

# Livestock Matter(s)

## ILRI News Round-up



Welcome to the first issue of Livestock Matter(s), a monthly round-up of livestock development news, publications, presentations, images and upcoming events from the International Research Institute (ILRI) and its partners.

### Corporate news



#### Green livestock: 'Game changers' for environmental, social, economic gains

A week-long Third Multi-stakeholder Platform Meeting of the Global Agenda of Action in Support of Sustainable Livestock Sector Development kicked off on 22 January in Nairobi, Kenya. The Global Agenda is committed to broad-based, voluntary and informal stakeholder actions toward improving the performance of the livestock sector. It ambitiously aims to protect natural resources as well as to reduce poverty and protect public health.

#### BecA-ILRI biosciences Hub receives grant from global life science company

Global life science tools company Illumina announced the recipients of grants from its 'Agricultural Greater Good Initiative'. One of these is the BecA-ILRI Hub, a state-of-the-art biosciences laboratory and facility platform located in Nairobi, Kenya.

#### Fixing fodder shortages for beef and dairy in Africa and South Asia

Last year, a group of researchers at ILRI worked with partners at the World Bank under the direction of Jimmy Smith, then a senior livestock advisor at the Bank and now director general of ILRI, in identifying investment opportunities for ruminant livestock feeding in developing countries.

### Read this roundup online:

[ilriclippings.wordpress.com/tag/roundup/](http://ilriclippings.wordpress.com/tag/roundup/)

**Kenya launches East Coast fever vaccine**

### Project news

#### New project to improve livestock and irrigation value chains in Ethiopia

A new research-for-development project was launched on 22 January 2013 by ILRI and the International Water Management Institute (IWMI), both members of the CGIAR Consortium. Entitled 'Livestock and Irrigation Value chains for Ethiopian Smallholders – LIVES', it will directly support the government of Ethiopia's effort to transform smallholder agriculture to be more market-oriented.

#### Africa RISING:

##### The thinking behind the approach

The Africa Research in Sustainable Intensification for the Next Generation (Africa RISING) program, which comprises three research-for-development projects supported by the United States Agency for International Development as part of the US government's Feed the Future initiative, outlined research that will be carried out by three Africa RISING projects in West, eastern and southern Africa and the Ethiopian highlands.

#### Animal-to-human diseases: From panic to planning—new recommendations

The UK's Institute for Development Studies (IDS) has published a 4-page Rapid Response Briefing titled 'Zoonoses: From panic to planning'. ILRI veterinary epidemiologist Delia Grace co-authored the document with other members of a Dynamic Drivers of Disease in Africa Consortium, based at the STEPS Centre at IDS.

### Media news

#### Researchers to control brucellosis in Africa: January workshop

The Agricultural Research Service co-organized a workshop on 'An Integrated Approach to Controlling Brucellosis in Africa' sponsored by the US State Department Biosecurity Engagement Program, the US Agency for International Development and ILRI. Brucellosis infects both animals and humans, causing chronic fever and joint pain in humans and miscarriages in animals.



Kenya's fight against East Coast fever has gone a notch higher with the launch, in December 2012, of a new vaccine to curb the animal killer disease. The vaccine was jointly developed by the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute, the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, the Global Alliance for Livestock and Veterinary Medicine, the government of Kenya and ILRI.

## ILRI in CGIAR news

### ILRI position paper highlights role of livestock in food and nutrition security

The January 2013 issue of *Animal Frontiers* features a series of articles on the contribution of animal agriculture to global food security. An ILRI paper highlights the direct and indirect effects of livestock on food and nutrition security and considers the future prospects of mixed crop-livestock farming systems that produce most of the world's milk, meat and staple crops.

### Austria funds Livestock and Fish project for more productive cattle in Nicaragua

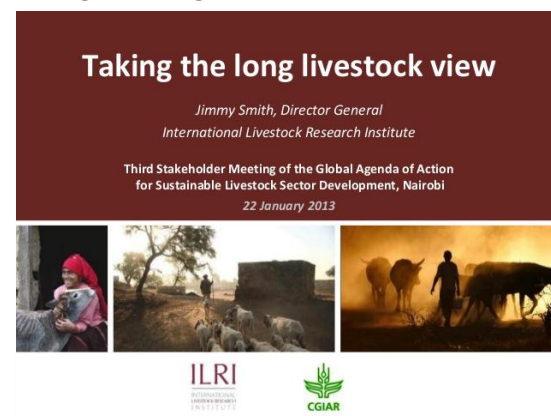
In December 2012, the Austrian Development Agency approved a three-year research project to be conducted by ILRI, the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, the International Center for Tropical Agriculture and the National Agricultural University of Nicaragua on 'increasing the productivity of dual-purpose cattle in Nicaragua — More milk and meat through better breeds.'

### New online resource links value chain researchers and practitioners

The CGIAR Research Program on Policies, Institutions and Markets has launched an online AgriFood Chain Toolkit to bring together researchers who develop tools and methods for value chain analysis with people who use the tools in the field.

## Recent presentations

### Taking the long livestock view



ILRI's director general Jimmy Smith gave this opening address at the Third Multi-Stakeholder Platform Meeting of the Global Agenda of Action for Sustainable Livestock Sector Development, on 22 January 2013.

More ILRI presentations: [slideshare.net/ILRI/](http://slideshare.net/ILRI/)

## Multimedia

*Ann's story: Length: 02:08*

During the drought of 2009, many Kenyan pastoralists were forced to move with their livestock in search of grazing land. We met Ann and her family in the rangelands outside of Nairobi. This is her story of how the drought has affected her life.

More ILRI multimedia at: [blip.tv/ilri](http://blip.tv/ilri)

## ILRI under the lens

This month we feature Livestock and Irrigation Value Chains for Ethiopian Smallholders (LIVES) – Commodity Value Chain Development Inception Workshop and Project Launch photos. See pictures at [flickr.com/ilri](http://flickr.com/ilri)



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