



FEED THE FUTURE INNOVATION LAB FOR LIVESTOCK SYSTEMS

PESTE DES PETITS RUMINANTS VACCINE ASSOCIATE AWARD

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Livestock Systems (Phase I: 2015-2020; Phase II: 2020 - 2025) 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 vision of the Livestock Systems Innovation Lab is to sustainably intensify smallholder livestock systems in order to improve human nutrition, health, and incomes, and it is implemented by the University of Florida/Institute for Food and Agriculture (UF/IFAS) in collaboration with the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI).



Herders in Karamoja (S. Hendrickx/UF-IFAS).

Peste des petits ruminants (PPR) is a highly infectious viral disease of small ruminants, primarily domestic sheep and goats. The disease affects around 1.7 billion sheep and goats in 76 countries. It causes a staggering USD 1.45-2.10 billion in losses annually to 330 million of the world's poorest people, often women, many of whom are food insecure and malnourished. Hence, eradicating PPR will reduce the morbidity and mortality caused by the disease and thus help improve food security, nutrition, and the incomes of millions of poor farmers via animal-source food consumption. Eradicating PPR has become a critical priority of the international community as emphasized at the 2015 International Conference on Control and Eradication of PPR. Given the relatedness of the PPR and Rinderpest viruses and the fact that they have occurred in similar environments, strategies for PPR control and eradication of PPR should be informed by the lessons learned from the 2011 Rinderpest eradication. Results are expected to support and inform PPR control and eradication efforts worldwide.

Project Purpose

The purpose of this project is to assess innovative approaches to PPR control using thermostable PPR vaccine and to build capacity to scale the vaccine across a broad region where the disease is endemic. The project will use a combination of tools and approaches which proved successful in the RP eradication, including a thermostable vaccine (produced in-country when possible), community animal health worker (CAHW) based vaccination systems, participatory epidemiology (PE) to gather intelligence for targeting vaccination, and use of modeling to target areas with the highest disease transmission.

Quick facts about the project

- **Duration:** 4 years (February 2017- February 2021)
- **Target countries:** Uganda (Karamoja subregion) and Kenya (Turkana and West-Pokot Counties)
- **Main implementing partner:** Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Livestock Systems at (UF/IFAS)
- **Additional implementing partners:** Tufts University, Mercy Corps and Makerere University, Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Institute (KALRO)
- **Collaborators:** African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR), Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Centre (PANVAC) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the Participatory Epidemiology Network for Animal and Public Health (PENAPH), the Global PPR Research Alliance (GPRA) as well as target country institutions and authorities.

For more information contact livestock-lab@ufl.edu

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