

Livestock for Growth

Project Overview

The Livestock for Growth (L4G) project is improving the quality and profitability of livestock production (cattle, sheep, and goats), expanding market access and incentives, and including poorer households in value chain development. L4G targets herders and small producers, particularly female producers, who do not have reliable access to inputs or financial services and are largely isolated from markets and training programs due to cultural norms. Working closely with local partners, staff train *mandataires* (private sector animal health providers) to educate farmers on improved practices; build relationships between buyers and sellers; conduct awareness campaigns on good nutrition behaviors; and work with livestock cooperatives to create resource management plans to better manage pastureland and water. These activities will help the livestock sector become more competitive and contribute to increased agricultural GDP and economic growth. A strong agricultural sector is necessary for Mali to grow, and helping small producers and women will help the country as a whole.

L4G focuses on the livestock production and trading center of Mopti, working in 210 villages in 21 communes in the surrounding Bankass and Koro *cercles*.

Project Goals

Over the 5-year, 2015-2020, life of project, L4G will:

- Work with over **33,000 vulnerable households** to improve their livestock management practices and build their livelihoods.
- Encourage **85,000 pastoralists and farmers** to adopt new agricultural technologies and management practices, including animal health improvements, better pasture land management, and fodder production.
- Leverage **\$2.5 million in new direct investment** in the livestock sector.

L4G and USAID/Mali's Strategy

USAID/Mali's Accelerated Economic Growth Office supports the Feed the Future Presidential Initiative as part of the Prosperity Development Objective (DO) under USAID/Mali's Country Development Cooperation Strategy. The goal of the Prosperity DO is to advance the socio-economic wellbeing of all Malians. The agriculture sector employs 80% of the workforce and accounts for 34% of GDP and thus plays a large role in Malian's socio-economic wellbeing. USAID/Mali's Feed the Future strategy focuses on three key agricultural value chains: millet/sorghum, rice, and livestock. L4G is our flagship program for the livestock value chain, while the Cereal Value Chain activity works on millet, sorghum, and rice.



L4G strives to help local herders have healthier, fatter animals that will get better prices in markets.



L4G promotes better water & pastureland management techniques, including contour bunds - rock walls precisely laid out on the contour that can be used to harvest water to improve rainy season production of field crops and forages



L4G helps women expand cultivation of Moringa. This nutritious tree has double benefits as both animal fodder and human food.

For More Information:

Web: www.usaid.gov/mali · Phone: +223.2070.2300 · Email: Bamakoinfo@usaid.gov · Twitter: @USAIDMali

Contact: Yacouba Santara (USAID) · Tel: 2070-2712 · Email: ysantara@usaid.gov

Thomas Gardiner (Chief of Partv) · Tel: (223) 9486-1944 · Email: tgardiner@acom.com