



# UNLOCKING THE POTENTIAL OF INTEGRATED DAIRY DEVELOPMENT IN UGANDA

The dairy sector plays an important role in the Ugandan economy as a source of food, income and employment to many smallholder farmers. In the middle north cattle corridor, great potential exists to expand the dairy industry because of a high availability of crop by-products, such as oilseed cakes, local pastures and legumes. Although 60 percent of households keep livestock, they face a series of challenges and risks related to production, markets and the environment, and dairy cattle productivity is generally low. Therefore, this project aimed to develop a viable dairy value chain in two districts of Apac and Kole, which are in the middle north cattle corridor. The two districts are endowed with local resources for dairy development. The focus of the project was on the improvement of livestock feeds and feeding systems among small-scale dairy farmers, and training on improved reproductive technologies and best breeding practices, as well as agribusiness, milk quality and hygiene.



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## WHAT DID THE PROJECT DO?

The project provided 20 farmers with hay balers, over 120 farmers adopted improved feeds and feeding practices because of targeted training to dairy farmers and 40 dairy farmers were trained on hay, silage, haylage and legume/pasture production and utilization, including practical demonstrations on 15 farms. A total of 20 acres of legume/pasture demonstration fields were also established on selected dairy farms. Furthermore, the project procured and delivered 80 aluminium milk cans (20 litre capacity) to dairy farmers for hygienic milk handling and transportation to milk collection centre sites. A breed improvement plan, based on Artificial Insemination (AI), was developed and contributed to enhancing capacities for genetic improvement, and 200 dairy farmers received training on best practices in breeding and AI, as well as AI integrated herd health services. This, coupled with strong farmer organisations, will go a long way to improving market access and, therefore, profitability.

## IMPACT

The project contributed to improving economic livelihoods in Apac and Kole districts through support for the strategic business development of a dairy value chain. These activities help support better conditions for farmers working on integrated dairy value chain development and climate-smart agriculture systems, which can improve their socio-economic welfare and provided additional environmental benefits. The success of the project to establish commercial milk collection centres and raise the visibility of the dairy sector among various partners in the region will help mobilize additional resources in the future, sustain long-term coordinated efforts and may lead to replication in neighbouring districts with a similar resource base.

## KEY FACTS

### Contribution

USD 147 000

### Duration

November 2015 – October 2017

### Resource Partner

FAO

### Partner

National Livestock Resources Research Institute (NaLIRRI)

### Beneficiaries

Farmer groups; Small-scale dairy farmers;  
National authorities



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## ACTIVITIES

- Training and practical demonstrations on silage, hay and haylage production, utilization and legume/pasture production.
- Dairy farmer training on best breeding practices and provision of artificial insemination and herd health services.
- Capacity building on hygienic milk production and handling, group formation, cooperative management, hygienic milk production and preservation.
- Procurement and installation of milk coolers at selected milk cooling centres, complete with back-up generators, delivery of aluminium milk cans for hygienic milk handling and transportation to milk cooling centres.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



**Project Code**  
TCP/UGA/3505

**Project Title**  
Integrated Dairy Development (IDD) pilot project  
in the middle north cattle corridor of Uganda

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