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Report on

Advanced Training Workshop

WORKSHOP ON SMALL RUMINANTS

Rabat (Morocco), 20 - 24 September 2010

Organized by:

FAO and CIRAD, Montpellier France,
ANOC - Association Nationale Ovine et Caprine (Morocco)





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SUMMARY:

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The workshop lasted for 5 days including conferences on the current situation of small ruminant livestock in the region, the organizational and rules of ANOC, introduction on implementation, management, monitoring and assessment of development project on small ruminants, technical advices for genetic, feeding, health management. Those conferences were completed by round table and exchanges on the national experiences, meetings and actives discussions in order to propose recommendations for action by the FAO regional office at Tunis. A field visit has completed the workshop.

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ABSTRACT

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1. Objective of the workshop

Small ruminants in NENA play a central role:

- (i) in the securization of the farming system, in the diversification of the incomes and/or in the cash flow of the smallholders at the family level,
- (ii) in the maintenance of rural activities in remote areas, employment of rural populations and/or livestock economy (exportation) at the country level.

Elsewhere, small ruminants have shown their efficacy in the livestock restocking after a drought with over mortalities in the animal population. Moreover, the negotiation power of the stakeholders (producers, processors, collectors, carriers, slautherhouses...) depends on their ability to be organized into associations assuming technical advices, input providing, marketing facilities and so on.

According to this short background, it was proposed to organize two workshops in the Wana region, one for French-speaking countries, a second for the English-speaking countries. The present workshop was organized in Morocco mainly because the local institutions (especially ANOC – Association Nationale Ovine et Caprine) were more available than in the neighboring countries. The objectives of the workshop at Rabat were to:

- Provide development agents, veterinarians and managers of small ruminants associations working in French-speaking countries from NENA zone, solid high-level training in the field of strategic planning and design workplans, project formulation and management, monitoring and evaluation, extension, chain analysis and technical assistance
- Provide a forum for specialists in order to share information, experiences and perspectives for the development of small ruminants in the region.
- Provide convenient literature pack to the participants

2. Organization

The workshop was jointly organized by the FAO, CIRAD, and ANOC.

The workshop has taken place at the ANOC headquarter (Rabat, Morocco) and was opened by the President of ANOC (Mr MBAREK FENNIRI). Training was given by well qualified lecturers from IAV (Agro-veterinary Institute), government departments in the Ministry of Agriculture, French Research Institute (CIRAD), small ruminants producers organization both in North (SOCAHP in France) and South country (ANOC in Morocco).

The training workshop was holding over a period of 5 days from 20 to 24 September 2010 at the ANOC headquarter in a meeting room well adapted for the number of participants (between 14 and 18 people). The last day was devoted to a field trip for visiting the selection nucleus of Moroccan sheep close to Ifrane (Moyen Atlas) and around Casablanca. Local organization was assumed by ANOC (accommodation, transport, meeting logistic). International transport was managed by CIRAD. The participants from outside arrived all on Sunday and most of them took their return flight on next Saturday except 3 of them going back on Friday.

At the end of the conferences, a CD containing all the powerpoint presented all along the workshop and some documents was given to each participants.

3. Admission

Finally, the course included 4 professionals from outside (the Algerian colleagues did not get their mission order in time) already directly involved in the subject matter of the course (head of small ruminants association and representative of the Ministry in Tunisia and Mauritania), 4 professionals from Morocco, and 6 of the 10 lecturers participated to all the conferences.

As the whole between 14 and 18 people were present. The official language of the course was French but some exchanges were in Arabic, especially when the representative of Mauritanian farmers asked questions or made comments.

4. Participation and training

Governments of countries of the near east region have been asked to nominate persons to participate in the training workshop who are dealing with small ruminants' association management or supervision. Because difficulties to get mission order, the two Algerian partners (Mr. Ammar Khenfer and Mr. Ahmed Ayachi) were not able to reach the meeting. Coordinates of the participants and of the lecturers are reported in table below.

All participants and lecturers are strongly involved in the small ruminants' research, teaching and/or development, management of projects and/or professional associations and/or technical support in small ruminant sector in their respective country. All the trainees participated to the entire conferences whatever their own specialty.

The workshop required personal work and interaction among participants and with lecturers. The international characteristics of the workshop favored the exchange of experiences and points of view. Formal lectures were complemented by a round table discussion, presentation of the association in the respective countries and technical visits. Furthermore, course participants were invited to present their professional experiences in relation to the subject matter of the workshop.

