



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

BILL & MELINDA
GATES *foundation*

ILRI
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INSTITUTION
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INSTITUTE



UF IFAS
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VISION

Our vision is to sustainably intensify smallholder livestock systems to improve the nutrition, health, livelihoods, and incomes of vulnerable populations.

As part of the US government's Feed the Future initiative to end global hunger and poverty, our Innovation Lab conducts research to improve livestock farming in select developing countries. In this second five-year phase, our vision continues to be to sustainably improve livestock production in order to improve the nutrition, health, incomes and livelihoods of the poor.

Cattle, goats, sheep, pigs and poultry can provide essential nutrients through animal-source foods such as milk, meat and eggs and significant opportunities to earn income. Our systems approach considers how people and livestock, governments, businesses and researchers, and other dimensions intersect and interact. We pursue innovative climate-smart research strategies to sustainably 1) improve livestock feeds and feeding; 2) increase animal-source food consumption; 3) improve livestock disease surveillance and mitigation; 4) strengthen markets; 5) improve food safety; and 6) foster a conducive livestock policy environment.

Phase I: 2015-2020

Established in 2015 with funding from USAID, our Innovation Lab built a global network of researchers and in-country stakeholders from over 100 institutions, and together these thought-leaders established research priorities based on needs and opportunities within local livestock systems. More than 50 projects were initiated to conduct original research, create educational opportunities, and share innovations and best practices. In 2017, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation awarded our Innovation Lab a grant for feed and food safety focused research. In 2020, USAID extended the program for a second phase of five years.

Achievements snapshot:

The nutrition of needy families and local farming practices have improved in targeted areas. This progress was achieved by awarding grants to global partners that involved more than 16,500 participants; over 50 research-based innovations that are used by over 4,200 people; over 50 scientific journal articles including special issues of 3 journals; by supporting over 140 university students worldwide; by fostering knowledge-sharing and direct idea exchanges in developing countries. Visit our website and social media to learn more.

HIGHLIGHTS

REGIONS

West Africa, East Africa, and Asia

MANDATE

Research for development and capacity building in developing nations

MANAGEMENT ENTITY

University of Florida and the International Livestock Research Institute

DONORS

U.S. Agency for International Development, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation



A research intervention in Burkina Faso reduced wasting and underweight in infants when mothers fed them eggs regularly. (credit: S. McKune)

RESEARCH

Phase 2: 2020-2025

While results from Phase I research continue to be shared, we are selecting & funding a fresh round of projects starting in 2021. We continue to document science-based impacts in real-world applications that empower people to improve their lives.

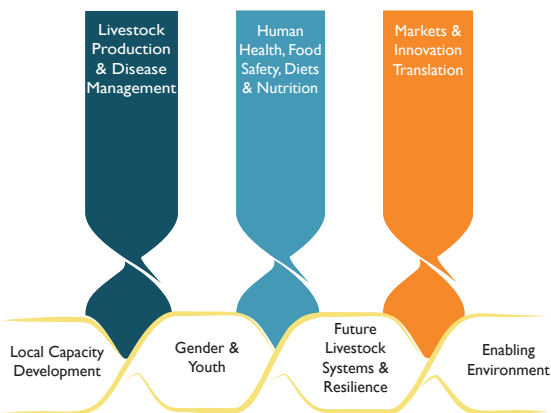
Projects:

We anticipate awarding at least 15 grants for exceptional projects identified through a competitive process. These projects will involve interdisciplinary and international teams, and most support students earning university degrees.

Target Countries:

In Phase II we will target Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Nepal, Niger, and Rwanda. We will continue to meet regularly, both in person & virtually, to share research results and facilitate dialogue with livestock & nutrition stakeholders representing the research, academic, civil society, policy, and private sectors.

AREAS OF INQUIRY



CROSS CUTTING THEMES

Additional themes to investigate will include scaling, private sector engagement, youth and resilience.



In Ethiopia, one project's research team of seven included (left to right) co-principal investigators Dr. Tsegaw Fentie from the University of Gondar, Dr. Nigatu Kebede from Addis Ababa University, and principal investigator Dr. Woutrina Smith, University of California, Davis.

PARTNERSHIPS

All projects are multidisciplinary and collaborative with Western and target country partners, and results are shared globally. More than 200 partners from governments, universities, organizations, and businesses in the US and our target countries make our work possible.

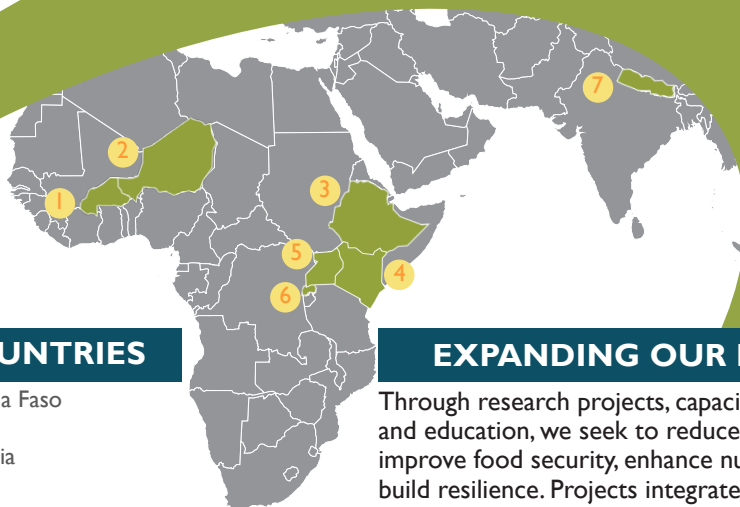
TWO COMPLIMENTARY SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS

Equip—Strengthening Smallholder Livestock Systems for the Future:

Funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, this effort (2017-2022) in Burkina Faso & Ethiopia addresses two main research domains of: 1) improving feeding and supply of quality livestock feeds, and 2) reducing childhood malnutrition due to environmental enteric dysfunction and gut inflammation.

Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) Vaccine Associate Award:

Funded by USAID, this project (2017-2022) in Kenya & Uganda has supported global efforts to eradicate PPR, a highly infectious viral disease of sheep & goats. Approaches include: a thermostable vaccine, community-based vaccination systems, participatory epidemiology, and modeling to target vaccination campaigns.



COUNTRIES

1. Burkina Faso
2. Niger
3. Ethiopia
4. Kenya
5. Uganda
6. Rwanda
7. Nepal

EXPANDING OUR REACH

Through research projects, capacity building, and education, we seek to reduce poverty, improve food security, enhance nutrition and build resilience. Projects integrate One Health, food systems, and climate-smart approaches to ensure sustainability. We continually seek greater impact and wider engagement in research & capacity building activities that contribute to achieving our vision.



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Livestock Lab

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