

INTERNATIONAL LIVESTOCK RESEARCH INSTITUTE (ILRI)

ImGoats
Mozambique National Steering Committee
Report of the third meeting

Vilanculos, Mozambique

August 26-28, 2012



Small ruminant value chains to reduce poverty and increase food security in India and Mozambique



1. Background

The goal of the “Small ruminant value chains as platforms for reducing poverty and increasing food security in dryland areas of India and Mozambique (imGoats)” project is to increase incomes and food security in a sustainable manner by enhancing pro-poor small ruminant value chains in India and Mozambique. The project proposes to transform goat production and marketing from the current ad hoc, risky, informal activity to a sound and profitable enterprise and model that taps into a growing market, largely controlled by and benefiting women and other disadvantaged and vulnerable groups; while preserving the natural resource base.

The specific objectives of the project are two:

1. To pilot sustainable and replicable organizational and technical models to strengthen goat value chains in India and Mozambique that increase incomes, reduce vulnerability and enhance welfare amongst marginalized groups, including women; and
2. To document, communicate and promote appropriate evidence-based model(s) for sustainable, pro-poor goat value chains.

The project is being implemented by CARE in Mozambique, while the overall leadership and co-ordination of the project is done by the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI). In each project country there is a national steering committee whose role is as follows:

1. To provide strategic guidance to the project at critical times;
2. To identify key linkages with other organizations/projects involved in similar efforts to share experiences and lessons and;
3. To help disseminate/communicate lessons from the project and facilitate scaling up and out.

It was agreed during the second meeting of the national steering committee (NSC) in February 2012 that the next meeting should be held in Inhassoro to allow for a field visit. This report provides an account of the third meeting of the imGoats Mozambique National Steering Committee and the related field visit.

2. Process

On Monday August 27th, the team visited two of the project locations in Inhassoro district: Chimajane and Vuca Interior. The district administrator had been informed about the visit and the Director of the District Services for Economic Activities (SDAE) had been invited to join the visit but he was unavailable.

On Tuesday August 28th the third imGoats Mozambique National Steering Committee meeting was held from 08.30 to 12:00 in Vilanculos. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture at central and provincial levels, IFAD, CARE and ILRI. The representative from USAID had sent apologies. The list of participants and their contact details are provided in Annex 1. The agenda for the meeting was as follows:

- Feedback on the field visit
- Preparation for the EC-IFAD evaluation mission in September 2012

- Update on most important project activities.

Ten days before the trip, the NSC members were provided with the report on the project activities for the reporting period January to July 2012 as well as the Research brief that summarized the baseline findings.



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3. Field visit

The team left for Inhassoro district at 07.30 and arrived about 09.00. The first stop was in Chimajane where the team visited the improved kraal from Mrs Tamina Sabonete Matsome , who is a model livestock keeper, that has been constructed near the communal grazing area. This was the first shelter that was constructed as part of the project based on ILRI experience in other parts of Mozambique. The shelter is already in use but there is a concern about the flooring which has gaps that are a bit too wide and therefore the animals get their hoofs stuck sometimes, especially the small ones. This will be addressed and will be avoided in the other shelters that are constructed. Also the height of the floor should be higher since in the current case it might be a bit difficult to remove the droppings.

Mrs Tamina Sabonete Matsome mentioned that the animals had no problems getting used to the shelter but she had placed water close to the entrance as an incentive for the animals to return in the afternoon. At the moment she has 24 animals of which are 11 bucks. She intends to sell 6 during the festive period in December. The other bucks are still too small/young.



Figure1: NSC members talk with model farmer



Figure 2: Weighting of kids



Figure 3: Improved goat shelter

During the visit the paravet from Chimajane, treated the animals against external parasites. He also demonstrated the use of the weight scale using a halter that was given by the BAIF colleagues from Udaipur during the imGoats’ workshop in July 2012. These halters will be replicated so that all paravets will have one. The project will also make larger ones for the adult animals.

From Chimajane the team travelled to Vuca interior where the communal grazing area was visited and the treatment facility and improved shelter from Mr Matsinhe, a model livestock keeper. When we arrived, the paravet Mr Vitorino Jonas Jovo was treating the animals against external parasites using the

treatment corridor. The shelter is very large because it is meant to accommodate animals from 3 goat keepers. The shelter was very well built (although not finished yet). Mr Matsinhe explained that he now has more than 50 animals and the number will increase further. For December he is planning to sell over 30 animals. The biggest constraint in this area is the access to water. He brings 2x20l jerry cans per day to the grazing area (about 5 Km from his homestead) but this is not enough and the younger/weaker animals may not get enough water. Unfortunately the groundwater level is too deep which would make opening a well very expensive. Dr Zefanias (SPP) suggested that the goat keepers group should apply for funds that are available at the district level (Fundo de Desenvolvimento Distrital, FDD). The loan could be to purchase some heads of cattle and a cart to transport the water from the village to the grazing area. The cart could also be used to transport other things for payment. Since there is a clear need for the transport service there shouldn't be a problem in re-paying the loan although it will require certain level of organization from the group.



