



Enhancing livestock productivity and resilience in Mali

The Livestock Sector Support Programme, Phase II (PASEM-II) is improving meat and dairy productivity in Mali. It is strengthening supply chains and production infrastructure, such as slaughterhouses and milk collection centres. It is also expanding access to financial, veterinary, and advisory services, especially for women and young people, and enabling the collaborative management of natural resources. These initiatives are contributing to resilient livelihoods, inclusive development, and social cohesion in Mali.

Challenge and opportunity

The livestock sector is integral to Mali's economy. It contributes almost a [fifth](#) of the national GDP and is the main source of livelihood for [over 30%](#) of the population. However, the sector is facing significant challenges. A [study](#) of 1,000 pastoral and agropastoral households in the country found that 70% had faced sociopolitical and security crises, two-thirds had experienced economic shocks, and more than half were impacted by climatic events. Supporting livestock production and associated businesses will not only contribute to agropastoral communities' well-being but also cater to the growing demand for [meat](#) and [dairy](#) in Mali.

Our approach

The programme applies an integrated approach to enhance livestock productivity while creating local jobs and promoting social inclusion. This includes:

- Building meat and milk processing facilities and market kiosks, enabling animal rearers to earn higher incomes from their herds.
- Providing financial support to communities. The Flexible Emergency Fund helps people affected by conflict, climate shocks, or economic hardship to rebuild herds or purchase animal feed. The Opportunity Fund is a co-financing mechanism

that supports farmer groups and small enterprises in producing and marketing meat and dairy products.

- Technical support to advance the collaborative management of pastoral natural resources to preserve pastures and reduce conflicts over land and water access.
- Improving the governance of the livestock sector through capacity building for farmer groups and producer organisations. This includes conducting organisational assessments, developing service catalogues tailored to members' needs, expanding their membership base, and providing technical, economic, and veterinary services.
- Advocacy to support infrastructure transfer, clearer institutional responsibilities, and the integration of the livestock sector into local development plans and budget allocations.
- Institutional strengthening for gender equality, social inclusion, conflict prevention, monitoring systems, and the wider use of the Garbal pastoral information service.

PASEM-II advances the following SDGs:



Project snapshot



Project

Livestock Sector Support
Programme, Phase-II



Country

Mopti, Tombouctou,
and Gao in Mali



Duration

August 2023–April 2027



Value

EUR 8.3 million

Funding partner

Swiss Agency for
Development and Cooperation

Implementation partners

SNV (lead) and VFS-Swiss with local implementation
partners (Nouveaux Horizons, Association Subaahi Gumo,
Sahel-Eco, and CAB Déméso)

Building momentum

The [PASEM-II programme](#) has made significant progress towards its goal of improving livestock productivity, boosting employment, and conserving pastoral resources. Its achievements include:

- Establishing and upgrading over 15 dairies, slaughterhouses, milk collection centres, butcheries, and market kiosks. They have a cumulative turnover of FCFA 45 million (~EUR 69,000) and profitability of 39%.
- Generating 770 jobs. Two-thirds of these were for young people, reflecting the programme's contribution to their professional integration into the livestock sector.
- Enabling 1,300 people to increase their average incomes by 43% and average gross margins by 21%.
- Restoring 1,600 hectares of grazing land, securing access to resources for nearly 20,000 people and reducing resource-related conflicts.
- Mobilising FCFA 413 million (~EUR 629,000) to finance businesses, especially those run by women, young people, and under-represented groups, and catalyse private and community investments.
- Collecting and marketing 87,000 litres of milk and producing 1,700 tonnes of meat.

Looking ahead

By 2027, the programme's financial, infrastructure, and governance initiatives will benefit 85,000 livestock rearers. Residents will eventually run the meat and dairy processing facilities set up under the programme, laying the foundation for long-term local ownership. We shall also support 150 local enterprises in providing feed supply, refrigeration, and veterinary services, among others. By enhancing the livestock sector's productivity and competitiveness, reducing the competition for natural resources, and creating jobs for women and young people, communities in the Sahel will build economic and climate resilience while nurturing social cohesion.

About SNV

SNV is a global development partner rooted in and working across Africa and Asia. With 60 years of experience and over 90% of our team coming from and working within the countries where we operate, our mission is to strengthen capacities and catalyse partnerships that transform agri-food, energy and water systems to enable sustainable and more equitable lives for all.

Contact SNV's PASEM-II project team

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