



Research and Impact Communiqué

August 4, 2015

This communiqué brings you research and impacts from the projects we support in Africa and South Asia as well as insights into our investigators, resources, up and coming conferences and funding opportunities. Visit our website at lccrsp.org and/or sign up to receive the monthly communication by email.

Activities of the Livestock Innovation Lab

Long-term Project Impacts



[A One Health Approach to Parasites in Senegal](#)

Researchers from the Livestock Innovation Lab are using a unique One Health approach to study parasitic disease transmission and control strategies in Senegal. Addressing the persistent environmental threat of soil-transmitted parasites, several scholars from the University of Florida are assessing the health and parasite status of small ruminants and the families who own them. Click the link above to learn more about their research and findings.



[Climate and Land Use Change in the Gandaki River Basin](#)

For the 87% of Nepal's population that keep livestock, increasing temperatures and erratic rainfall in the region may threaten both their animal's health and their economic security. Vegetation for livestock is decreasing, necessitating mitigation strategies. This research brief investigates how smallholder land use has changed in response to climate change in the Gandaki Basin and provides recommendations for livestock management.



[Investment Patterns of Wealthy Pastoralists on the Borana Plateau](#)

In poor rural areas of the developing world there are fewer investment opportunities to expand capital and infrastructure. Access to such investments not only relieves poverty but also improves environmental adaptation. In the Borana Plateau, comparably wealthy pastoralists serve as a source of investments. This research brief analyzes the investment portfolio of 12 wealthy pastoralists in the Borana to assess economic and risk reduction strategies used in the area.



[Outcomes of a Pastoral Sustainability Conference](#)

The Borana Plateau is challenged by very serious problems. Both human and livestock populations are growing while poverty is increasing and rangeland is degrading. This brief summarizes the outcomes from a pastoralists conference held for 71 participants—including researchers, scholars, and local farmers— during December, 2014 in Ethiopia. Results provide solutions and a path forward to help the Boran society adapt to pressing pastoral problems.

Scholar Project Impacts



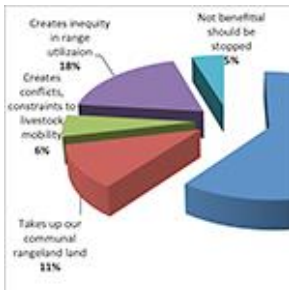
[East African Scholar Margaret Syomiti Featured in AWARD Article](#)

East African Scholar Margaret Syomiti is receiving support and recognition from more than one source. A recipient of an AWARD fellowship in 2010, Syomiti is working to develop practical solutions to persistent problems facing sub-Saharan African farmers. Click the link to read more about Syomiti's success and access her AWARD article.



[Performance of Sheep and Goats Fed Drought Tolerant Forages](#)

Drought can significantly hinder small ruminant production due to limiting both the availability and intake of dry matter feeds and forages. As climate change worsens drought conditions in many areas, drought-tolerant forages are needed to sustain livestock production. In this brief, East African Scholar Moses Lengarite investigates the effect of formulated drought tolerant forages on dry matter intake, feed digestibility, and weight gain in sheep and goats.



[Contribution of Private Rangeland Enclosures to Pastoral Production](#)

Over the last two decades, pastoral and agropastoral communities of the Borana have been establishing private rangeland enclosures known as “Kallos”. These serve as pasture reserves to mitigate the impacts of climate variability and feed scarcity during dry periods. However, these enclosures also come with challenges. In this brief, East African Scholar Yibeltal Wassie examines the role of kallos in supporting livestock production and its effects on traditional communal rangeland use.



[Determinants of Climate Change Adaption Choices by Producers](#)

When addressing climate-driven effects, farmers' adaptation strategies are dependent on a variety of factors. In this research brief East African Scholar Fikeremaryam Birara analyzes the determinants of these adaptation decisions made by sheep and goat producers in the Southern and Central Tigray Zones of Ethiopia. Responses from three hundred and eighteen sample households were analyzed to determine what strategies were most commonly used and where gaps and needs remain.

Congratulations to the Livestock Innovation Lab's Innovator of the Month!



Congratulations to our August Innovator of the Month Habtamu Tassew Tarekegn! A current East African Scholar, Habtamu has been studying camel brucellosis and its public health and economic impact on pastoralists. To learn more about Habtamu, his challenges in the field, goals, and advice click [here](#).