Figure 4: Paravet treating animals



Figure 5: lateral view of shelter (unfinished)



Figure 6: Paravet with bicycle and treatment kit

The team had lunch in Vuca Interior, close to the grazing area. There was an opportunity to interact with the secretariat of the Innovation Platform: President: Mr João Macie Nhiuane (also paravet in Nhapele), vice-President: Mrs Ivone Cacilda Titoué from the District Services for Economic Activities (SDAE) and Mr Daniel Jose Cerveja, who is the councillor.

The team left for Vilanculos around 15.00h.

In the evening CARE Country Director, Dr Rene Celaya hosted a dinner for the NSC members.

4. Meeting

The meeting started at 08.30 with some opening remarks from Saskia Hendrickx.

Comments on the field visit

The members were impressed with the level of knowledge from the *model farmer* but also *paravets* and imGoats staff. From the answers it was clear that the extension officers are doing well in getting the main messages across regarding alternative management practices.

The paravets mentioned that access to drugs had not been a problem as of yet, there is a retailer in Mangungumete. If needed, a colleague can also offer assistance. As for payments: these are already happening, sometimes on credit, the paravet will write it down. In some situations the other members of the producer group pay for the member that can't pay at that moment and the debt remains in the group and the paravet doesn't lose out. It will be important for paravets to be able to renegotiate the price of treatments as the price of veterinary medicines increases.

The **production parameter tool** was reviewed and it was agreed that this information is very important to document the changes in mortality that the goat keepers are already reporting. To really demonstrate that the project interventions are having the desired effect this information needs to be collected in a systematic and ongoing manner over a longer period of time.

It was also suggested that the extension officers should introduce the production parameter tool to the 5 model farmers (3 men and 2 women) rather than the paravet doing it for them. When discussing the production parameter tool regarding the herd composition, Dr Hele mentioned that discussions are ongoing at the Ministry to introduce a herd identification booklet (caderneta) for goats. Right now goats are included in the booklet for cattle but there are a lot of livestock keepers that do not own cattle and therefore the animals owned by this group are not enter into the national statistics.

As for the **improved shelters**: it was noted that the first shelter visited needs some improvements regarding the flooring. They should also construct a treatment corridor near the grazing area in Chimajane. This will happen in the next weeks. It was suggested to come up with an overview of the real cost of the shelter, including labour and materials used apart from the around 600MTN that the project contributed with wire and nails.

Access to water in Vuca interior was mentioned again and the possible solutions to this problem. Saskia suggested that during the refresher training course for the paravets in October 2012 a session could be dedicated to developing a draft proposal to submit to the FDD. Dr Zefanias will share a model that has been successfully used in Inharrime (another district in Inhambane province). Saskia suggested that Dr Zefanias should also present the possibility of the FDD funding and how the paravets can assist the communities obtaining these funds at the IP meeting planned for October.

Different options for **castration** were also discussed. The project wants to buy elastrators but the Dr Libombo and others suggested the small Burdizzo's. Saskia will look into this but she has not heard of good results of the use of the Burdizzo in goats.

Regarding the **innovation platform (IP)**: It was felt that the explanation given by the IP secretariat was too limited and it was suggested that this should be improved for the EC/IFAD evaluation mission (see below). There was some discussion on the sustainability of the IPs how to possibly overcome the challenges. The fact that for the last meeting the participants paid for the transport themselves was a good first step but the project needs to make sure that this will also happen for the next IP meeting in October. In addition, during the last meeting it had been decided that the IP meeting should be held at a central location that is reachable by public transport ("chapa") rather than in different, more remote villages.

Regarding the *goat fairs* it was suggested to engage better with Radio Mozambique and community radio stations in announcing the event with some background information. It was also suggested that Mr Matsinhe, who owns the abattoir outside Vilanculos, should be invited to the fairs.

Preparation for the EC/IFAD evaluation mission

Saskia explained the purpose of the EC/IFAD evaluation mission on 17-19 September 2012. The agenda for the field day (18 September) was discussed and some suggestions for improvement made. Dr Libombo suggested starting the visit with a courtesy call to the SDAE in Inhassoro. This point was considered but given that the team will only be in the field for one day it would be more practical to invite the SDAE director to join the field visit or perhaps meet the team in Chimajane where they will have lunch.

It was suggested that the project beneficiaries should be encouraged to talk more; the team will be interested in hearing first-hand information.

Saskia explained that the evaluation mission will ask about the involvement of National Agricultural Research Centre. This was not included in the project design but in both countries these institutions are part of the National Steering Committee (although there was no representative of Agricultural Research Institute of Mozambique IIAM at this meeting). In India, a representative of the Central Institute for Research on Goats is part of the National Advisory Committee.

