**Project Title:** Development and dissemination of proven feed rations for enhanced smallholder dairy production in Nyamira and Bungoma Counties in Kenya

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<th>Institute</th>
<th>Dairy Research Institute</th>
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<td>Center(s)</td>
<td>KALRO Naivasha</td>
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**Problem Statement**
The production of dairy products in the country fall short of demand and the deficit is likely to worsen if productivity of dairy cattle is not improved. Dairy feeds and feeding accounts for over 60% of cost of production and therefore the current national milk production level of about 5.5 litres per cow must be doubled in order to meet future demands for dairy enterprise to be competitive. Feeding of dairy cattle is sub-optimal because of the inadequate quantities of feeds offered and nutrient imbalances in rations fed.

**Objective(s)**
1. Formulate cost-effective, quality, environmentally sound and gender sensitive feed ration options for feeding dairy cattle during the wet and dry season in the target county
2. To recommend proven dairy ration options through on-station and on-farm animal feeding trials
3. To promote proven dairy ration options among stakeholders in target county

**Planned Activities**
1. To collect data on feed resources, feed formulation and challenges, and feed samples in target counties
2. To determine quality of dairy feed resources
3. Formulate and test wet and dry season dairy ration options
4. Disseminate proven dairy rations in target counties
5. Write and submit recommendations in technical report and scientific paper
6. Participate in scientific conferences, symposium, workshops and technical meetings

**Outputs**
1. Feed rations for feeding dairy cattle during wet and dry season, formulated, tested and recommended
2. Farmers and extension workers trained on feed formulation technology in target counties
3. Training manuals and leaflets, technical reports and scientific papers developed

**Outcomes**
1. Improved feeding of dairy cattle
2. Increased milk production
3. Improved household nutrition
4. Increased household income from milk sales

**Budget**
8,900,000.00

**Start date**
2017-11-01

**End date**
2019-10-31

**Funded by**
USAID;

**Collaborators**
Dairy farmer groups (youth, women); CBOs; NGOs; Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock & Fisheries; Dairy cooperatives; Small and Medium Scale Feed Manufacturers; KIRDI; Local Agricultural Universities;