



EUROPEAN UNION

Uganda Meat Producers Cooperative Union Ltd (UMPCU)



Cattle at the UMPCU's Livestock Resource Centre & Feedlot point in Butalangu, Nakaseke district

Uganda Meat Producers Cooperative Union Ltd (UMPCU) joins the rest of the world to celebrate Europe Day 9th May 2019. Uganda and the European Union have been in close partnership since 1975 when they entered the Cotonou Partnership Agreement (ACP-EU Cotonou Partnership). We acknowledge the European Union's continued contribution to development cooperation in different sectors in Uganda and the world over.

EU supports the development of the beef sector in Uganda

Under the 11th European Development Fund (11th EDF), the EU is funding the "Farmer Led Beef Livestock Investment and Sustainability Project" (FALBIS) which is implemented by the Uganda Meat Producers Cooperative Union Ltd. The agreement between the two parties was signed on 10th October 2018.

The EU contribution to FALBIS is Euro 1,500,000, with UMPCU members making an additional self-contribution of Euro 300,000, and has a time frame of 38 months. The direct beneficiaries of FALBIS are the member cooperative societies of UMPCU, which are mainly located within the cattle corridor districts of Uganda. The project is being executed in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) under the Market-Oriented and Environmentally Sustainable Beef Meat Industry in Uganda Project (MOBIP), also funded by the EU.

Livestock, especially cattle, are a source of multiple benefits for their keepers in Uganda; providing food, nutrition, economic stability and playing a part in their social/cultural traditions. FALBIS intends to leverage change in the beef value chain – cattle production and marketing systems - to reduce poverty and food insecurity levels amongst smallholders. Livestock also provides a safety net as a "bank on the hoof" and a strategy for economic

diversification and resilience.

For increased production, productivity and quality assurance

The overall impact of FALBIS is to support both the public and private sector with a focus on smallholder and beef related agribusinesses, to work together towards the promotion of an environmentally sustainable, climate resilient, low emission, local and regional meat industry. This should respect animal welfare practices, and be responsive to the different needs of women and men, mainly in terms of food security, nutrition and animal welfare.

UMPCU is privileged to be working as an EU partner for the development of the Beef sector in Uganda. During the first 6 months of implementation, UMPCU launched FALBIS on a member's farm in Nakasongola District with the Minister of State for Animal Industry being the Guest of Honour and with the EU Head of Development Cooperation also in attendance. UMPCU has also carried out a baseline survey for the project which highlighted among others:

- Limited benefits to members due to less investment at cooperative level
- Limited availability of public extension workers to support the farmers
- Main challenge of diseases, water and

pasture scarcity

These activities, together with the recruitment of additional staff, stocking of feedlots, distribution of inputs and the purchase of equipment, have set the foundation for an effective implementation of FALBIS through the rest of the project period.



Vet delivers inputs to UMPCU beneficiary farmer

In relation to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs), the planned interventions are a critical component of developing communities and enhancing the multi-functionality of the contribution of

livestock to poverty reduction and increasing incomes whilst sustaining the environment. This is achieved through the project focusing on;

- Increasing the market supplies of cattle to markets/abattoirs hence increasing food availability.
- Increasing the demand for labour and services (employment) by increasing the growth of the meat sector.

The EU and UMPCU purpose of implementing FALBIS is to enhance beef meat production, productivity and quality assurance, through climate smart, smallholder focused, livelihood enhancing and gender responsive, groups.

The project will address three major and complementary challenges by:

- Improving UMPCU members' participation in animal disease control
- Improving pasture (rangeland) management involving small and large scale producers; and
- Promoting supplementary feeding for enhanced livestock growth rates.

FALBIS will be implemented as a complementary project to on-going programmes by the different UMPCU partners such as Norad-Nortura funded project, through the Royal Norwegian Society for Development; Norges Vel.



About UMPCU

Uganda Meat Producers Cooperative Union Ltd is the umbrella body of 34 sub-county based primary beef/meat producer cooperative societies, with 2,657 individual members in 18 districts mainly within Uganda's cattle corridor.

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