

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Livestock Systems research project: Enabling Sustainable Value Chains of Crop-Livestock Systems in Burkina Faso and Niger

About 80 to 90% of the rural based populations of Burkina Faso and Niger make their livelihoods from livestock and agriculture. Livestock plays a crucial role in generating income to purchase more diverse diets and paying for education, health and other household needs. Animal-source foods (ASF) provide more quality protein and micronutrients, which are often deficient among poor and vulnerable populations. Little research has investigated the opportunities of development of integrated technologies, practices and management options for resilient and sustainable crop-livestock systems linking to value chains and market.



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Objectives

The objective of the project is to increase production of ASF through the integrated management of crop-livestock systems with participation of small-ruminant livestock keepers in the value chains. The specific objectives are: (i) Development of inclusive crop-livestock value chains and conducive policy environments; (ii) Development of improved feed and feeding systems to improve ASF and animal health and; (iii) Participative development of improved scenarios of crop-livestock farming systems that enhance resilience, productivity, sustainability and increase participation of youth and women in income generating enterprises.

Expected Outcomes

The main outcomes are: (i) Participative development of inclusive value chains, which are rooted in crop-livestock systems at national and regional levels that are productive, profitable and equitable, resilient and sustainable to contribute to food security and poverty alleviation, and (ii) Adoption of intensified and integrated crop-livestock practices that increase overall food production (ASF and cereal/pulse sourced).

Research Approach

The project will use an Innovation Platform approach to (i) Create linkages and learning between actors for the development of functional crop-livestock value chains; (ii) Drive transformational change from the current unsustainable and unproductive systems to profitable and market orientated in crop-livestock systems; (iii) Make strategic and participative adoption/adaptation or interventions in crop-livestock value chains around technology, capacity development and policy level; and (iv) Contribute to scenario analyses of options by context to determine the highest impact of possible interventions across scales from farm to region.

Quick Facts

- Duration: 3 years
- Locations: Burkina Faso and Niger
- Full project title: Enabling Value Chains to Create Sustainable Income for Vulnerable People in Crop-Livestock Systems of Burkina Faso and Niger

Contacts and Key Partners

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