

Nepal

Community Livestock Development Project



The intent of national plans, the views of poverty and conflict-affected communities, the recommendations of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) Livestock Subsector Review, and the ADB country program strategy all recognize the need for a livestock project with a poverty reduction focus: one that meets the needs of the poor; effectively links production and marketing; creates jobs; and meets urban market requirements for meat, milk, and eggs currently supplied by imports.

The Community Livestock Development Project was thus prepared with government and key stakeholder participation, taking into account lessons learned in earlier ADB-assisted livestock development projects. The impact was to reduce the incidence of poverty in rural communities in the project area. Its outcome was to improve the levels of food security, nutrition, incomes, and employment for 164,000 families through increased productivity of the livestock subsector in an environmentally sustainable and socially equitable manner, while enhancing the capacity of the people to manage an ongoing process of development themselves.

Subproject investments were selected and approved through participatory processes involving communities and implementing agencies. Implementation plans evolved in response to local needs and priorities identified through active community participation, while the pace of implementation was linked to the rate of development of increased capacities at the local level. The project focused on the development of profitable and sustainable livestock enterprises and had two key elements of intensive livestock production in 22 districts; and processing, marketing, and commercialization of livestock subsector services in an additional 21 districts.

A livelihoods pilot program for five higher-altitude districts were formulated during the first 2 years of the project, and implemented during the last 4 years.

The project is in line with the strategic directions of ADB's South Asia Department, which focuses on sustainable infrastructure, climate change mitigation and adaptation, human development, regional cooperation and integration, public-private partnership, and good governance.

Project Results

The two-pronged approach—reaching the poor and the disadvantaged with social mobilization and small animal programs, and commercialization of production and processing of livestock products by increasing their access to markets—was consistent with the government's and ADB's strategies to achieve pro-poor economic growth. The government's Three-Year Plan (2011–2013) and ADB's Country Strategy and Program, 2005–2009 and Country Partnership Strategy, 2010–2012 continue to support poverty reduction through small livestock development and microcredit for women, and increasing agricultural income and jobs for poor and socially excluded groups.

The project surpassed its outcome targets despite the 20% shorter implementation period. Nutritional intake of girls and boys under 6 years of age increased by 19.1%, compared with the target of 20%. This was based on an estimated 11% increase in milk consumption, 50% increase in meat consumption, and a substantial increase in vegetable consumption through kitchen gardening. The project's intensive livestock production districts increased cow milk production by 140% and that of buffalo by 57%, compared with the target of 50%. Goat off-take increased by 28% in the intensive livestock production districts, against the target of 30%. These achievements were the results of a flexible and demand-led approach.

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The project focused on the development of profitable and sustainable livestock production

Project Results

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The project formed 10,429 farmer groups (62% women members) that improved livestock production, compared with a target of 3,450. The project's focus on women and disadvantaged groups through support for goat raising, forage cultivation, and microfinance services was the main reason for achieving 62% female participation, against the target of 35%.

The project also developed or strengthened 2,856 livestock production, processing, and marketing enterprises, against the target of 1,050. Average milk production per cow and buffalo increased from 3 liters per day to 5.6 liters/day, and average live goat off-take increased from 19.3 kg to 24.7 kg.

The two-pronged approach—social mobilization and small animal programs, and increased access to markets—was consistent with the government and ADB's strategies to achieve economic growth



Public-private partnership arrangements helped support better dairy and meat processing and retail outlets, live animal markets, and collection centers.



The project's orientation and capacity-building training strengthened awareness and skills of key stakeholders in the livestock value chain.

The Project at a Glance

Cost and financing: Asian Development Fund, \$20 million

Project approval date: 19 December 2003

Project themes: Economic growth, Gender equity

Status of project implementation: Completed

Loan closing date: 30 November 2010

Executing agency
Department of Livestock Services

ADB department
South Asia Department
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Sources: Project information document, <http://www.adb.org/projects/35170-013/main> ; ADB. 2010. *Report and Recommendation of the President to the Board of Directors: Proposed Loan to the Kingdom of Nepal for the Community Livestock Development Project*. Manila. http://www2.adb.org/Documents/RRPS/NEP/rrp_nep_35170.pdf

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