



## Livestock CRP

### Country design and stakeholder workshop to review and plan a Vietnam sustainable intensification crop-livestock project, 2019-2021

Melia Hotel, Hanoi, 5-7 November 2019

#### REPORT

#### **Background**

*The Livestock CRP has decided to provide a three-year investment in an integrated core project in Vietnam among others priority intervention countries. These core projects will support integrated delivery of 'best bet' interventions across the five flagship areas and associated cross-cutting themes.*

*In Vietnam, Livestock CRP will target Mai Son district, Son La province as a study site to conduct an operational livestock research to identify, test and evaluate appropriate livestock (related) interventions to address sustainable intensification challenges in the uplands of North-West Vietnam. This project aim to i) consolidate existing work on livestock development in NW Vietnam, ii) conduct rapid preliminary diagnoses to allow development of integrated interventions along with scaling partners, iii) Pilot intervention combinations with scaling partners and iv) consolidate learnings.*

## Workshop

Following previous planning meetings and an intense and valuable exchange of opinions, on 5-7 November 2019, at MELIA Hotel, Hanoi, Vietnam, a 3-day workshop took place aiming for the following deliverables:

1. Agreed 'design' and MELIA components
2. Near final agreed draft proposal and plan for an integrated country core project (with activity outlines for flagships, crosscutting plans, etc) and actions/timeline/roles to complete this.

The workshop was conducted according to the proposed agenda (see below).

### Day 1:

5 NOV	CORE PROJECT TEAM - In-country staff / Flagship liaisons / MELIA team / PMU	
0830	<p>Welcomes etc; objectives, process, agenda What we want from this meeting</p> <p>Brief recap on process so far and outline current proposal elements (goal, objectives, outcomes, site(s); which agreed, which pending)</p>	<p>Peter</p> <p>Sabine</p>
0900	<p>Updates from the assessments and other key inputs – 5-10' presentations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- F+F: Rein van der Hoek (remotely from Costa Rica)</li> <li>- Genetics: Huyen</li> <li>- Health: Hu Suk</li> <li>- L&amp;E: An</li> <li>- LLAFS: Isabelle/Thinh</li> <li>- Policy review: Dung</li> <li>- Partnership: Hung/Helene</li> </ul> <p>Each to cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Summarize the activities done</li> <li>- Priority constraints we need to address; of whom; where</li> <li>- Key outcomes and research question(s) for the project</li> </ul> <p>Discussion – key insights and implications for the project</p>	
1030	Break	
1100	<p>Recap design aspects and sites (what today; what tomorrow; what to decide day 3)</p> <p>Initial work on change pathways proposed for the project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Outcomes</li> <li>- Changes</li> <li>- Actions</li> </ul>	<p>Jane</p> <p>Peter/Alice/Jane</p>



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	- Actors - Indicators	
1230	Lunch	
1330	Work on technical elements – interventions Work on integrating aspects	
1500	Break	
1530	Preparing the stakeholder day	
1615	Close	

*Day 2:*

6 NOV	CORE PROJECT TEAM PLUS KEY PARTNERS/STAKEHOLDERS	
0830	Welcome and meeting objectives Agenda, introductions	Hung Peter
0900	Core project introduction	Sabine
0930	Initial review and feedback on project objectives and scope	Participants
1000	Break	
1030	Partners's view and inputs	NOMAFSI Sub Department of Livestock and Animal Health of Son La province
1050	Review and agree change pathways of the project - Outcomes - Changes - Actions - Actors - Indicators	Groups Review, discuss and improve the focus
1200	Lunch	
1300	Review and agree technical and other critical design and delivery factors	Groups Review, discuss and improve the focus
1500	Break	
1530	Summary, questions, action points and next steps	
1615	Close	

*Day 3:*

7 NOV	CORE PROJECT TEAM	
0830	Review outputs/implications of days 1 and 2 discussions	
0930	Work on change pathways and technical components	
1100	BREAK	
1115	Work on any design elements; baselines, etc	
1200	LUNCH	
1300	Work on plan – deliverables, budget etc 2019-2021 Review and agree all next steps	
1615	CLOSE	

Peter Ballantyne, former head of Communications and Knowledge Management at the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), acted as the facilitator of the meeting.

Members of the different flagships of the CRP attended the workshop, together with external participants representative of different Vietnamese institutions, both based in Hanoi and Son La, are listed below.

