Improved productivity through crop-livestock interventions in South Kivu, Eastern DR Congo

Project Target: 800 farming households in two distinct sites in the South Kivu province, namely Miti (highland zone) and Kamanyola (Rusizi plain)

The project is based on a “Theory of change” (Figure 1) which sets out causal links between research outputs and the subsequent chain of outcomes leading to the desired impact. The overall “Theory of change (ToC)” for the CLiP project predicts that an increase in farm productivity through work that positively benefits from several enabling environments, including increased productivity (through sustainable intensification) and value chain integration. Increased productivity will increase the quantity and profitability of farm products sold, which in turn will lead to increased income. With more equitable distribution of the benefits of farm production, improved diet quality for nutritionally vulnerable individuals is achieved, particularly for women and children, through increased consumption of diverse and nutritionally rich foods.

Figure 1: Theory of change

The assumptions of the ToC will be confirmed through a series of R4D activities among which:

- Impact of improved crop-livestock systems on gender livelihood and nutritional status of households;
- Best use of crop residues: ISFM or animal feeding?
- Identification of endemic livestock diseases in South Kivu and their consequences and financial repercussions on livestock development;
- Aflatoxin contamination in food and feeds;
- Effects of training approaches on agency and empowerment, the potential influence on intra-household and community level decision making;
- Crop-livestock integration and its impact on sustainable job creation for youth.

Contact
Michael Handlos
ILRI, Bukavu
m.handlos@cgiar.org

Flemming Nielsen
IITA, Bukavu
f.Nielsen@cgiar.org