



Research and Impact Communiqué

December 3, 2014

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

Project Impacts



[Project Takes Next Step in Development of Medicated Feed Blocks to Combat Climate Change's Effects on Kenyan Pastoralists](#)

East African Scholar Dr. Margaret Syomiti has moved one step closer to distribution of her medicated livestock feed blocks to Kenyan pastoralists struggling with the effects of climate change. Dr. Syomiti has begun the next step in commercial development—feeding trials. Results of these tests should allow for distribution of the medicated feed blocks to farmers in the near future.

Capacity Building

In October, Livestock Innovation Lab researchers reported capacity building activities that included **469** students, researchers, and NGO representatives



[Researcher Attends International Climate Conference to Present His Latest Work](#)

Small Earth Nepal (SEN) coordinator and Co-investigator for Livestock Innovation Lab Jeeban Panthi spent the first two weeks in November traveling through the United States—making stops in Washington DC, New York, Rhode Island, and Colorado. Awarded a travel fellowship from the organizing committee of the *Second International Conference on Evaluating Climate and Development*, Panthi presented his climate change research to over two-hundred fellow investigators and evaluators.



Small Earth Nepal Trains Livestock Smallholders in Fodder and Livestock Management

Small Earth Nepal (SEN) is an NGO providing education and programs to promote sustainable lifestyles and reduce adverse impacts on the environment in Nepal. SEN has teamed up with Colorado State's Livestock Innovation Lab to provide community-level training on livestock management throughout Nepal. Four SEN trainers hosted a total of fourteen training sessions educating eighty-seven farmers on improved feeding, management, and disease control in livestock to combat climate change.



Approaches to Capacity Building and Youth Promotion in Agriculture Presented at Annual Meeting

Deputy director Dr. Katie Steneroden represented Colorado State's Innovation Lab at the annual public Board for International Food and Agricultural Development and at the pre-World Food Prize Event. Seventeen presentations on human and institutional capacity building from twenty-four speakers were given over the two day event, providing increased knowledge and future contacts for CSU's Livestock Innovation Lab.



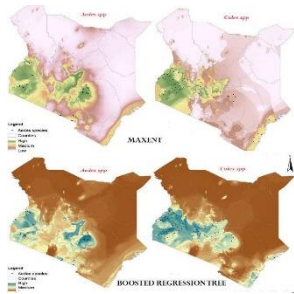
Land Management Techniques Show Promise in Restoring Grazing Lands in the Borana Plateau

Lead investigator for the project *Sustainable Pastoralism on the Borana Plateau: An Innovation Systems Approach*, Dr. Layne Coppock of Utah State University traveled to Addis Ababa and the Borana plateau to present on and evaluate the success of the project. The project has successfully restored sustainability and productivity to experimental Borana grazing sites through the use of GIS monitoring and innovative land management techniques, showing promise for the pastoralists and farmers that depend on the vitality of the Borana Plateau.



Innovation Lab's East African Scholars Presented Their Findings at the 6th All African Conference on Animal Agriculture

Thirteen East African Scholars presented their project findings at the Livestock Innovation Lab conference and the All African Conference on Animal Agriculture. Ranging from gender roles in pastoral households to Brucellosis in camels, the scholars' research and accomplishments were presented to researchers, policy makers, entrepreneurs, and other stakeholders. An Innovation Lab hosted publishing workshop provided future research scholars with critical skills necessary to publish their research findings.



[Ecological Niche Modeling Workshop Provides New Tool to Combat Disease Spread Due to Climate Change](#)

Dr. Marko Opiyo Nanyingi of the University of Nairobi developed a new approach to characterize the increasing spread of diseases due to climate change at the workshop *Ecological Niche Modelling and Species Distribution Modelling for Vector Borne Disease* at the International Livestock Research Institute in Kenya. Applied to Rift Valley fever, ecological niche modeling was used to not only map current and past disease trends, but also predict future RVF outbreaks.

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



Margaret Syomiti was selected as an East Africa Scholar in 2013 and has done amazing work since in the development of alternative livestock feeds for climate change adaptation in Kenya. A researcher at the Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization and PhD student and lecturer at Egerton University, Margaret has brought her compassion and intelligence to all her work. From presenting at a United Nations' conference to editing an internationally published book, Margaret's successes have been well earned. Margaret's interview for Innovator of the Month provides an inside look into her life, hobbies, family, and what nicknames her students give her. Read her full interview [here](#).

Conferences and Workshops



[Seminar on Building Climate Resiliency of Livestock Smallholders in Nepal Hosted by CSU](#)

Jeeban Panthi, research coordinator at the NGO *Small Earth Nepal*, and Dr. Ajay Jha, assistant professor at CSU, co-presented the seminar *Building Climate Resiliency of Livestock Smallholders in the Gandaki River Basin of the Nepal Himalayas*. Held on November 11 at the CSU campus, the presentation showed how integration of hydrology and horticulture with farmer-friendly communications could assist livestock smallholders in building sustainable adaptations to climate change.

