MAKING HISTORY
ERADICATING PESTE DES PETITS RUMINANTS (SHEEP AND GOAT PLAGUE)
“Wiping out PPR is within our reach and will have a positive impact on the lives of pastoralist communities in all developing countries, directly supporting global efforts to end poverty and hunger by 2030.”

José Graziano da Silva
Director General, FAO

“The technical means and knowledge are available to eradicate PPR. Resources to support robust national Veterinary Services as well as a longstanding engagement from countries are essential to achieve our goal and change the lives of people who depend on small ruminants.”

Dr Monique Eloit
Director General, OIE
TOWARDS THE THIRD GREAT ERADICATION

Only twice in the history of the world has humankind successfully eradicated an infectious disease. Smallpox, which in the 20th century alone caused the deaths of an estimated 300 to 500 million people, was certified as eradicated by the World Health Organization in 1980.

Rinderpest, a deadly disease that plagued cattle and buffalo over centuries, was officially declared eradicated by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) in 2011.

Today, a third great eradication stands within our reach. Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR), also known as sheep and goat plague, is a highly contagious disease that kills between 30 and 70 percent of infected animals. Discovered in Côte d’Ivoire in 1942, the disease has spread at an alarming rate, threatening the very existence of over 80 percent of the world’s sheep and goat population in more than 70 countries throughout Africa, Asia, Europe and the Middle East.

If left uncontrolled, the disease will continue to spread, destroying lives and devastating the livelihoods of millions of farmers and herders, many of which are women.

Thanks to the availability of a reliable, inexpensive and high quality vaccine, eradicating PPR is technically achievable. The right political and financial backing coupled with a dedicated plan of action are key to success.

WELL SPENT

Beyond its growing threat to the world’s sheep and goat population of 2.1 billion, the benefits of eradicating PPR far outweigh the costs. Financing the initial five-year programme is costed at USD 996 million, a fraction of the annual global losses caused by PPR, estimated at USD 1.4 to USD 2.1 billion.
Eradicating PPR would have a profound impact on the lives of some 300 million poor rural families around the globe, many of which are subsistence farmers, landless villagers and pastoralists. For these households, sheep and goats are a source of food and regular income, a means to capitalize savings, and a safety net during hard times. Selling animals or their products provides the necessary resources to access food, as well as educational and social services. Food products derived from sheep and goats are an essential part of the diet for many people around the world and contribute to overcoming malnutrition. Sheep and goat milk and meat are of high nutritional value and provide proteins, vitamins and minerals critical for cognitive development and physical strength, particularly for children. Sheep and goats also play an important cultural role for many people around the world.
TACKLING PPR

PPR adversely affects the livelihoods, food security, and employment of communities worldwide, particularly with regard to women and youth. The disease entrenches and exacerbates poverty and malnutrition, and leads pastoralists and farmers to migrate away from their lands in search of alternative livelihoods. Investing in PPR eradication will contribute significantly to achieving multiple Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030, from food security, nutrition and health (SDGs 2, 3) to reducing poverty and inequality (SDGs 1, 10) as well as contributing to national growth and employment (SDG 8).

DID YOU KNOW?

The average value of a goat is **USD 54**

The average cost of the PPR vaccine is **USD 0.06**
A global strategy to control and eradicate PPR was agreed at an international conference hosted by FAO and OIE in April 2015 in Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire. Drawing from their experience in eradicating rinderpest, FAO and OIE have formed a joint global secretariat to guide efforts to eradicate PPR worldwide by 2030; this timeframe coincides with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The first five-year phase of the PPR Global Eradication Programme (GEP), from 2017 to 2021, is aimed at: controlling the disease, building the capacities of national veterinary services, forging key partnerships, and establishing foundations for coordinated approaches across borders, with the ultimate goal of PPR eradication by 2030. Broad-based consultations have informed national strategies and regional roadmaps to guide cost-effective and efficient vaccinations campaigns. Engaging resource partners throughout the PPR eradication process will be crucial to take the next step towards making history.

PPR GLOBAL SITUATION

In 2018, first ever cases of PPR were reported in Burundi and Bulgaria, the first EU country affected by the disease.
THE PATH TO CONTROL AND ERADICATE PPR

APRIL 2015
PPR Global Control & Eradication Strategy adopted in Abidjan

OCTOBER 2016
Launch of the PPR Global Eradication Programme (GEP):
- Assessment
- Control (Vaccination)
- Strengthening Veterinary Services

SEPTEMBER 2018
Global Conference on Partnering and Investing for a PPR-free world, Brussels

2018-2028
Ongoing implementation PPR GEP
Review PPR GEP (2019)
Launch 2nd five year PPR GEP (2022)
Stop all PPR vaccinations by 2028
Global assessment (2028 - 2029)

2030
Final declaration of PPR-free world

STAGES TO PPR ERADICATION

BELOW STAGE 1
No data available

STAGE 1
Assessment stage

STAGE 2
Control stage

STAGE 3
Eradication stage

STAGE 4
Post-eradication stage

BEYOND STAGE 4
OIE-free status
FACTS AND FIGURES

THE LIVES OF 300 MILLION POOR RURAL FAMILIES, WHICH RELY ON SHEEP AND GOATS TO MAKE A LIVING, ARE AFFECTED

OVER 80% OF THE WORLD’S SHEEP AND GOAT POPULATION IS AT RISK OF INFECTION

THE VIRUS HAS QUICKLY SPREAD TO MORE THAN 70 COUNTRIES IN AFRICA, ASIA, EUROPE AND THE MIDDLE EAST

ALARMING SPREAD IN PAST 15 YEARS. CASES WERE RECENTLY REPORTED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN BULGARIA, BURUNDI, GEORGIA AND MONGOLIA

