



Research and Impact Communiqué

June 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.

Update: Nepal Disaster Relief

Our partners are continuing to work on the ground in Nepal for disaster relief. Click on the links below for up to date information on relief efforts and to see how you can help support relief efforts in Nepal.



[Nepal Earthquake Relief and Information](#)

[How to Support the Relief Effort for Nepal Earthquake Survivors](#)

Activities of the Livestock Innovation Lab

Project Impacts



[How *Prosopis juliflora* Can Economically Reward Kenya's Pastoralists](#)

Pastoralism is the main economic activity of many rural communities in Kenya, but an invasion of *Prosopis juliflora* on the main grazing areas and elimination of pasture-land is threatening pastoral livelihoods. If unchecked, *Prosopis juliflora* has the potential to wipe out pastoralism in the near future. In this Research Brief, East African Scholar Margaret Syomiti explores how harvesting and marketing of *Prosopis juliflora* products as animal feed can turn this noxious weed into income for Kenyan pastoralists.



[Improved Feeding Management of Indigenous Chickens in Kenya](#)

Severe and prolonged droughts cause many Kenyan pastoral men to migrate with their livestock in search of pasture while women and children remain at sedentary watering points. Rearing indigenous chickens has emerged as an income diversifying strategy to improve rural livelihoods among settled women and children pastoralists. East African Scholar Qabale Diba explores methods to improve feeding management of indigenous chickens in semi-scavenging systems using local feeds.

Capacity Building

In May, Livestock Innovation Lab researchers reported capacity building activities that included 70 students, farmers, researchers, and NGO representatives



Farmer's Field Visits Connect Local Producers with Local Innovation

Robust amid climate change, buffalo production is a profitable livelihood for many of Nepal's rural poor. Expanding into growing markets, buffalo production has seen new innovations led by Nepal's farmers and government through buffalo production research sites. In an effort to learn from as well as share new knowledge, Livestock Innovation Lab researchers traveled to Nepal in February to bring together local farmers with local innovators.



Researchers Further Buffalo Micronutrient Study in Nepal

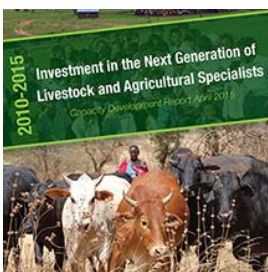
Buffalo are an important food and income source for many rural farmers in Nepal. In turn, with good buffalo nutrition comes good human nutrition as the micronutrients in soil pass from fodder to livestock to farmer. For healthy and productive buffalo, feed choice must be optimized. Livestock Innovation Lab researchers traveled to Nepal in March to provide training workshops, collect data, and visit research sites to study micronutrients in dairy cattle nutrition to help Nepal's farmers make the best feed decisions for their buffalo.

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



Congratulations to June's Innovator of the Month Renu Shakya! A research Scholar from Nepal with an undergraduate degree in microbiology and a graduate degree in psychology, Renu Shakya is working with the Livestock Innovation Lab to investigate an undiagnosed disease in yak of the Humla region and its links with climate change. A talented scholar with a lifelong passion for research, click [here](#) to learn more about how Renu is working to bring positive changes in animal health and human well-being.

2010-2015 Capacity Development Report



New Release: 2010-2015 Capacity Development Report

The Livestock Innovation Lab is pleased to announce the release of our 5-year Capacity Development Report! In the past 5 years we have supported a total of 67 degree students, conducted more than 70 research projects, reached over 2,500 farmers and 21,000 vulnerable rural households with our work. Download the report [here](#).

Funding & Fellowship Opportunities

[North Atlantic Treaty Organization \(NATO\): Science for Peace and Security](#)

Deadline: 1 July, 2015

NATO's support for research in peace and security includes aspects of environment and energy in relation to climate change, water scarcity, increasing energy needs, disaster forecasts, and prevention of natural catastrophes (among others). Applications are invited from researchers in NATO's member countries and its partner countries -- including several in East Europe, Eurasia, Central Asia, and the Mediterranean region.

[Conservation, Food, and Health Foundation: Funding for Grassroots Development](#)

Deadline: 1 July, 2015

The CFH Foundation makes grants to nonprofit organizations worldwide for projects in conservation, sustainable agriculture, and health in developing countries. The average grant is approximately US\$17 thousand. The deadlines for concept applications are 01 January and 01 July of each year.

[German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety \(BMU\): NAMA Funding for Low-Carbon Development](#)

Deadline: 15 July, 2015

Germany's BMU is a partner of the UK's Department of Energy and Climate Change in establishing the NAMA Facility to address climate change (promotion of Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions). The Facility announces its third call for project proposals from national governments and qualified delivery organizations in developing and emerging economies. The NAMA Facility is open to fund NAMAs across a range of countries and sectors.

[Agropolis Foundation: Training and Education in Agronomy for Sustainable Development 2015](#)

Deadline: 17 July, 2015

The Agropolis Foundation in France engages in research on food and crop systems in the world's North and South. The present call for proposals will fund training and higher education in the theme "agronomy for sustainable development." The lead proponent should be from a research unit belonging to the Foundation's scientific network (Labex Agro). Qualified individuals from outside of the network can participate as partners. The Foundation will provide up to €1 million for four categories of projects: full projects; "Ecole Chercheur"; exploratory and pre-feasibility projects; and proposal development for submission to international funding sources. The announcement explains each category.

[Comic Relief: International Grants Fund-Generating Ideas](#)

Deadline: 22 July, 2015

Comic Relief makes grants to address the root causes of poverty and injustice, with emphasis on Sub-Saharan Africa. Among other issues that aim for stronger and fairer development, Comic Relief identifies the need for adequate water and sanitation, and ways to cope with environmental risks and shocks. Applications for funding are invited from qualified UK-registered charities.

**[Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture \(SEARCA\):
Research and Training in Food Security](#)**

Deadline: 1 August, 2015

The Seed Fund for Research and Training (SFRT) is open to individuals in ASEAN member countries for competitive grants up to US\$15 thousand in research and training related to agriculture and rural development.

[Fulbright Scholar Program: Core Program for US Faculty and Professionals 2016-2017](#)

Deadline: 3 August, 2015

The Fulbright Scholar Program invites applications from U.S. scholars for research, teaching, and creative arts in an international context. Eligibility criteria include U.S. citizenship and a PhD or equivalent professional degree. The available openings include several in the developing world in subjects related to agriculture, environmental and biological sciences, geography, and others.

[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

[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.