Members of the CRP:

Alan Duncan	ILRI	UK	Edinburgh
Alice Njehu	ILRI	Kenya	Nairobi
An Notenbaert	CIAT	Belgium	Nairobi
Horacio Gonda	SLU	Sweden	Uppsala
Hu Suk Lee	ILRI	Korea	Hanoi
Isabelle Baltenweck	ILRI	France	Nairobi
Jane Poole	ILRI	Great Britain	Nairobi
Karen Marshall	ILRI	Australia	Nairobi
Le Thi Huyen	NIAS	Vietnam	Hanoi
Mai Tu	ILRI/CIAT	Vietnam	Danang
Michael Peters	CIAT	Germany	Nairobi
Nguyen Hung	ILRI	Vietnam	Hanoi
Nguyen Thanh	ILRI	Vietnam	Hanoi
Nguyen Thinh	ILRI	Vietnam	Hanoi
Peter Ballantyne	<b>Facilitator</b>		
Pham Van Dung	CIAT	Vietnam	Hanoi
Sabine Douxchamps	CIAT	Belgium	Hanoi
Ulf Magnusson	SLU	Sweden	Uppsala

External participant:

**Based in Hanoi:**

Nguyễn Xuân Dương	MARD - Department of Livestock Production (DLP) (Cục Chăn nuôi)
Trần Công Thắng	MARD - Institute of Policy and Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development (IPSARD)
Bùi Nghĩa Vượng	National Institute of Veterinary Research (NIVR) (Viện Thú y)
Ngô Thị Kim Cúc	MARD - National Institute of Animal Science (NIAS) (Viện Chăn nuôi)

**Based in Son La:**

Nguyễn Ngọc Toàn	Sub-DAH Son La (Chi cục Thú y tỉnh Sơn La)
Cường	Mai Son Centre of Agricultural Services (Trung tâm Dịch vụ nông nghiệp Mai Sơn)
Luu Ngoc Quyen	NOMAFSI

After 2 days of very fruitful discussions, the objectives for the *integrated core project* for Vietnam were defined as:

Overall objective:

- To stimulate system transformation (livelihoods, environment, equity, and market access) to empower highland farming communities through bundled livestock-based interventions in North-West (NW) Vietnam.

Specific objectives:

- To intensify sustainably and equitably smallholder crop-livestock production in NW Vietnam by (i) identifying, testing and evaluating bundled livestock-based interventions, (ii) improving knowledge and skills in animal husbandry, and (iii) increasing awareness of environmental degradation.
- To identify, facilitate and evaluate institutional innovations that stimulate local livestock product development, market linkages and effective service delivery for a sustainable commercialization, benefiting equitably all gender and ethnic groups in NW Vietnam.
- To identify and promote inclusive inter-sectoral environment and agriculture policy dialogue and interactions at different levels that address trade-offs and synergies and lead to more conducive and effective policy attention to smallholder crop-livestock smallholder systems in NW Vietnam.

During the different sessions, special emphasis was devoted to integrate the actions and interventions across the different flagships.



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Members of the Feed & Forage flagship who attended the workshop were Michael Peters, Alan Duncan, Sabine Douxchamps and Horacio Gonda. Rein van der Hoek, did not attend the workshop, but presented the updates of the F&F flagship remotely from Costa Rica on day 1.

At the workshop, and as it can be read at the final document: *“Livestock-led interventions towards equitable livelihoods and improved environment in the North-West Highlands of Vietnam”*, *Livestock CRP Priority Country Project (2019-2021). Country Project Plan – VIETNAM*, three types of farming system were distinguished in the Vietnam NW highlands. These systems were classified as intensive systems in the lowlands, mixed crop-livestock system in the mid-altitudes and extensive systems in the high altitudes. In consequence, different possible interventions will be targeted to the different types of farming systems.

As stated in the final document, actions to be taken by the Feed & Forages flagship, include the identification, testing, documenting and refinement of basket of feed/forage options for



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the three farming systems types. The options will range from legumes as cover crops and feed and climate-smart grasses, to feed conservation, better utilization of by products, and concentrates, and will be established in connection with the Livestock and Environment flagship. Feed action plans will be developed with local communities using G-FEAST outputs as a starting point. Action plans will set out a series of promising feed options which will be tested using action research approaches with farmers. Farmers will be trained, and recommendations and training materials will be provided for extension workers.



In a broader perspective, the present 3-day workshop settled the basis for the final document, quoted above, ***Country Project Plan – VIETNAM “Livestock-led interventions towards equitable livelihoods and improved environment in the North-West Highlands of Vietnam”, Livestock CRP Priority Country Project (2019-2021)***. The project is expected to generate evidence needed to attract development investment to take a bundle of possible interventions to scale by national development partners. The plan has benefited from input from national partners and will be adapted accordingly as the detailed plan is being implemented.