



Enhancing pig production and marketing for smallholder farmers in Northern Uganda

Summary

Pig production is suited to smallholder production because pigs in comparison to other livestock have unique characteristics such as faster growth rates, ability to be kept on small pieces of land, high multiplication rates, ability to feed on many feedstuffs, and pig products have ready market. However, pig production among smallholders is constrained by unavailability of quality pig feeds and unsustainable use of local feed resources, poor breeds, ready markets for pig products are not reliable, inadequate extension services, and odour in pig houses which creates reluctance for uptake of pig production near homesteads. This action therefore, aims to address key constraints in pig production and marketing in northern Uganda by promoting sustainable breeding, management and marketing practices. This will be achieved through:

- i. promotion of efficient use of diets from locally available feedstuffs for pig production;
- ii. evaluation and dissemination of Indigenous Micro-Organisms (IMO) in reducing foul smell in pig housing;
- iii. evaluation and promotion of the use of local semen extenders in artificial insemination (AI);
- iv. assessment and promotion of profitable market linkages and effective information for pig farmers.

The main proposition of this action is that improving pig breeding, management and marketing will result into increased incomes and hence livelihood of the pig farmers. This action was designed to incorporate research and dissemination components. The research component, which will involve testing and evaluating appropriate technologies, will be conducted by graduate and undergraduate students working closely with smallholder pig producers and local traders.

Target Groups

The target groups in this action are; Pig farmers, University Students, TVET students, Private sector, CBOs, Fresh pork sellers/processors, pork joint operators, and input dealers.

Result Areas

There are three primary result areas in this action:

Result Area 1: Capacity building where (1) 19 students will be trained including 1 PhD, 8 MSc and 10 BSc; (2) 12 pig AI technicians trained to offer AI services to pig farmers; (3) 750 farmers trained to use AI for pig breeding.

Result Area 2: Sustainable pig production technologies developed including (1) local feed formulae for production of pigs with quality pork; (2) local semen extenders to substitute more costly commercial extenders in AI; (3) IMO products to reduce smell from pig houses.

Result Area 3: Profitable market linkages developed (1) where pig marketing groups will be formed; groups linked to agri-business incubation centre whose purpose is to exhibit the developed pig production technologies; (2) communication

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Project ID: RU/2017/CARP+/01

Project duration:
48 months

Start Date:
1st August 2017

Total budget:
USD 199,996.00

Project partners:
Partner 1: International Livestock Research Institute (Uganda)

Partner 2: Makerere University

Partner 3: Partner Northern Uganda Youth Development Centre

Partner 4: Lakwat Ranchers, Private Sector

Partner 5: New Foundation Community Ministry, Community Based Organization

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platform to link the marketing groups with potential pig buyers/markets; (3) central pork processing unit established to train farmers on value-added pork products.

General Activities:

- Recruiting students and smallholder pig farmers to participate in research and promotion/dissemination of the findings;
- Documenting locally available feedstuffs and their relative abundance for pig feeding;
- Constructing: (1) demonstration units where feed formulae, IMO and locally made AI semen extenders will be tested; (2) central pork processing unit;
- Piloting agri-business centre and communication platform;
- Assessing and analyzing market product demand and production cost-benefit, respectively

