Community Action Research Programme Plus (CARP+)

Enhancing Pig Production and Marketing for Smallholder Farmers’ Livelihood Improvement in Northern Uganda (EPMSNU)

Lead Partner: Gulu University
Partner 1: International Livestock Research Institute (Uganda)
Partner 2: Makerere University
Partner 3: Northern Uganda Youth Development Centre
Partner 4: Pig Empire
Partner 5: Freedom in creation, Community Based Organization

Contract number: RU/2017/CARP+/01
RUFORUM Grant: USD 199,996.00
Sector: Livestock Value Chain
Location: Gulu, Kitgum and Omoro districts in Northern Uganda
Duration (months): 48
Start Date: 1st August 2017

Project Summary
Pig production is suited to smallholder production because pig rearing in comparison to other livestock have unique characteristics such as faster growth rates; ability to be kept on a small piece of land; high rate of multiplication; ability to be fed on many different crop and animal products and by-products; and the fact that pig products have ready markets. Despite the enormous advantages and opportunities that pig rearing can offer to smallholder farmers in Uganda, production and productivity are constrained by unavailability of quality pig feeds; diseases and parasites; poor breeds/genotypes; ready markets are not reliable for both the live pigs and fresh pork; inadequate extension services and by the odor which can create reluctance for uptake of pig production near homesteads. This project aims to address key constraints in pig production and marketing in northern Uganda by promoting sustainable breeding, management and marketing practices. This will be achieved through: (i) promotion of efficient use of diets from locally available feedstuffs for pig production; (ii) evaluation and dissemination of Indigenous Micro-Organisms (IMO) in reducing foul smell in pig housing; (ii) evaluation and promotion of the use of local semen extenders in artificial insemination (AI); (iv) assessment and promotion of profitable market linkages and effective information for pig farmers. The main proposition of this project is that improving pig breeding, management and marketing will result into increased incomes and hence livelihood of the pig farmers. This project is designed to incorporate research and dissemination components. The research components, which will involve testing and evaluating appropriate technologies, will be conducted by graduate and undergraduate students working closely with pig producers and local traders.

Key words: Appropriate technologies, gender, livelihoods, multi-stakeholder platform, pig value chain