Why sheep fattening?

- Sheep fattening is a long-standing practice in Ethiopia targeting festive seasons.
- As a business, it has the potential to provide wide range economic benefits to communities, especially to youth, through direct sale of fattened rams, while also stimulating economic activities along the Small Ruminant Value Chain (SRVC).

Innovative ways of working

- Collective entrepreneurship via formation of sheep fattening youth groups and cooperatives.
- Incorporation of Entrepreneurial Skills Development training in the sheep fattening programs, to promote innovation in the SRVC as well as sharing, cogeneration and knowledge transfer for entrepreneurship creation and innovation.
- Use of coordination committees to improve vertical and lateral engagements.

Outcomes

- Adoption of improved sheep fattening technology & practices with a commercial lens by youth groups and smallholder farmers.
- Reduced youth unemployment through enhanced economic opportunities and enabling environment along the SRVC.
- Converging partnerships involving youth cooperatives, local organizations (community-based breeding organizations), local governments, research centers and VC actors strengthened for dissemination of innovations to smallholder farmers.

Partners in Ethiopia

Agricultural Research Centers, District offices - Livestock Agency, Gender Offices, Cooperative Offices, Job Creation Offices, Youth & Sports Offices

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