



SUPPORTING THE PROGRESSIVE CONTROL OF TSETSE-TRANSMITTED TRYPANOSOMOSIS IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Tsetse-transmitted trypanosomosis is a parasitic disease affecting both animals and humans. Because of its severe impact on livestock, it also hinders crop-livestock mixed farming in vast areas of sub-Saharan Africa, and is a major constraint to food security. On account of the complexities and challenges inherent in the planning and execution of national and multinational interventions against African trypanosomosis, FAO recognized the need to strengthen its technical assistance to affected countries, which was delivered through the first phase of this project between November 2012 and December 2015. The second phase aimed to consolidate and scale up the achievements of the first phase, especially by building on strengthened capacities. In addition, it enabled the experiences gained to be scaled out by disseminating the innovative methodologies to a larger number of affected countries and stakeholders. The project was implemented in the framework of the Programme Against African Trypanosomosis (PAAT).



WHAT DID THE PROJECT DO?

Six project countries (Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mali and Uganda) received priority assistance, while 24 additional countries were supported through the implementation of regional activities, with a focus on capacity development. Data management and analysis for decision-making were enhanced through the development of national and continental Atlases of tsetse and African animal trypanosomosis (AAT), and the continuous updating and upgrading of the Atlas of human African trypanosomosis (HAT); a World Health Organization (WHO)/FAO initiative. Innovative, user-friendly and affordable technologies were readily taken up by beneficiaries and partners. These included freeware, open source Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software for decision-making, and Livestock Protective Fences (LPF) technology for field interventions, aimed at poverty reduction and increased food security. The extensive dissemination of project results was ensured through open access scientific publications, presentations in conferences, participation in technical meetings, and the development of a new PAAT website (www.fao.org/paat). This strategy ensured capillary dissemination and unrestricted access to the innovative project achievements. In addition, the promotion of a balanced gender participation in all project activities was a key element of the project.

IMPACT

In Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, and Kenya LPF were deployed in 555 livestock-keeping households to protect animals against tsetse flies and other biting and nuisance flies. The impact of the interventions included reduced fly infestation and disease incidence, and increased meat and milk production, as well as a reduction in mosquito-borne malaria. In addition, by supporting the progressive reduction of tsetse-transmitted trypanosomosis, the project contributed to a more balanced utilization of natural resources. In particular, by freeing access to fertile tsetse-infested areas, trypanosomosis control reduces the pressure from overgrazing, which is common in many tsetse-free areas, and promotes a more sustainable livestock-crop agriculture.

KEY FACTS

Contribution

USD 1 000 000

Duration

January 2016 – June 2018

Resource Partner

Government of Italy

Partners

Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries (Ethiopia), *Ministère de l'Élevage et de la Pêche* (Mali), Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (Kenya), *Ministère des Ressources animales et halieutiques* (Burkina Faso), Ministry of Agriculture, Animal industry and Fisheries (Uganda), Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Ghana), African Union - Pan African Tsetse and Trypanosomosis Eradication Campaign (AU-PATTEC), World Health Organization (WHO), International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

Beneficiaries

Smallholder livestock keepers and veterinary authorities in 28 African countries affected by the disease, with a focus on Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mali and Uganda

ACTIVITIES

- Eight national training courses and stakeholders’ workshops organized on various aspects of data management for evidence-based decision-making in trypanosomiasis control, in which 237 people from the six project countries participated. More advanced training provided to 15 people through 13 national training/technical assistance workshops.
- Seven regional training courses and workshops organized in collaboration with key partners (i.e. WHO, International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], African Union – Panafrican Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis Eradication [AU-PATTEC]), thus contributing to the training of an additional 137 staff members from both the project countries and an additional 22 affected countries.
- A total of 555 livestock owners/households in Burkina Faso, Ethiopia and Kenya benefited from the LPF technology.
- Eight peer-reviewed scientific publications developed in collaboration with partners, to disseminate information on tsetse and AAT risk.
- Comprehensive HAT data processed for the 19 endemic countries regularly reporting on HAT, and four peer-reviewed scientific publications developed in collaboration with WHO and partners to disseminate information on HAT risk and elimination.
- Project results, achievements and lessons learned disseminated through presentations and participation in 15 international conferences and meetings.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Project Codes

FAO: GCP/RAF/502/ITA

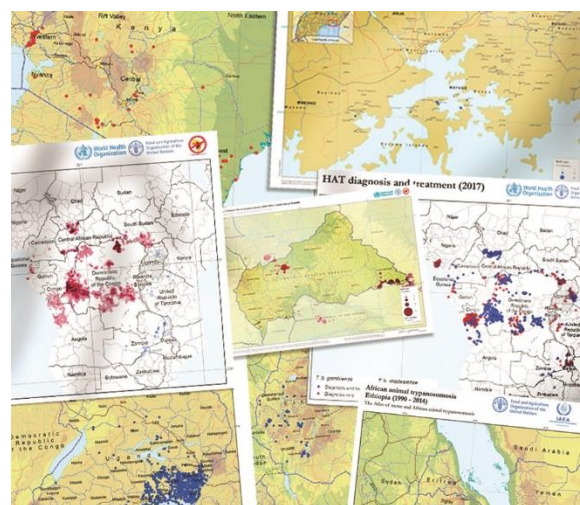
Project Title

Improving food security in sub-Saharan Africa by supporting the progressive reduction of tsetse-transmitted trypanosomiasis in the framework of NEPAD (Phase 2)

Contact

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