

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Livestock Systems

Niger: Overview of Activities

The Livestock Systems Innovation Lab has been conducting and supporting research for development projects in Niger since 2017. While this overview focuses on ongoing efforts, additional resources generated through our work in Niger can be accessed at <u>https://livestocklab.ifas.ufl.edu/countries/niger/</u>.

Ongoing Research for Development Projects

Enhancing the Productivity and Resilience of Agro-Pastoral Systems, and Income, Food and Nutrition Security Through Market-Oriented Innovations in Niger (2022-2025)



This project is designed to improve the lives of pastoral families by supporting their access to markets, to climate-smart approaches, and to more diverse diets. It will promote the diversification of crops and business opportunities across the livestock value chain.

Implemented by: International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics in partnership with Université Dan Dicko Dankoulodo de Maradi / Dan Dicko Dankoulodo University of Maradi and Université Abdou Moumouni / University Abdou Moumouni

Innovations

Our research expands scientific knowledge – usually published in academic journals – and results in practical, scalable innovations. Such new technologies, methods, or approaches benefit smallholder farmers and other stakeholders within livestock systems. In Niger, the research-generated innovations include:

- Innovation Platforms to Enhance the Small Ruminant Value Chain
- Training Approach to Increase Egg Consumption Among Children

Additional innovations are anticipated as the ongoing projects near completion.

Additional Forms of Engagement with Local Partners

The Innovation Lab's cross-cutting themes and areas of inquiry are led by University of Florida faculty members. In Niger, they have provided guidance to researchers, developed resources, hosted events, and addressed pressing issues. They have:

- Conducted Livestock Research Human and Institutional Capacity Development Gap Analysis
- Discussed and validated with stakeholders the priorities in terms of individual and institutional capacity building
- Supported a manual and series of videos about <u>Good Laboratory Management</u>
- Conducted a roundtable on livestock policies and scenario driven livestock policy review workshops.







Innovation Platform Meetings

Every year the research teams meet with various stakeholder groups to ensure that the activities in country are relevant and lead to robust development impacts. Research findings and innovations arising from our research projects are shared and opportunities for joint activities and future collaborations are identified. The most recent Innovation Platform meeting in Niger was held in June 2022.

Coordinator in Country

In each of our target countries, coordinators cultivate stakeholder relationships, support knowledge sharing activities and organize the annual Innovation Platform meetings. In Niger, you may contact Moctar Karimou at <u>karimoum@ufl.edu</u>. You may also contact our main office at the University of Florida at <u>livestock-lab@ufl.edu</u>.

