

Improving farmer livelihoods by developing market-oriented small ruminant production systems in Myanmar



Key details

Location

Myanmar

Duration

Start Mar 2019

End Dec 2021

Budget

AUD 880,026

Commissioned organisation

The University of Melbourne

Partners

Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, Myanmar; University of Veterinary Science, Myanmar; Yezin Agricultural University, Myanmar

Project Leader

Angus Campbell, University of Melbourne, Australia

ACIAR Research Program Manager

Dr Anna Okello

Program <u>Livestock Systems</u>

Project code LS/2014/056

Overview

This project aims to improve the livelihood of farmers in the Central Dry

Zone of Myanmar who keep goats and sheep, by increasing the productivity and profitability of their herds and flocks.

The Central Dry Zone is home to 14.5 million people and is vital to the nation's production of livestock and dryland crops. Most rural people in the area are smallholder and landless farmers who largely depend on agriculture, cropping and/or livestock, for their livelihoods.

The project sought to improve smallholders' understanding of key performance drivers of small ruminant production and their ability to control them, through participatory evaluation of specific animal nutrition, production and health interventions on smallholder farms, plus new production systems, and demonstrating and extending these interventions to smallholders.

Expected project outcomes

- Analysing current and emerging small ruminant value chains in Myanmar and improving capacity of farmers to target specific markets.
- Promoting better nutritional management of small ruminants through improved feeds and feeding systems.
- Improving fertility and reproductive efficiency in small ruminant flocks through better breeding management.
- Improving small ruminant health and reducing disease risks to increase productivity and contribute to national disease control efforts.

 Better understanding the roles of men, women and youth in small ruminant farming in order to optimise whole of family benefits from the enterprise and increase household resilience to external farming threats.



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