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<u>Table 1</u>. List of the participants and trainers participating to all the sessions at the FAO workshop on small ruminants association in NENA

5. Support costs

The cost of travel and accommodation during the workshop was covered by the Workshop organizer (CIRAD) for the participants and lecturers from NENA countries (Mauritania, Tunisia and France) according to the agreement between FAO and CIRAD. The lecturers received honorarium according to the recommendations of the FAO officer and a per diem was given to the participants accordingly. The expenses in the logistic (transport of the participants from Casablanca Airport to Rabat, transport for the field visit, printing material and pedagogical equipment for the participants were also covered by the Workshop organizer.

6. Lecturers

The lecturers were:

Pr T. AMEZIANE EL HASSANI, technologiste ANOC (Morocco)

Dr M. BENGOUMI, FAO Regional Animal Production and Health Officer, RNE

(Tunisia)

Dr A. BENLAKHAL, Ministry of Agriculture and Fishing (Morocco)

Dr A. BOUKALLOUCH, finance manager ANOC (Morocco)

Mr. I. BOUJENANE, zootechnician IAV (Morocco)

Dr J.L. CHAMPION, vétérinaire de groupement, GDS-SOCAHP (France)

Dr S. FAGOURIS, director of ANOC (Morocco)

Dr B. FAYE, CIRAD-ES, livestock international expert, Montpellier

(France)

Mr. A. JANNOUNE, technician ANOC (Morocco)
Dr M. MIHI, nutritionist ANOC (Morocco)

All lecturers are known for their experience in small ruminants or livestock sector both on technical aspects (genetic, reproduction, feeding, health management, marketing, processing of meat and milk products), project or professional association management and implementation, extension and technical supervising. All the exchanges within the group were of good level and very active.

7. Programme

The programme included 14 conferences over 4 days, a round table to elaborate recommendations and a field visit. The total duration of the workshop was 24 hours of conference and 2 hours of round table. Many informal and stimulating discussions occurred between the participants of the two meetings, especially at coffee-break and lunch time. As one technical conference (Pr Boujenane on reproduction and genetic) was given in more detail, taking in consequence more time, one conference on pedagogical aspects (Dr. Faye) was cancelled but documents were given in the final CD.

Monday September 20th

SR in NENA and ANOC

Time	Content	Lecturer		
9h – 9h30	Welcome speech	Mr. M. FENNIRI, president of ANOC		
9h 30-10h	Introduction	Dr M. BENGOUMI		
Coffee-break 10h0	0-10h30			
10h30-11h00	Small ruminants in NENA	Pr. M. BENGOUMI		
11h00- 12h30	The role of professional association in the development of SR	Dr A. BENLAKHAL		
Lunch time 12h30-14h30				
14h30-15h30	Presentation of ANOC	Dr F. FAGOURIS		
Coffee-break 15h3	0-16h00			
16h00-18h30	Finance and rules of ANOC	Mr A. BOUKALLOUCH		

Tuesday September 21st

Project management and implementation

Time	Content	Lecturer
9h-10h30	Management of development project	Pr. M. BENGOUMI
Coffee-break 10h00-1	0h30	
11h-12h30	Elements to implement a development project	Dr. B. FAYE
unch time 12h30-14h	30	
14h30-16h00	Logical framework and workplan	Pr. M. BENGOUMI
Coffee-break 15h30-1	6h00	
16h30-18h00	Assessment and monitoring of development project	Dr. B. FAYE

Wednesday September 22nd

Technical advice in SR systems

Time	Content	Lecturer	
9h-10h30	Reproduction management	Pr I. BOUJENANE	
Coffee-break 10h00-10h30			
11h-12h30 Genetic improvement		Pr I. BOUJENANE	
Lunch time 12h30-14h30			
14h30-17h00 Health management		Dr J.L. CHAMPION	

Coffee-break 15h30-16h00

Thursday September 23st

Technical advice in SR systems

Time	ime Content		
8h30-10h30	Extension and new information techniques	Dr T. AMEZIANE EL HASSANI	
Coffee-break 10h00-10h30			
11h00-12h30 Feeding advices		Mr S. MIHI	
Lunch time 12h30-14h30			
14h30-15h30 SR products valorization		Mr A. JANNOUNE	
Coffee-break 15h30-16h00			
16H00-18h00 round table		Pr M. BENGOUMI, Dr B. FAYE	

Friday September 24st

6h00-16h00

Field trip: visit of SR farms and sheep selection genetic nucleus in the area of Ifrane. As Dr. Champion has to take his flight on Friday, a specific trip was organized for him to visit SR farms in the area of Casablanca.

