

A young woman with a joyful expression is leaning against a large brown cow. She is wearing a vibrant red and white checkered wrap and a colorful beaded necklace. The background shows a natural outdoor setting with trees and a dirt path.

A.L.P.H.A. *

Sustainable livestock production and enhanced livelihoods in Sub-Saharan Africa

Executive Summary

*African Livestock Productivity and
Health Advancement Plus initiative

BILL & MELINDA
GATES *foundation*

Profitable and sustainable livestock production to benefit small-scale producers in Sub-Saharan Africa



This newly established agreement between Zoetis and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation will **aim at further developing and integrating innovative solutions to advance veterinary care and diagnostic services that will ultimately improve livestock health, productivity and food security in one of the most rapidly developing regions in the world.** The grant will help Zoetis to expand its original African Livestock Productivity and Health Advancement (A.L.P.H.A.) initiative in new markets, where

population growth and the need for sustainable protein source are the greatest – such as Kenya, Ivory Coast and other markets from East, West and Central Sub-Saharan Africa.

The A.L.P.H.A. Plus initiative will span from December 2022 to November 2027 with a \$15.3M grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates foundation focusing on the most impactful livestock species in the region: poultry, dairy and beef cattle, and aquaculture.



Access to an expanded veterinary products portfolio of medicines, vaccines and services is essential for nutrition and inclusive economy for two main reasons :

Improving food security in Sub-Saharan Africa

Sub-Saharan Africa has some of the highest human population growth rates in the world with **up to a five-fold increase in population expected** in a number of Sub-Saharan African countries by 2100¹. Nigeria's population is set to outgrow the United States by 2050 and become the third most populous country in the world¹.

Livestock production on smallholder farms (<5 hectares) is the most prevalent form of agriculture globally and produces over half of the world's protein supply¹. Yet countries with large numbers of these farms are also home to half of the world's undernourished population, with the majority of people living in absolute poverty².

Focusing on Gender

As women play a very important role in the region's smallholder farms, **A.L.P.H.A. Plus will work to ensure gender balance and inclusion of women in all trainings** to transform the livestock sector for wider societal impact. Zoetis is committed to aiming for equal gender participation in our educational programs through development of female-led targeted training courses in collaboration with local partners.

Sources: 1) FAO stat 2019. 2) Fertility, mortality, migration, and population scenarios for 195 countries and territories from 2017 to 2100: a forecasting analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study Published Online, Lancet, July 14, 2020, [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(20\)30677-2](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(20)30677-2).



Part of Zoetis' « Driven to Care » long-term sustainability commitments, the new five-year African Livestock Productivity and Health Advancement Plus (A.L.P.H.A. Plus) initiative aims to improve livestock health and food security – focusing on production of dairy and beef cattle, poultry and aquaculture in Ethiopia, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda, and extending to additional markets in East, West and Central Sub-Saharan Africa.

The A.L.P.H.A. Plus initiative aims to make significant progress against three major areas over the next five-years:



1 Increased access to an expanded portfolio of quality veterinary medicines, vaccines and services

Access to high-quality veterinary products is essential for safeguarding nutrition and ensuring an inclusive economy. Zoetis will increase the availability of innovative veterinary medicines, vaccines and services

to make a wider range of important quality animal health solutions available to veterinary professionals and small-scale producers.



2 Expand sustainable diagnostic services, with data-driven decision making

Diagnosing livestock diseases helps tackle key health issues in a responsible and sustainable manner. A.L.P.H.A. Plus will build upon learnings and available infrastructure from the original A.L.P.H.A. initiative, to expand the diagnostics

services offering and utilize data from an integrated farming information ecosystem to help recommend appropriate disease prevention and treatment measures to help empower local farming communities.



3 Scaling of the last mile service delivery network

A key learning from previous grant activities is that agro/drug shop outlets are an important intervention point for training and education, as it is the main point of contact where farmers buy veterinary products for their animals. It is also essential that the cold-chain is maintained until products reach the farmer to ensure improved animal health outcomes and sustainability. A.L.P.H.A. Plus shall therefore include development

of certified training courses and content for farmers and shop owners, and also invest in cold-chain improvement to help prevent temperature fluctuations damaging products due to frequent power supply issues. In addition, the supply of quality products to the “last mile” shall be strengthened through expansion of community vaccination schemes with fully trained vaccinators.

How will we get there?



**To achieve its goals,
the A.L.P.H.A. Plus team
will be tracking
against the following
fundamental
goals:**



- **Training and education**

The A.L.P.H.A. Plus initiative will seek to further animal health and farmers' livelihoods through enhanced training, with a target to train 100,000 livestock farming stakeholders by 2025 in collaboration with local and international partners.

- **Gender Intentional**

A.L.P.H.A. Plus will work to ensure inclusion of women in all trainings to transform the livestock sector for wider societal impact, targeting 50% overall gender-balance of women in training activities. We aim to achieve this through female-led training courses, optimally designed to maximize attendance and relevance for women.



• Digital Innovation

Leveraging digital applications to ensure timely and efficient data sharing between livestock stakeholders will be critical to enable data-driven decisions across the value-chain. Our vision is to create a 'Farming Information Ecosystem' platform that serves needs across the Continuum of Care, providing inclusive and digitally-enabled animal health information for meaningful animal health improvements.

• Outcomes Research

Quality strategic studies are planned to demonstrate the added value and ROI of disease interventions in target countries – particularly for the impact of vaccination and preventative care on farm productivity and resulting household economic improvements. The results shall be included in training materials and informational resources, completing a feedback loop to small-scale producers.



5-year initiative:

Dec 2022 – Nov 2027

Species Focus:



Cattle, Poultry, Fish



\$15.3M

GRANT

Anticipated A.L.P.H.A. Plus expansion:

7

new countries

A.L.P.H.A. Plus will focus on Ethiopia, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda and extend to Kenya, Ivory Coast and new markets in East, West and Central Sub-Saharan Africa.