THE COST OF THE VACCINE (USD 0.06) IS 0.001% OF THE AVERAGE VALUE OF A GOAT (USD 54)

PPR IS HIGHLY CONTAGIOUS, AND CAN BE DEADLY TO OVER 90% OF THE ANIMALS EXPOSED

THE VIRUS HAS QUICKLY SPREAD TO MORE THAN 70 COUNTRIES IN AFRICA, ASIA, EUROPE AND THE MIDDLE EAST

56 OF 198 COUNTRIES ARE NOW OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED BY THE OIE AS PPR-FREE

SHEEP AND GOAT MILK AND MEAT ARE OF HIGH NUTRITIONAL VALUE AND AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE DAILY DIET OF MANY PEOPLE

THE DISEASE OUTBREAK AFFECTS THE LIVELIHOODS AND CAN DECIMATE THE SAVINGS OF VULNERABLE AND POOR POPULATIONS

A DISEASE OUTBREAK AFFECTS THE LIVELIHOODS AND CAN DECIMATE THE SAVINGS OF VULNERABLE AND POOR POPULATIONS

THE DISEASE CAUSES ANNUAL ECONOMIC LOSSES OF UP TO USD 2.1 BILLION

SHEEP AND GOATS ARE MOBILE ASSETS THAT CAN BE RELOCATED IN TIMES OF CLIMATIC STRESS OR FROM CRISIS PRONE AND FRAGILE ENVIRONMENTS

PPR OUTBREAKS CAN TRIGGER MIGRATION MOVEMENTS AND CREATE VOLATILE SECURITY SITUATIONS

ENHANCING WOMEN’S CONTROL OVER SMALL LIVESTOCK THROUGH VETERINARY AND FINANCIAL SERVICES IS FUNDAMENTAL TO IMPROVING FOOD AND INCOME SECURITY
Of the 76 countries that have either reported the presence of PPR (62) or have unknown/suspected/at risk status (14), the PPR GEP has already supported 56 countries to develop strategic plans to assess, control and eventually eradicate PPR. This has been in collaboration with the Intercontinental Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) and Regional Economic Communities (RECs). FAO and OIE have completed a first round of consultations – PPR Roadmap Meetings – in all nine infected regions and a second round is underway. With the groundwork set, vaccination campaigns are now beginning to take place. Given the transboundary nature of the disease, FAO and OIE have developed partnerships with regional organizations in Africa – the African Union, AU-IBAR, the African Union Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Centre (AU-PANVAC) and RECs – in the Middle East and in Asia. Engagement with relevant civil society organizations is also underway.

As of today, funds have been secured to vaccinate circa 806 million sheep and goats, just over half of the total population at risk.

---

**VALUING IMPACT**

**HOW WILL THE PPR GEP BUDGET FOR THE FIRST FIVE-YEAR PHASE BE SPENT?**

- PPR GEP budget: **USD 996 million**
- 97% of the budget for country activities
- 1.5 billion sheep and goats to be vaccinated representing 70% of the budget
PARTNERS IN ACTION

FAO - 70 years of partnership

FAO combines its global convening power with technical, monitoring and policy expertise. This combination makes it well positioned to work with development groups and support countries to formulate policies based on solid evidence. The Organization facilitates partnerships that scale up action and encourages multistakeholder participation that can ensure greater ownership of development interventions. FAO is the only specialized UN agency working in all three dimensions of sustainability across all agricultural sectors, and at the critical intersection between agriculture, the environment and people. FAO’s broad multidisciplinary knowledge and extensive experience is critical to supporting countries in their efforts to achieve their sustainable development objectives.

OIE - protecting animals, preserving our future

Since 1924, the OIE has been the world’s leading intergovernmental organisation on animal health and welfare. This recognition has been achieved through leadership and vision founded on scientific excellence, international solidarity and transparency. The OIE is recognized by the World Trade Organization as the reference organisation for the development of international standards relating to animal health. The OIE is also mandated to officially recognize disease-free areas for countries; this is fundamental to eventually declare PPR as eradicated. In collaboration with its Members and its extensive network of partners, the OIE supports the strengthening of national Veterinary Services to effectively prevent and control animal diseases. Robust Veterinary Services preserve and develop animal resources, reducing poverty and hunger worldwide by protecting livelihoods.

A PROVEN FRAMEWORK

The international consensus and political support for the eradication of PPR, the technical feasibility, the high rates of return on investment that span generations, and the proven FAO-OIE partnership in successfully eradicating transboundary animal diseases – such as rinderpest – are all strong guarantees of success.
Eradicating PPR will only be possible by joining forces and forging lasting partnerships. As we continue along this historic journey, FAO and OIE extend their thanks to the efforts of our respective Member Countries and to the support received from existing resource partners, including the World Bank Group, European Union, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Japan, United Kingdom and the United States of America.
LEARN MORE
For more information, contact
PPR-Secretariat@fao.org

#pestedespetitsruminants
fao.org/ppr | oie.int/PPR