



## PROJECT BRIEF:

# 1-SHOP: Strengthening One Health Systems for the Protection of Health & Livelihoods in South Sudan

March 2024 - March 2026

**LOCATION:** Torit County, Eastern Equatoria State, South Sudan

**OBJECTIVES:** To enhance the resilience of pastoralist communities by:

- Strengthening One Health systems to prevent and mitigate the risks of zoonotic diseases and AMR.
- Establishing community-led disease surveillance and response mechanisms.
- Improving livestock productivity and livelihoods through sustainable animal health practices.

**TARGET GROUPS:** Pastoralist communities, women, and Community Animal Health Workers

**FUNDING PARTNER:** Zoetis Foundation

## BACKGROUND:

South Sudan faces severe food insecurity, with 62% of the population experiencing acute hunger, driven by climate shocks, conflict, economic instability, and limited access to veterinary and health services. Pastoralist communities in Torit County, Eastern Equatoria State, depend on livestock for their livelihoods but are highly vulnerable to livestock diseases, zoonotic outbreaks, and antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

Weak veterinary services, poor animal husbandry practices, and gender disparities in access to livestock extension services further compound these challenges, leaving communities with few tools to prevent, detect, or respond to animal and public health threats.

Building on the success of the 2023–2024 **Building Livelihood Resilience for Income Security and Dignified Life** project, Veterinarians Without Borders (VWB) launched 1-SHOP in March 2024 to expand and deepen its impact. The previous project strengthened community-led animal health systems, increased livestock productivity, and improved access to veterinary services, laying the foundation for this next phase.

**By integrating community-based surveillance, disease prevention, and sustainable livestock management, 1-SHOP is enhancing food security, public health, and economic stability in South Sudan's most vulnerable regions.**





## PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

From March 2024 to March 2026, VWB/VSF Canada is implementing the 1-SHOP project in Torit County, Eastern Equatoria State, with support from the Zoetis Foundation. The project aims to protect public health, strengthen animal health systems, and improve community livelihoods by reducing the risks of zoonotic diseases and AMR.

Through a One Health approach, 1-SHOP is increasing access to veterinary services, enhancing community-led disease surveillance, and improving livestock productivity. The program is also training women in safe livestock product management, promoting WASH (water, sanitation, and hygiene) practices, and supporting sustainable livestock ownership models.

Key project activities include establishing One Health Teams to assess zoonotic disease risks and develop community action plans, alongside participatory risk assessments to identify key animal health challenges and antimicrobial use practices. The project is also implementing gender-sensitive awareness campaigns on zoonotic diseases and AMR, while women leaders receive training in livestock product handling, food safety, and WASH practices. To strengthen animal health services, farmers are trained in livestock management, zoonotic disease prevention, and AMR reduction, and a community-based disease surveillance system is being developed to enhance early detection of outbreaks.

Additionally, Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs) receive training, mentorship, and support through the establishment of a CAHW association to ensure long-term veterinary service delivery. The project is also launching a goat donation program in four payams using a revolving fund model to support vulnerable households and promote sustainable livestock practices. Finally, key community infrastructure, such as slaughterhouses and water points, is being rehabilitated to improve hygiene and disease prevention.

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## Key Achievements to Date:

- ▶ **4 One Health Teams (OHTs)** formed to conduct health risk assessments and develop community action plans.
- ▶ **Community-based disease surveillance** system launched to strengthen early detection and response.
- ▶ **20 CAHWs** trained and equipped to provide veterinary services.
- ▶ **86,000 livestock** vaccinated and treated, benefiting 5,700 livestock-dependent households.
- ▶ **800 goats** distributed to 200 vulnerable households, with an additional 200 people supported through a "passing on the gift" model.
- ▶ **6,000 households** reached through zoonotic disease awareness campaigns.
- ▶ **400 farmers** trained in best livestock management practices.
- ▶ **80 women** trained in food safety and WASH practices to reduce zoonotic disease risks.

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