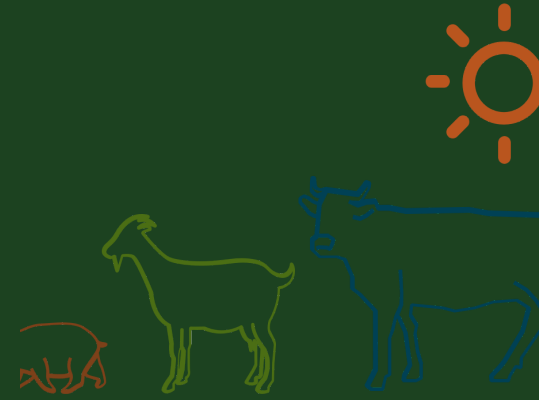


Best practice health and husbandry of cattle and buffalo in Lao PDR



Key details

Location

Lao PDR

Duration

Start Jun 2008

End Dec 2012

Budget

AUD 620,380

Commissioned organisation

The University of Sydney

Partners

Charles Sturt University; Department of Livestock and Fisheries; International Center for Tropical Agriculture; National Agriculture and Forestry Extension Service; Tristan Jubb Veterinary Consulting

Project Leader

Peter Andrew Andrew - University of Sydney

ACIAR Research Program Manager

Dr Anna Okello

Program

Livestock Systems

Project code

AH/2006/159

20% of agricultural GDP.

Ninety five percent of the two million cattle and buffalo in Lao PDR are owned by rural households that farm on a subsistence basis. Livestock provide these families with draught power, nutrition and cash income. However production increases to help smallholders access markets servicing the growing 3% annual demand for livestock meat across Asia are constrained by entrenched diseases, poor feeds and subsistence-based husbandry practices.

By examining current practices and knowledge for livestock diseases and husbandry, including through farmer participation, and with reference to complementary projects on disease control in the Mekong, a best practice approach was developed to improve livestock productivity, potentially increasing marketing opportunities for smallholder livestock producers.

Project activities were also operated in conjunction with the Department of Livestock and Fisheries, and collaborated with the Asian Development Bank's Northern Region Sustainable Livelihood through Livestock Development Project.

Overview

Cattle and buffalo are an important part of agricultural systems in Lao PDR, accounting for approximately