Interest in the imGoats project

IFAD is interested in the imGoats project for its activities both in India and Mozambique:

Ramkumar Bendapudi has participated in various meetings regarding the [MPOWER](#) project in Rajasthan. Two senior ILRI staff members were part of an IFAD project development mission in Mozambique that looked into a large project in Southern Mozambique (Maputo, Gaza and Inhambane) targeting 3 value chains: cassava, horticulture and ruminants. The project entitled PROSUL was recently approved and is expected to start in January 2013. Lessons learned from the imGoats project will be considered for this project. There will be 6 million USD available for the livestock component.

The International Goat Association (IGA) has requested that imGoats be one of their case studies in an IFAD funded project looking into identifying key factors for the success of development strategies for improving the livelihood of goat keepers in pro-poor countries. In June 2012, Ramkumar Bendapudi (imGoats India coordinator) participated in a project meeting in Rome, Italy.

In addition, in Mozambique:

Oxfam International has recently been awarded funds for a small livestock project in Funhalouro district (Inhambane province) and in Chibugo district (Gaza province). They would like to follow the approach of the imGoats project although given the short project duration (1 year for the moment) they may opt for not working through an innovation platform approach.

Heifer International South-Africa would like to visit the project site in Inhassoro to learn from our approach. This visit is scheduled for the last quarter of 2012.

SNV (Dutch Development Cooperation) in Mozambique is interested in working with ILRI on goats and is interested in finding out more about the imGoats project. Follow up discussions are planned for early September 2012.

Two international NGOs working in the Vilanculos: CCS and German Agrarian Action have expressed interest in the imGoats project and could perhaps require the services of the paravets trained by imGoats for their beneficiaries in the future. No concrete agreements have been made at this stage since it was decided that the imGoats project staff needs to focus on the project activities in the next months.

Research within imGoats

Saskia gave an overview of the expected publications as part of the project and the students involved. Articles on the following topics are planned:

1. Value of Outcome Mapping in Research for Development projects
2. Innovation Platform process and outcomes
3. Goat productions systems in Rajasthan, India (exact topic to be determined)
4. Reasons for goat keeping and commercialization in Inhassoro, Mozambique
5. Gender analysis in goat value chain in Inhassoro, Mozambique
6. Animal health interventions in Rajasthan (India) and related implication on current government strategy.
7. System Dynamics modelling for the goat sector in Mozambique (in collaboration with the Karl Rich from the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs).

Papers in Conference proceedings:

“Application of innovation systems approach to goat meat value chain in India – Challenges and Opportunities” R. Bendapudi, R. Puskur and S. Hendrickx; XI International Conference on Goats (ICG 2012), September 2012.

Theses (3)

1. BSc at Van Hall Larenstein University part of Wageningen University, The Netherlands. “Improving Goat health in rural areas: Issues and options - District of Dumka: Jharkhand, India” Abilasha Olsen.

2. MSc at Wageningen University, The Netherlands – Chair group of Animal Production Systems. “Creation of communal grazing areas for goats in southern Mozambique: future perspectives” Yvane Marble.
3. Planned: MSc at Wageningen University, The Netherlands. Working title: Hub Formation in Strengthening Goat value chains and collective action In India (imGoats project) Udaipur, Rajasthan

In addition, a student from the University of Eduardo Mondlane – Rural Communication based in Vilanculos will carry out a small study looking into consumer preferences at Vilanculos and Inhassoro level. This work is ongoing.

5. Next steps

It is not clear at this stage if there will be a no-cost extension of the project or not, hence the team is working hard to finish all activities by December 2012.

No date for the next NSC meeting was set since its occurrence will depend on whether the project gets a no-cost extension or not.

Annex 1

List of participants

Nr	Name	Title and Affiliation	Email address
1	José Libombo Junior	Deputy Director of the National Veterinary Services - - Ministry of Agriculture	jlibombojr@yahoo.com.br
2	Ilidio Hele	Head Animal Production Department - Ministry of Agriculture	ilidiohele@gmail.com
3	Vicente Zefanias	Head of Provincial Livestock Services (SPP) Inhambane Province – Ministry of Agriculture	vicentezefanias@yahoo.com.br
4	Custódio Mucavele	Country officer, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	c.mucavel@ifad.org
5	Helena Cikanda	Project Manager Sustainable Effective Economic Development (SEED) – CARE Mozambique	hcikanda@carevila.org.mz
6	Michaela Cosijn	Technical advisor	Michaela.cosijn@gmail.com
7	Siboniso Moyo	Representative for Southern Africa for the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)	s.moyo@cgiar.org
8	Saskia Hendrickx	ILRI's Country Coordinator for Mozambique	s.hendrickx@cgiar.org

