

Modeling community-led goat genetic improvement program into sustainable and profitable business

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High genetic merit breeding buck selected through goat genetic improvement program

Why this research project matters

- While scientific breeding plan implementation results in genetically superior goats, these improved goats currently do not fetch improved prices in Nepali markets.
- Despite having a goat population of over 12 million and huge efforts by the governmental and non-governmental sectors, the country has only recently become self-sufficient in fulfilling its national demand for goat meat.
- The demand for goat meat has been rising exponentially over the last few years, and goat production and marketing systems need to be efficient to keep pace with it.

Nepal's, 1st Goats using Blockchain technology.

A permanent transparent ledger to track the goat's journey



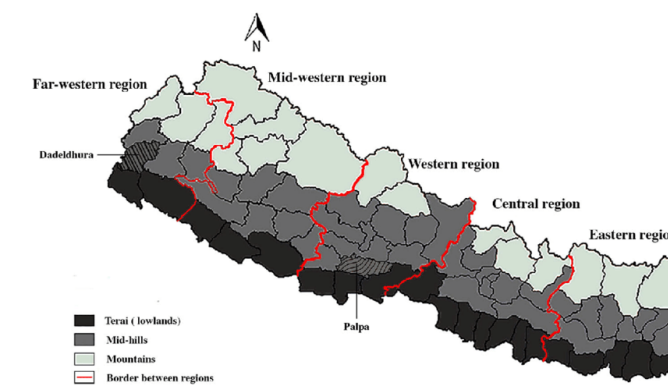
Use of blockchain technology to ensure traceability and quality of breeding goats

Overarching goal

Establish viable and sustainable business models for breeding goat resource centers where certified superior breeding goats are sold for a premium price and the community can run the business sustainably and profitably.

Our work is based in

The research will take place in the Palpa district of western Nepal.



What we have done so far

- ✓ Shared project overview at LSIL Innovation Platform meetings for incorporation of feedback from key stakeholders.
- ✓ Oriented project beneficiaries on project goal, objectives, activities, expected outcomes, and their roles and responsibilities.
- ✓ Discussed the implementation plan and next immediate steps with collaborating partners
- ✓ Started recruiting staff.



Community members making decisions on selection of high-quality breeding goats

What we plan to do next

- Obtain legal approval from Social Welfare Council of the Government of Nepal
- Sign agreements with collaborating partners
- Conduct baseline study to identify major gaps in the efficient functioning of current breeding goat resource centers' business models.
- Develop and test the Mobile app for performance recording and Block Chain for traceability and credibility of quality goats.

Our work on the cross-cutting themes

- Focus on "Gender and youth" and "Local capacity development" cross-cutting themes.
- Reach to 500 women goat farmers as direct and 2,000 as indirect beneficiaries. Engage male family members, emerging local youth entrepreneurs and market actors.
- Recommend gender-inclusive strategies for integration and implementation in the project.
- Capacitate smallholder goat farmers on the use of digital recording system, educate cooperatives in the implementation of a proven business model, and engage business students in developing research skills.



Marketing of selected breeding goats through women led cooperatives. Credit for all photos: Heifer International Nepal