governor formed a committee to start working on the County Strategic Plan, which the DCOP was invited to engage in. The REGAL-AG Animal Health Specialist has been consulting with the veterinary and livestock departments on constituting a panel to work on animal health and husbandry messages and developing a strategy for disseminating them in order to contribute to behavior change among pastoralists to view livestock production as a more commercial endeavor. REGAL-AG also supported the Isiolo County Government in planning for their investment conference, which is anticipated to be held in November 2013.
- iv. The County of Marsabit and Isiolo actively participated in the development of the REGAL-AG FY2014 work plan. During the work planning meeting, the two counties were represented by county ministers in charge of MALF and county heads of departments.

VII. PROGRESS ON USAID FORWARD

As stated in our previous reporting, and since project inception, ACDI/VOCA has worked with local partners, such as the Pastoralist Community Initiatives and Development Assistance (PACIDA), Samburu Integrated Development Programme (SIDEP), Kenya Livestock Marketing Council (KLMC), VETAID and Kenya Camel Association (KCA) to conduct procurement and financial management training aimed at enhancing the capacity of the partners to understand and comply with USAID regulations and standards. Following the revision in project strategy, PACIDA will continue to be a full-time subcontractor. Despite the change in relationship between ACDI/VOCA and these partners following the budget revisions, the acquired skills in financial management and reporting, procurement and book keeping will still be useful for the partners beyond the REGAL-AG project.

REGAL-AG will continue to work with local institutions such as the LMAs, EMCs, and marketing groups as change agents within the livestock value chain, and provide support on an as-needed basis and through community contracting mechanisms to build their capacity. MELAKO and HODI have collaborated with REGAL-AG in matters related to land tenure and land use advocacy in Marsabit County. MELAKO works closely with the EMCs operating in Marsabit South on conservation and controlled grazing issues while HODI has strengths in grassroots advocacy including land tenure and land use advocacy especially on the participation of women and marginalized groups.

VIII. SUSTAINABILITY AND EXIT STRATEGY

ACDI/VOCA's approach to REGAL-AG is to bring about behavior change among market actors—both women and men—all along the meat, dairy, and hides and skins value chains; drive investment in critical upgrades that eliminate value chain constraints or mitigate risk; and identify and build the capacity of change agents within pastoral communities capable of driving investments, upgrades and increased economic competitiveness.

REGAL-AG in its pursuit for market information dissemination and other outreach messages for pastoralists will be collaborating with government extension services and institutions to develop inputs for such programs in collaboration with local institutions. The participation of the private sector in market-driven service delivery is expected to enhance service sustainability. For example, REGAL-AG has been discussing with the FAO about their arid lands radio program. Given that the current model is paid for by the FAO (with no known plans to transfer this to local actors), REGAL-AG is advising on opportunities to improve the program's sustainability through private sector involvement if the radio

programs meet listener demands. Collaborating with local universities (Nairobi and Mt. Kenya) to ensure rigor in technical content of the radio programs and local ownership could also help improve the model.

During the year, key studies and partner discussions were undertaken that will help the project ensure sustainability of its interventions. The Isiolo VCA, for example, identifies critical constraints in the project's target value chains and the actors with the incentives to invest in positive change and growth. The gender assessment presented the role of women in the value chains and opportunities to increase their participation, so that families and communities as a whole are involved in and benefit from the development process. The continuous monitoring of the environmental management plan will ensure that REGAL-AG's activities are sensitive to the need for environmental sustainability; the environmental and socio-economics assessments on commercial fodder production and the training of the local communities on land use and land tenure systems are also positive steps towards environmental sustainability. As stated in our previous communications, REGAL-AG's sustainability and exit strategy will be evaluated on an ongoing basis, and this was true during the year two work planning process where sustainability was a major consideration in prioritizing projects to be implemented.

IX. SUBSEQUENT QUARTER'S WORK PLAN

The main priorities for the coming quarter will be to undertake the project launch and Joint Planning Committee meetings with USAID and other implementing partners; moving forward with the Community Contracting Fund Fast Track grants, and other component-specific activities summarized in Annex I.

ANNEXES AND ATTACHEMENTS

Annex I: Schedule of Future Events

The following list highlights the major upcoming events and activities for the period October-December 2013 disaggregated by component:

Component 1:

- a) SOW for the proposed county-specific livestock sub-sector master plan developed and shared with other actors/stakeholders for their inputs
- b) County governments and other relevant actors/stakeholders engaged on county-specific policy and legislative needs
- c) One success story on gender and environmental management developed in collaboration with the Gender Advisor and submitted for publication/wider circulation
- d) ToT training guidelines/modules on Participatory Policy Analysis (PPA) developed
- e) Selected LPWG representatives, community facilitators & selected community champions trained on PPA

Component 2:

- a) SOW compiled for feasibility and operationalization of Isiolo abattoir
- b) Rapid assessments of ten livestock markets undertaken (to be implemented as Fast Track CCF grants)
- c) Five community forums conducted to establish the investment needs for market infrastructure in Marsabit and Isiolo
- d) Mapping undertaken of the areas for camel milk production and transport routes, with volumes
- e) 4 groups of milk producers identified and producing high-quality milk

Component 3:

- a) Follow-up undertaken with Mt. Kenya University regarding their baseline analysis for the animal health certification program
- b) Training held in improved herd management and animal husbandry practices

Component 4:

- a) Gender analysis and strategy report finalized and shared with USAID
- b) One gender success story developed and shared
- c) Training module for the community facilitators developed

Communication

- a) REGAL-AG communication strategy drafted and shared

Monitoring & Evaluation

- a) Ki-project M&E system set-up initiated

- b) DQA assessment completed
- c) Baseline survey design and draft tools prepared
- d) Training held for REGAL-AG staff on M&E

Annex II: List of Deliverable Products

The REGAL-AG project submitted the revised technical strategy and budget, the FY2013/2014 work plan, the revised PMP, one success story and two policy briefs were submitted to USAID as deliverables during the quarter July-September 2013.