**Project Title:** Production and commercialization of molasses-urea feed blocks among dairy farmers in the HR1 counties

**Institute**  
Veterinary Research Institute

**Center(s)**  
KALRO Muguga North

**Principal Investigator**  
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**Other investigators**  
Martha Opondo;

**Problem Statement**  
In order to improve dairy productivity and household incomes in HR1 counties the project will train at least four farmers groups in Kisumu and Nandi counties on production of molasses-urea feed blocks, promote their utilization, produce 30,000 pieces and distribute them to selected farmers and evaluate the socio-economic benefits by end of November 2019

**Objective(s)**

1. Sensitization of farmers’ groups in two pilot counties in the HR1 region on the benefits of molasses-urea feed blocks in increasing dairy productivity.
2. Develop and refine the training manual for making molasses-urea feed blocks in suitable format while using locally available ingredients in the selected region.
3. Conduct the training of the identified groups on the making of the multi-nutrient molasses-urea feed blocks in selected the selected counties
4. Empower trained groups to produce quality feed blocks through branding, ensuring quality control and training on group dynamics
5. To produce a batch of 10,000 blocks for use in promotion through established outlets

**Planned Activities**

1. Hold sensitization meetings with county directors of livestock production in the selected counties and other relevant livestock stakeholders
2. Identify existing farmers groups in Kisumu and Nandi counties and select two per county
3. Sensitization of the identified groups’ members on the benefits of using molasses-urea feed blocks
4. Training of the identified groups on making and use of molasses-urea feed blocks
5. Empower trained groups to produce feed blocks by supplying them with initial materials
6. Produce 30,000 feed blocks
7. Testing feed blocks for nutritive content (including presence of mycotoxins)
8. Carry out on farm evaluation and cost benefit analysis
9. Linking up with other stakeholders to ensure sustainable supply of quality feed blocks.

**Outputs**

10,000 blocks produced and distributed to dairy farmers, nutritive value of feed blocks determined, information on factors affecting adoption of the technology determined and socio-economic impact on use of feed blocks on dairy farming households

**Outcomes**

Improved daily productivity in the HR1 counties and improved livelihoods among the smallholder dairy farmers

**Budget**  
9,015,470.00

**Start date**  
2016-11-01

**End date**  
2019-11-30

**Funded by**  
USAID;

**Collaborators**  
Kisumu County livestock officers; Nandi County livestock officers;