Funding & Fellowship Opportunities

[East-West Center: Asia Pacific Leadership Program 2015-2016](#)

Deadline: 15 December 2014

The APLP invites professionals from Asia-Pacific countries to apply for a 9-month program of leadership training and professional development on emerging issues facing the Asia-Pacific region. Inter-disciplinary interests at the East-West Center include climate change, land use, water and energy demands, etc., -- among other social and environmental themes. Fellowships of US\$15 thousand cover the majority of costs. Applicants who request funding should complete their applications by the priority deadline of 01 December 2014 (extended to 15 December 2014).

[Future Earth: Young Scientist Networking Conference](#)

Deadline: 22 December 2014

The International Council for Science, International Social Science Council, and the German Research Foundation will support post-doctoral researchers to participate in a conference on integrating the social and natural sciences for future sustainability. The conference will bring together senior and leading scientists and researchers with a diversity of perspectives to identify priority questions for future research on the topic of "Future Sustainability - The role of Science in the Sustainable Development Goals." The conference will be held at Lake Como in May 2015

[UNESCO: Keizo Obuchi Research Fellowships Program](#)

Deadline: 26 December 2014

With funding from the government of Japan, UNESCO announces the current cycle of the Keizo Obuchi Research Fellowships. The program is open to post-graduate researchers no older than age 40 who wish to pursue research work abroad (preferably in their own region) in any of four specific fields. These fields include environment -- with particular emphasis on water sciences, water issues, climate change, and engineering capacity building. Applications are invited from eligible countries in Africa, the Arab States, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Eastern Europe and Eurasia. Priority is for women candidates, candidates from least-developed countries, and candidates from Africa. Grants are a maximum of US\$10 thousand.

[African Climate Change Fellowships Program \(ACCFP\): Call for Applications 2014-2015](#)

Deadline: 31 December 2014

The African Climate Change Fellowships Program is jointly supported by Canada's International Development Research Center, the Institute of Resource Assessment at the University of Dar Es Salaam, and START. It offers experiential learning, education, and training opportunities for African educators and graduate students on the subject of climate change adaptation in Africa. The ACCFP invites applications for three types of fellowships. The deadline applications may be in French or English.

[International Foundation for Science \(IFS\): Research Grants for Individuals](#)

Deadline: 31 December 2014

The International Foundation for Science invites early-career scientists in eligible developing countries to apply for the IFS Individual Research Grants. Themes of the call are: (i) Biological resources in terrestrial systems; (ii) Water and aquatic resources; and (iii) Food security, dietary diversity, and healthy livelihoods. Eligibility for funding extends to researchers in low and lower-middle income countries (IFS provides a list). Applicants must be attached to a national research institute or university. Grants are up to US\$12 thousand for one to three years.

[Orskov Foundation: Training for University Students in Agricultural Studies](#)

Deadline: 31 December 2014

Orskov makes grants to support animal agriculture in developing countries, including for agricultural studies related to poverty alleviation and environmental sustainability. Grants up to £2,500 support the costs of training at a university or similar organization other than the university/college in which the applicant is registered. Applications are invited from individuals in lower-income and lower middle-income countries. The application period is 01 October through 31 December of each year.

[U.S. National Academy of Sciences: Partnerships for Enhanced Engagement in Research \(PEER\)](#)

Deadline: 9 January 2014

PEER brings together the U.S. Agency for International Development with other agencies of the U.S. government to address critical challenges in international development. PEER invites scientists in developing countries to work with U.S. collaborators in research and capacity building on priority topics defined by regions, countries, and subject areas. The subject areas are water resources, climate change, forests and biodiversity, wildlife conservation, and others. Applicants must be based at academic institutions, non-profit organizations, or government-managed research laboratories, centers, or institutes in eligible countries. Applicants need to have at least one research partner in the U.S. that has grant funding from the U.S. government. Grants will range from US\$40 thousand to US\$120 thousand per year for one to three years. The deadline for pre-proposals is 09 January 2015.

[Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation: Women and Girls at the Center of Development](#)

Deadline: 13 January 2014

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has launched a new Grand Challenge: Putting Women and Girls at the Center of Development. This challenge focuses on how to effectively reach and empower the most vulnerable women and girls to improve health and development. The Foundation is looking for solutions in thematic areas that include agricultural development, urban sanitation, and others. Grants will be made to researchers in low- and middle-income countries, and partnerships with colleagues in other countries is encouraged. The Foundation particularly welcomes applications from women-led organizations and projects. Two-year exploratory grants are up to US\$500 thousand. Full four-year grants are up to US\$2.5 million.