



Improving farmer livelihoods in the dry zone through improved livestock health, productivity and marketing

HIGHLIGHTS

Target Area: National level, with field activities focused in six townships in Central Dry Zone: Myingyan, Mahlaing, Natogyi and Taung Tha in Mandalay Region, and Pakkoku and Yesagyo townships in Magway Region

Donor: The Livelihoods and Food Security Trust Fund (LIFT)

Contribution: USD 4 400 000

Project Code: UNJP/MYA/022/OPS

Government Counterpart (s): Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department (LBVD) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation (MoALI)

Beneficiaries: Smallholder livestock producers, input and service providers, traders in livestock

Implementation period: 3 years (January 2016 to December 2018)



BACKGROUND

Livestock raising is an important source of income for smallholders all over the country, but especially in the Central Dry Zone, due to its large available areas for livestock grazing. In this area, households raise cattle, sheep and goats, pigs and poultry.

The recent rapid economic development of the country, and improved linkages to regional markets have increased the demand for livestock products – meat, milk, and eggs, and this creates a great opportunity for household investment in livestock.

While households can improve incomes through better livestock husbandry, it is only with improved government policies and actions that the full potential of the sector can be reached, for example, those policies which enable Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs) to deliver basic animal health services to smallholders throughout the country.

The project is being implemented in collaboration with the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department (LBVD).



OBJECTIVE

The project aims to sustainably improve the livelihoods and food security of communities and the poor and vulnerable in six townships in the Dry Zone of Myanmar through improving livestock health, productivity, and marketing, while contributing to national policy development.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project is based on the following rationales:

1. There are significant opportunities, in the target townships, to improve farmer livelihoods and incomes through a comprehensive area-wide livestock-focused project.
2. The project will positively influence livestock development and national policy development.

CONTRIBUTION TO LIFT PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

The project contributions to two LIFT outcomes as follows:

- 1) Increased sustainable agriculture and farm-based production by smallholder farmers,
- 2) Improved policies and effective public expenditure for pro-poor rural development

PROJECT OUTCOMES

The project works towards three outcomes, reflecting its work in the areas of technology adoption, improved animal health service delivery, and policy development:

- 1) Households trial and adopt technologies
- 2) Households access CAHW and LBVD animal health services
- 3) LBVD and the project Implement policies.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Important achievements are summarized below:

- Completion of a National Livestock Baseline Survey
- CAHW regulation approved and being operationalized
- Cattle trade policy work aimed at improving farm-gate cattle prices
- Households have improved incomes from better raising of cattle, goats, and pigs..
- Progress made on policies and actions to improve cattle breeding
- Improved understanding of socio-economics of livestock through work with University of Veterinary Science
- Improved capacity within LBVD for livestock sector investment planning and for establishing linkages between livestock and human nutrition
- Improved use of information technology for livestock surveys by LBVD.



The project supports achievement of



© FAO, 2018
CA1920EN/1/10_18



Some rights reserved. This work is available under a CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO licence