POVERTY REDUCTION, LIVELIHOODS & JOBS

Smart phone-based herd health management tool

- Herd health approach is missing from extension packages
- Capacity is a limiting factor for introducing the approach
- Smart-phone based tool overcomes limitations in capacity

Context
- **Herd health**: holistic (health care, management, capacity development) with set target & recording
- To date, missing from most animal health packages in most developing countries
- Challenge to adopt approach: human capacity and diligence: inaccurate paper-based recording & disease diagnosis; irrational use of medicine (AMR)
- Need for suitable tool to support herd health management over time

Our innovative approach
- Smart phone-based tool (in collaboration with University of Strathclyde in the UK)
- Functionality of the application
  - Disease diagnosis support for AH service providers
  - Recommendations for appropriate treatment
  - Recording functionality for production and health parameters
  - Offline data entry (an important feature)
  - Upload data to ILRI server
  - Contribute to AMU surveillance system

Outcomes
- A first version of the application is developed and tested
- The tool will allow herd (or villages) monitoring and scoring based on baseline and endline data
- Facilitate to give feedback to farmers/pastoralists and training

Future steps
- Routinely use tool in HEARD project sites
- Impacts and lessons documented
- Promote use of herd health tool by availing it to the extension
- The innovation is expected to influence policy on animal health extension systems in developing countries

Partners
- University of Strathclyde in the UK
- Amhara, Oromia and Somali regional and woreda livestock offices
- Regional HEARD components in 3 regions
- MoA | Private service providers

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LIVESTOCK HEALTH | HEARD project
Solomon Gizaw, Crawford Revie*, Gennaro Imperatore*, Dagim Berhanu, Barbara Wieland
s.gizaw@cigar.org

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