



## KEY MESSAGES - INVESTING AND PARTNERING FOR A PPR-FREE WORLD

- Small ruminants are the primary livestock resource of **300 million** poor rural families around the globe. For these households, sheep and goats are a source of food and regular income, a means to capitalize savings, and a safety net during times of hardship. Selling animals or their products provides the necessary resources to access food, as well as educational and social services.
- Peste des petits ruminants (PPR) is an acute, highly contagious and devastating disease that affects and kills sheep and goats, but can also affect cattle, camels, buffaloes and some wild ruminant species. Morbidity and mortality rates can be as high as 100% and 90%, respectively.
- Since its initial identification in Côte d'Ivoire in 1942, the disease has spread at an alarming rate with now more than 70 countries affected throughout Africa, Asia, Europe and the Middle East. Today, over 80 percent of the world's sheep and goat population are at risk. If left uncontrolled, PPR will spread even further, causing loss and hardship for millions of farmers and herders – most of whom are women – whose livelihoods depend on sheep and goats.
- PPR causes annual economic losses of up to **USD 2.1 billion**. Small ruminants and their products are internationally traded commodities, particularly in Africa and the Middle East. PPR considerably affects export earnings and creates supply shortages. The inability of families, communities, and institutions to anticipate, absorb, or recover from PPR, can compromise national and regional development efforts, and turn back the clock on decades of progress.
- PPR can be eradicated worldwide by 2030: It can be readily diagnosed and a reliable, inexpensive and high-quality vaccine is available that confers lifelong immunity to vaccinated animals after a single dose. Strengthening the capacities of national Veterinary Services to control and eradicate this disease will also generate wide-ranging benefits in the fight against other animal diseases.
- Following the worldwide eradication of rinderpest in 2011, a global consensus was reached on the need to eradicate PPR or sheep and goat plague. A PPR Global Control and Eradication Strategy (GCES) was endorsed during an international conference on PPR, held in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, in April 2015, with the vision of a PPR-free world by 2030. In October 2016, an initial PPR Global Eradication Programme (PPR-GEP) for 2017-2021, which had been developed through an inclusive and peer-reviewed drafting process, was launched by FAO and OIE to put the GCES into action.
- The overall cost of the first five-year GEP is estimated at **USD 996 million**. This includes the cost for the vaccination of 1.5 billion sheep and goats (procurement of vaccines, logistics, and post vaccination evaluation), which makes up more than 70 per cent of this estimate.
- The PPR Secretariat estimates that, at present, approximately two thirds of the PPR GEP budget has been financed - which leaves a gap of **340 million USD**. The majority of funds for PPR control and eradication – about 61 per cent - have been invested by affected and at-risk countries. However, support is needed from regional and international partners in building the capacity of national, regional and sub-regional institutions, and bringing about a coordinated, sustained and harmonized approach necessary for the eradication of the disease.
- The PPR-GEP encompasses a multi-country, multi-stage sequential process comprising epidemiological and socio-economic assessments, control and eradication of PPR and maintenance of PPR freedom. Each country is guided and supported in a tailored manner in building the capacity needed for the implementation of the five key elements of PPR prevention, control and

eradication: the diagnostic system, the surveillance system, the prevention and control system, the legal framework, and stakeholder involvement. Additionally, the PPR-GEP provides coordination at regional and global levels.

- FAO and OIE have made important progress on implementing the PPR GEP:
  - They have completed a first round of regional consultations – PPR Roadmap Meetings – in all nine PPR affected regions, presenting the PPR-GEP and its tools, and carrying out a first self-assessment of each country's PPR situation and the capacity of its Veterinary Services.
  - They have developed partnerships with regional organizations in Africa, in the Middle East and in Asia, as well as with relevant civil society organizations.
  - Together with partners, they have supported almost **60 countries** and eight regions in formulating their PPR National and Regional Strategic Plans, which detail the steps for assessing, controlling, and eradicating PPR, and maintaining PPR freedom, as well as the financial resources required to implement the Plans.
  - They have piloted Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) Pathway missions, which can now be scaled-up, building the capacity of national Veterinary Services.
  - They have provided the vaccination of more than **300 million** small ruminants, training, and strengthened laboratories in targeted countries.
- A wide range of partners, spearheaded by the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the European Union, the World Bank, and the Governments of Japan, Sweden, and the United States of America, are already contributing to PPR efforts at country and global levels. FAO and OIE now call on these and additional stakeholders to reinforce the global alliance for PPR-eradication, by supporting priority actions in the seven focus areas:
  - Vaccination of additional **694 million sheep and goats**
  - Risk analysis and early warning activities
  - Strategy, advocacy and communication materials production and distribution
  - Capacity building of veterinary services and stakeholders
  - Regional Roadmap meetings, stakeholder consultations and field monitoring
  - Control of other small ruminant diseases
  - Global and regional coordination
- A PPR outbreak is an emergency due to its rapid spread and high animal mortality rate. Fatal diseases of small ruminants, such as PPR, affect the already vulnerable livelihoods and can decimate the savings of poor populations, in particular in pastoral areas. Moreover, people become desperate when they lose their assets. PPR outbreaks, and the desperation due to the loss, can therefore trigger turmoil, migration, and volatile security situations.
- Eradicating PPR will increase sustainability, alleviate rural poverty, ensure food security and nutrition, strengthen the resilience of poor pastoralists, communities and economies, prevent forced migration, and mitigate extremist trends. It will contribute significantly to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 1 (no poverty), SDG 2 (zero hunger), and also SDGs 5 (gender equality) and 8 (decent work and economic growth).
- Growing international consensus and political support for the eradication of PPR, technical feasibility, high rates of return on investment that span generations, and the proven FAO-OIE partnership are strong guarantees of success of the PPR GEP.