



KCSAP COLLABORATIVE SEED SYSTEM RESEARCH GRANTS AWARDED SUMMARY PROPOSALS

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| Project No. & Title: | SS02/2/3: Parent stock livestock germplasm production, preservation and distribution. |
| Lead Institution: | Kenya Animal Genetic Resources Centre (KAGRC) |
| Project team leader: | Dr.David K.Kios Phd, HSC. |
| Project Team Members: | Paul Egesa, Jamlick Anampiu, James Mbuchu, Daniel Mwangi, Faith Aciita. Evans Ilatsia. |
| Main collaborators: | KALRO-Naivasha, ILRI, DVS, LRC, KLBA |
| Partners: | Makitosha farm, DGAK, Keyian farmers' coop. |
| Project Amount: | 18,665,032 |
| Project Duration: | July 2020 to Dec 2022. |

PROJECT SUMMARY

The productivity per livestock unit in pastoral areas remains low due to inappropriate breeding practices that includes inbreeding, genotype and environment mismatch and shortage of breeding livestock among other constraints. This project will work in five (5) target Counties to address those challenges by identifying existing climate -smart livestock breeds, produce and cryopreserve the germplasm from them and distribute to the farmers in selected Counties. Community based multipliers and private farmers will be recruited, trained and licensed to multiply the climate smart breeds and distribute the progenies to the producers.

Assisted reproductive technology of estrus synchronization will be used to hasten the production and availability of heifers, bucks and does for breeding. Sexed semen will also be used to hasten the availability of heifers. Embryos from bulls and bucks of superior genetic merit will be transferred to animals of recruited multipliers so as to open up the genetic pool of our climate smart breeds. That is hoped to contribute to increased access to diverse high yielding livestock for breeding by every household leading to improved productivity, food and nutrition security, income

generation, employment creation in the target counties. This will subsequently contribute to increased resilience of communities in the target Counties.

The project is hoped to run for two and half years from the date of inception and will work with the relevant stakeholders to achieve the project objectives.