

climate shocks and mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions.

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0836 Opportunities for international research and development through the Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Livestock Systems.

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The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) awarded the University of Florida (UF) Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) a \$49 million, 5-yr cooperative agreement to establish the Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Livestock Systems. The grant 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 Livestock Systems Innovation Lab is led by UF/IFAS in partnership with the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI). The objective of the Livestock Systems Innovation Lab is to achieve sustainable improvements in livestock productivity and marketing to increase the incomes, nutrition, and health of vulnerable livestock holders. The Livestock Systems Innovation Lab will design, lead, and implement a program of livestock research for development and capacity building aimed at addressing key opportunities in the livestock sector, including those created from the increasing demand for animal-source foods due to population growth, urbanization, and rising incomes. The primary focus of the Livestock Systems Innovation Lab will be in East Africa, West Africa, and South Asia. The four Areas of Inquiry (AOI) of the Livestock Systems Innovation Lab are as follows: Future Livestock Systems; Animal-Source Foods (ASF) Production and Marketing, Livestock Disease Management and Food Safety, and Enabling Policies for Livestock. Across these AOI, the Livestock Systems Innovation Lab will integrate the following cross-cutting themes: The Role of Gender in Livestock Systems Research, Human Health and Nutrition, and Human and Institutional Capacity Development. The Livestock Systems Innovation Lab is led by a Management Entity at UF/IFAS, with Regional Coordinators at ILRI centers in each of the target regions. The research will be mainly conducted through competitive sub-awards. The Management Entity engaged stakeholders in the livestock and public health industries in Nepal, Ethiopia, Tanzania, and Rwanda in a participatory research for development prioritization exercise in Spring 2016 and released a Request for Applications in April 2016. Another Request for Applications will be tentatively released in September 2016 seeking proposals for research for development projects in Mali, Burkina Faso, and Cambodia, subject to US-AID approval. These competitions are open to any qualified

research, educational, governmental, private sector, or non-profit institution. The projects selected for funding will fall within the objectives of the Livestock Systems Innovation Lab and contribute to the overall Feed the Future goals of reducing global hunger and improving food security.

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0837 Community-based breeding programs:

A sustainable solution for livestock keepers?

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In recent years community-based livestock breeding programs (CBBPs) have received some attention and have been considered as a new and more sustainable option to improve livestock production under smallholder conditions and in low-input systems. Most CBBPs are found with livestock keepers owning local breeds of small ruminants. The idea of CBBPs is that livestock keepers with a common interest in improving their genetic resources work together and jointly develop breeding strategies, which are based on their local rules and institutional settings. This bottom-up process ensures that the decision-making power remains with the livestock keepers. However, scientists play an important role as facilitators, moderators, and technical experts and can provide guidance and bring their know-how to the various steps in the design and implementation of a breeding program. Beside the numerous technical challenges, there are also various socio-cultural aspects that have to be addressed and discussed with the participants of the breeding program. Enough room for reflection and discussion on traditional norms and values and possible changes has to be provided. In some cases changes can maybe more easily proposed and initiated by scientists as they are outsiders of the communities. The important role of women in the different aspects of livestock management is indisputable, but their participation in decision-making processes not only in households but also at a breeders' association or at the community level is often neglected. Therefore, new forms of cooperation and modification of traditional roles of disadvantaged groups should be considered. Exclusion of women impoverishes the knowledge base, so that future adaption options might be overlooked. In addition, excluding women undermines the legitimacy of the institutions, thus threatening

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