

**Beneficiary**

National veterinary authorities and beef value chain stakeholders in Tanzania

Led by

Royal Veterinary College

Time-frame

September 2016 – September 2017

STDF funding

US\$48,500 (total project value US\$63,500)

SHAPING INVESTMENT SOLUTIONS TO DRIVE SAFE LIVESTOCK TRADE IN TANZANIA

The safe trade gap

Cattle are a store of wealth and social capital for many farmers in Tanzania where 70% of the poor rural population depend on livestock for their income and livelihoods. Tanzania has outstanding natural resources for livestock development, yet the sector is performing well below its potential. Transboundary animal diseases like foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) have caused serious production losses in the country and blocked the trade of live animals and animal products. Different options exist to control and manage FMD and to allow export of livestock and their products in line with OIE standards. In general, options are costly, and investments need to be balanced against benefits. The government was keen to assess what impact setting up an FMD free zone would have in the country.

Partnership approach

The Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Development decided to focus on the Rukwa region. A feasibility study and cost-benefit analysis was led by the Royal Veterinary College of the UK, in close collaboration with national veterinary authorities. Stakeholders in the beef value chain were brought on board from different parts of government, the Tanzanian Meat Board, livestock cooperatives, agro-pastoralists, commercial ranch farmers as well as abattoir owners. A study tour to Zambia opened up discussions on how to improve cross-border collaboration. Topics included veterinary quarantine and joint vaccination programmes to facilitate safe livestock trade and better control animal diseases, and how to manage livestock movements across the countries' long, porous border.

Results

- The study highlighted capacity gaps in national veterinary services, as well as with other actors in livestock value chains. It showed what needed to be addressed to effectively control and manage FMD, and the substantial resources gap. It focused on economic aspects of disease control, as well as practical factors including traceability and trade dynamics.
- The work improved government and private sector knowledge on how to refine the existing FMD control plan. With follow-up, this is expected to build trust across different stakeholders in the beef value chain to connect demand and supply and to expand livestock production and trade.
- The study's findings and conclusions have been informing planning and resource allocation decisions in the veterinary authority. This includes how to exploit synergies across different animal disease control efforts, helping to get more from the limited resources available.

Sustaining impact

- The veterinary authority plans to use the study's recommendations to develop a value chain approach to produce and market FMD safe beef, collaborating with commercial ranches. To take this forward, funding and expertise on vaccines and logistical support is needed from development partners.
- With strong local champions and adequate resources, the work will be able to catalyze new public-private partnerships to improve animal health and livestock production and trade.
- Key findings and recommendations from the study (and another STDF study in Zimbabwe), were presented at an STDF information session, attended by over 100 delegates from the WTO SPS Committee in November 2017. By sharing the key findings more widely, veterinary officials in other developing countries can also benefit from the work.

“The PPG in Rukwa region was a major breakthrough after past efforts to establish an FMD free zone failed to materialize. It detailed the potential of this area, proposed by the Livestock authorities in the country and identified key areas and corresponding costs for a proposed project”.

Dr Joram E Mghwira, Retired veterinary officer, Tanzania

Find out more
[standardsfacility.org/
PPG-516](http://standardsfacility.org/PPG-516)