

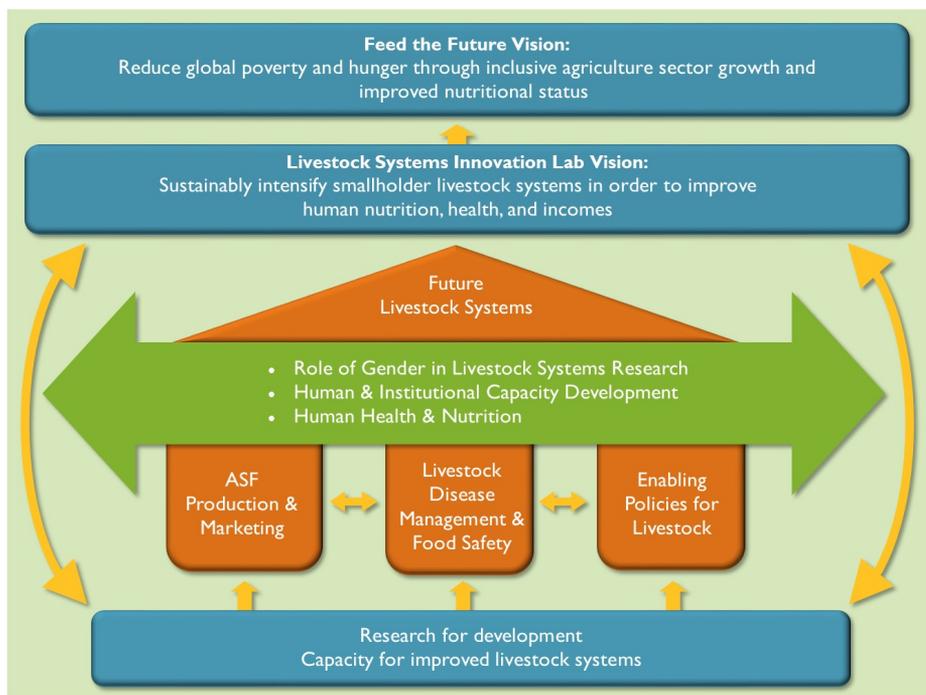
## Target countries and activities

Our initial target countries are Ethiopia and Rwanda (East Africa); Burkina Faso and Niger (West Africa); and Nepal and Cambodia (Asia). Activities include:

- Participatory priority setting: December 2015 - September 2016
- Project launch in Ethiopia, Rwanda, and Nepal: October 2016
- Project launch in Burkina Faso, Niger, and Cambodia: March - June 2017

## Our approach

Our Management Entity at UF/IFAS supports and integrates efforts across the target countries, crystallizing and sharing knowledge generated across four Areas of Inquiry (AOIs) and three Cross-cutting Themes (CCTs). Technologies, practices, and policies are analyzed in the context of future impacts and drivers.



Key: ■ Cross-cutting Themes ■ Areas of Inquiry

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# FEED THE FUTURE

The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

## Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Livestock Systems



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

**ILRI**  
INTERNATIONAL  
LIVESTOCK RESEARCH  
INSTITUTE



**UF IFAS**  
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

## Background

Animal-source foods (ASF) are commonly lacking in the diets of the poor and vulnerable in developing countries, particularly children and women who need them most. Due to their high content of quality protein and bioavailable micronutrients, increased consumption of ASF can improve the nutritional status as well as the growth, psychomotor functions, cognitive development, and health of children, especially infants under the age of two.

Important causes of low ASF consumption include low productivity and profitability of smallholder livestock systems, resulting from, among others, low quality and availability of feeds, poor genetics, limited culling rates, high disease incidence (including food-borne and zoonotic diseases), and limited market access or engagement. By generating new and adapting existing innovations, our research for development and capacity building activities will help spur sustainable intensification of livestock systems which will improve household nutrition, food security, and incomes in addition to the competitiveness of smallholder livestock systems.

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) awarded the University of Florida (UF) Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) funds to establish the Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Livestock Systems. This five-year initiative (October 2015 to September 2020) supports USAID's agricultural research and capacity building work under Feed the Future, the U.S. Government's global hunger and food security initiative. The International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) is the UF/IFAS partner in the Livestock Systems Innovation Lab.

## Vision

Our vision is to sustainably intensify smallholder livestock systems in order to improve human nutrition, health, and incomes.



## How we work

We fund and implement global research and capacity building projects that (1) alleviate key constraints to ASF production and consumption and (2) take advantage of the increasing demand for ASF in developing countries to improve food security and reduce poverty.

Central to our approach are the following:

- True partnerships between target country and international research institutions, scientists, and development practitioners focusing on livestock
- Integration of research with capacity building for individuals and institutions
- Work across the pastoralist, crop-livestock, and peri-urban livestock systems that are dominant in developing countries
- Participatory priority setting designed in target countries to support ongoing USAID, government, and other relevant projects and efforts
- Continuous dialogue among research, development, and policy stakeholders through national Innovation Platforms
- Focus on One Health, value chain, and food systems approaches, as well as climate smart agriculture

## Our grant portfolio

We fund the following types of grants:

- **Reach grants:** Competitive, larger grants of up to four years. These involve multiple partners engaging in research and capacity building and employing an integrated multidisciplinary approach.
- **Focus grants:** Competitive, smaller grants with durations of three months to a year. These are for proof of concept or research for development bridging studies.
- **Catalyst grants:** Smaller grants with priorities determined by the LSIL ME to address gaps or to leverage efforts in the competitive project portfolio. Selection is through competition restricted to UF faculty and LSIL subawardees.
- **Strategic partnerships:** Unsolicited, collaborative efforts with leading research institutions that complement the competitive research agenda.