8. Final recommendations

FAO Round table on

Small ruminants in North Africa (Rabat, 20-24 September 2010)

Considering:

- The importance of small ruminants and SR farming contribution in the human beings in white and red proteins, poverty alleviation, agricultural activities and rural economy in the near east and North Africa,
- the increase of demands in animal protein s in the human population around the Mediterranean Basin,
- the current change in SR production systems (climatic change, intensification, urbanizartion, market integration),

- the lack of cross- information on SR farming systems, constraints and market opportunities at the regional level
- the necessity to reinforce the professional associations and technical skill of producers,

the group of farmers, professionals, technicians, scientists and teachers gathered at Rabat workshop gave the following recommendations:

8.1. To set up a common information system

- Setting up a Maghreb forum for the development of SR (managed by FAO and CIRAD)
- Implementation of links between the web sites of the national organizations (managed by ANOC-Morocco)

8.2. Partnership strengthening between Research-development structure and professional organizations

- Inventory and wide spreading of the results from research studies on SR
- Establishment of a thematic network on the development of SR farming

8.3. Preservation of SR biodiversity

- Characterization and conservation of Maghreb breeds (improvement of the productivity and preservation of the biodiversity)
- Promoting the exchanges of genetic material between Maghreb countries
- Exchange of experiences on genetic improvement of SR

8.4. Strengthen capacity building of professional organizations

- Reinforcement of management capacities and of extension know-how
- Encourage the exchanges between associations by cross visits between Maghreb countries
- Organization of regional meetings

8.5. Support for a better valorization of SR productions

- Encouraging market studies.
- Promoting exchanges of experiences in the field of product labelisation
- Facilitating the movement of animals and of their products

8.6. Institution strengthening

- Creation of the Union Maghrébine des organizations ovines et caprines (UMONOC) with a steering committee including Mrs Baraket from Tunisia (coordinator), Ne Salem (Mauritania) and Fenniri (Maroc).
- Organization of the first meeting of UMONOC at the end of the year 2011
- Development of regional projects

9. Financial report

The full provisionary budget for two workshops was 60 000 USD (48 000 €). According to the number expected of participants, it was proposed a budget of 23 000 USD (18 400 €) for the workshop at Rabat and 37 000 USD (29 600 €) for the workshop expected at Amman with

English speaking countries. With the agreement of the FAO officer, an honorarium of 400 € was supplied for the local lecturers and a per diem of 200 €/day for participants and lecturers from outside. A global facture for accommodation included the rooms booked but not used (by the two Algerian participants and other participants having changed their date of flight departure). The local transport includes all transfer from Casablanca airport to Rabat (120 km) and field trip. The transport in France included the train from Montpellier to Paris and return, taxi in Montpellier and RER in Paris. Equipment included bags, badges, pens, block notes, CD and documents distributed to all participants.

The current expenses were:

Item	Euros	USD
Flight ticket		
Baraket (Tunisia)	260	325
Hamouda (Tunisia)	260	325
Faye (France)	452	565
Champion (France)	345	431,25
Lemine (Mauritania)	756	945
Moctar (Mauritania)	756	945
Khenfer (Algeria)	267	333,75
Ayachi (Algeria)	267	333,75
Accomodation		
Booked rooms + lunches	760	950
Per diem		
Baraket	1200	1500
Hamouda	1200	1500
Faye	1600	2000
Champion	800	1000
Lemine	1200	1500
Moctar	1200	1500
honoraires Ameziane	400	500
honoraires Benlekhal	400	500
Honoraires Boukallouch	400	500
honoraires Boujenane	400	500
honoraires Jannoune	400	500
Honoraires Fagouri	800	1000
Honoraires Mihi	400	500
Organization costs		
Local transport	852	1065
Local transport in France		
(taxi, train, RER)	215,6	280,3
Equipment and stationary	468	585
Books	73,4	91,75
Report	500	625
TOTAL	16632	21621,6
	solde €	1768€
	solde USD	2298,4 USD

Table 2. Total expenses of the FAO workshop and difference with the provisory budget

10. CONCLUSION

The workshop on small ruminants was highly appreciated by all participants. Discussions and debate occurred between the participants both trainees and lecturers were really active and fruitful. As most of the lecturers were present over the 5 days, all of them could be considered as full participants to this workshop. The implementation of a regional organization devoted to the development of sheep and goat farming systems will be an operational conclusion of this workshop.