



CASE STUDY

Stakeholder partnership in *Eid-al-Kabir* festival preparation yields positive results

The Senegalese Prime Minister, Macky Sall presided over the inter-ministerial committee that worked with the livestock association in Senegal to ensure that *Eid-al-Kabir* 2006/07 was successful



Photo: Saïbou Gueye, MISTOWA/Senegal

*Cattle came from neighboring countries and the regions of Senegal for the festival. They enjoy improved feeding, watering and health facilities put in place by the *Eid-al-Kabir* Inter-ministerial planning committee.*

Challenge

Each year, *Eid-al-Kabir* or *Tabaski*, the most important Muslim holiday of the year, is celebrated with an abundance of sheep and other livestock for consumers in Senegal. In recent times, there has been difficulty getting the animals to Dakar's Terminal Market from the neighboring countries and other regions of Senegal. This situation has been attributed to the high cost of rail transport from Mali, insecurity along the trade routes into Dakar, high taxes and extortion of other fees from traders and inadequate feeding, watering and health facilities at the sale points. FEITLS, the 8,000-member federation of livestock producers and traders of Senegal knew that working with the various stakeholders from the public and private sector to remove the constraints would facilitate the inflow of livestock for the festival.

Initiative

The government of Senegal set up an inter-ministerial committee made up of the ministries of livestock, agriculture, local government and decentralization and of trade to implement decisions taken in 2006 to ensure the success of this year's market supply for the festival. FEITLS represented livestock producers and traders on the planning committee and ensured that the decisions which included an agreement with TRANSRAIL to reduce the freight cost by 50% on livestock from Mali, the provision of electricity, water, feed and health services at the points of sale, the suspension of import taxes and other fees, and improved security for livestock and people along the routes are all implemented. In anticipation of a large supply for the festival, FEITLS guaranteed a loan of \$2,000,000 to its members from the Regional Solidarity Bank (BRS) and also addressed the issues of road and rail transport.

Results

Compared with last year's *Tabaski* celebration, this year's was a great success. Last year, FEITLS supplied 38,435 animals estimated at \$3,766,630. This year, following the favorable conditions put in place for the celebration, a total of 650,000 animals estimated at \$66,955,000 were supplied of which FEITLS supplied 70%. According to Amadou Diallo of FEITLS, "the increase in sales at this year's festival is attributable not only to a better preparation and the implementation of the decisions by the inter-ministerial but also to the direct and proactive intervention of FEITLS".