Funding & Fellowship Opportunities

[Monsanto Fund: Grants to Strengthen Farming Communities 2015](#)

Deadline: 31 August, 2015

The Monsanto Fund makes grants in support of agricultural communities around the world. Grants of US\$25 thousand and more are available to tax-exempt charitable organizations for activities and projects that address farmers' education and training; food security; community water and sanitation; and other local needs. Monsanto's international grants are administered at the country level; interested persons should contact the Fund's national liaison. Monsanto accepts international applications during two periods each year

[Institute of Current World Affairs: Fellowships 2015-2016](#)

Deadline: 1 September, 2015

The ICWA makes grants to support Fellows who carry out self-designed independent studies for a minimum of two years in the developing world. U.S. citizenship is not a requirement, but candidates must show strong and credible ties to U.S. society. Areas of particular interest to ICWA include the Arab Middle East and Southeast Asia (especially Indonesia), but candidates may seek fellowships in any country. Among the fellowship categories, the "Forest and Society" fellowships explore the relationship of forest resources to the complex of human factors bearing on their conservation and management

[Acumen Fund: India Fellows Program 2016](#)

Deadline: 1 September, 2015

The Acumen Fund promotes the power of social innovation to create solutions to the world's most pressing problems. Past fellows have included several in smallholder agriculture, renewable energy, waste management, fair trade, and other areas. The Fund administers a program for India.

[Acumen Fund: Pakistan Fellows Program 2016](#)

Deadline: 1 September, 2015

The Acumen Fund seeks to harness the power of social innovation to create solutions to the world's most pressing problems. Past fellows have included several in smallholder agriculture, renewable energy, waste management, fair trade, and other areas. The Fund administers a program for Pakistan.

[Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs: Grants for Development Research 2016](#)

Deadline: 4 September, 2015

Through the Danish Fellowship Center, Denmark's Ministry of Foreign Affairs announces funding in support of development research. Applicants in Denmark choose "North Driven" for research and capacity building in the priority countries of Danish international assistance. Applicants in Ghana, Nepal, and Tanzania choose "South Driven." Themes in "South Driven" include climate-smart agriculture and environmentally sustainable solutions, among others.

[IDEX Accelerator: Global Fellows Program](#)

Deadline: 15 September, 2015

IDEX invites applications worldwide for its Global Fellows Program. The program provides six months of leadership training in enterprise development, including field placements at social enterprises in India. Candidates should be 21 to 35 years old, with a minimum of one to three years of professional work experience. IDEX offers a limited number of full and partial scholarships to select candidates.

[Tinker Foundation: Sustainable Resource Management in Latin America](#)

Deadline: 15 September, 2015

Tinker's program of Institutional Grants supports the theme of sustainable resource management (among others) in Latin America. Particular issues of interest include sustainable agriculture, sustainable forestry and non-timber forest products, sustainable tourism, fisheries management, and payment for environmental services. Tinker is also very interested in issues of water scarcity and quality for communities. The Foundation encourages project collaboration among organizations in the USA and Latin America. Tinker invites brief letters of inquiry to the Foundation before proposals are prepared and submitted.

[Zayed International Prize for the Environment: US\\$1 Million for Environmental Leadership and Science](#)

Deadline: 30 September, 2015

The Zayed International Prize for the Environment offers cash prizes that total US\$1 million to recognize and promote pioneering contributions in environment and sustainable development. The prizes are open to individuals, organizations, and partnerships worldwide in four categories: global leadership in environment and sustainable development; scientific/technical achievements in environment; environmental action leading to positive change in society; and the young scientists award for environmental sustainability.

[International Plant Nutrition Institute \(IPNI\): IPNI Science Award 2015](#)

Deadline: 30 September, 2015

The IPNI Science Award is presented each year to an agricultural scientist for outstanding achievements in research, extension, or education focusing on management of plant nutrients. Eligibility for nominations extends to agronomists, crop scientists, and soil scientists worldwide. The recipient receives a plaque and US\$5 thousand.

[USAID Research and Innovation Fellowship Programs](#)

Deadline: Varies, Contact Program Opportunities for More Information

USAID's Research and Innovation Fellowships Program places promising talent from U.S. institutions with host organizations in developing countries to help tackle development challenges and engage in cutting-edge research and innovation. The RI Fellows program invites all HESN Labs to take a look at the catalog containing over 400 host opportunities in these countries. Students can peruse the catalog for opportunities that align with their experience and interests, and contact the host point of contact to discuss a collaboration lasting between 2 and 12 months. If students are successful and choose a project, please notify the RI Fellows program in order to be connected to the broader network of Fellows and hosts by emailing rifellowships@usaid.gov. The RI Fellows program will not be able to fund HESN students to engage in these projects, but strongly encourages students to establish collaborations and seek funding through their university and lab. For more information, visit the Step-by-Step Instructions for how to make a match with a host and how to apply.