

MALI LIVESTOCK FOR GROWTH

The Livestock for Growth (L4G) livestock value chain activity is a \$14.9 million award funded by USAID/Mali under the Feed the Future (FTF) Presidential Initiative, which harmonizes hunger- and poverty-fighting efforts in countries with chronic food insecurity and poverty. Focusing on Mali's livestock sector – specifically cattle, sheep, and goats – the L4G project promotes inclusive and equitable agricultural sector growth through increased value chain integration and competitiveness, which will lead to broad-based economic growth.



L4G strives to help local herders have healthier, fatter animals that will get a better price in the market. Photo credit: USAID

Intervention Approach

The Livestock for Growth project aims to improve the quality and value of livestock production, expand market access and incentives, and include poorer households in value chain development. L4G targets herders and small producers who do not have reliable access to inputs or financial services, particularly female producers, who are largely isolated from markets and training programs due to cultural norms. Working closely with local partners, staff train private sector animal health providers to educate farmers on improved practices; link buyers and sellers to build market relationships; 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 centers of Mopti, working in 260 villages in 28 communes in the surrounding Bankass, Bandiagara, Mopti, Djenne, and Koro circles.

L4G Goals

Over the 5-year, 2014-2019, life of project, L4G will:

- Work with more than 48,000 vulnerable households to improve their livestock management practices and build their livelihoods;
- Encourage 135,000 pastoralists and farmers to adopt new agricultural technologies and management practices, including animal health improvements, better pasture land management, and fodder production;
- Leverage \$4 million in new direct investment in the livestock sector.

www.feedthefuture.gov

L4G & 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 under USAID/Mali's Country Development and Cooperation Strategy. The goal of the Prosperity Development Objective is to advance the socio-economic well-being of all Malians, and by employing 80 percent of the workforce and accounting for 34 percent of GDP, the agriculture sector does just that. USAID/Mali's Feed the Future strategy focuses on the three key agricultural value chains: millet/sorghum, rice, and livestock, while integrating across sectors to promote nutrition-sensitive agriculture and climate change adaptive practices. L4G is our flagship program for the livestock value chain, while the Cereal Value Chain (CVC) works on millet, sorghum, and rice.

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