



# ZELS Grantholders' Workshop

1-2 December 2015

The Møller Centre, Churchill College, Storey's Way,  
Cambridge CB3 0DE



Zoonoses &  
Emerging Livestock Systems

**Zoonoses and Emerging Livestock Systems (ZELS):  
Reducing the Risk to Livestock & People**

Jointly funded by BBSRC, DFID, Dstl, ESRC, MRC and NERC



# CONTENTS

Programme - ZELS Grantholders' Workshop .....	4
Welcome and Introduction .....	6
ZELS Projects.....	8
Social, Economic and Environmental Drivers of Zoonoses in Tanzania (SEEDZ) .....	8
Zoonoses in Livestock in Kenya (ZooLINK) .....	9
Establishment of a multi-sectoral strategy for the control of brucellosis in the main peri-urban dairy production zones of West and Central Africa.....	10
Molecular epidemiology of brucellosis in northern Tanzania .....	11
Combating avian influenza through systematic analysis of antigenic drift, genetic variation, and development of novel diagnostic tools and vaccines .....	12
An integrated management-based approach for surveillance and control of zoonoses in emerging livestock systems: Myanmar Pig Partnership .....	13
Controlling and monitoring emerging zoonoses in the poultry farming and trading system in Bangladesh: an interplay between pathogens, people, policy .....	14
Life on the edge: tackling human African trypanosomiasis on the edge of wilderness areas.....	15
Epidemiology and evolution of zoonotic schistosomiasis in a changing world .....	16
ETHICOBOTS (Ethiopia Control of Bovine Tuberculosis Strategies).....	17
Hazards Associated with Zoonotic enteric pathogens in Emerging Livestock meat pathways (HAZEL).....	18
International training for the next generation of scientists .....	19

# Programme - ZELS Grantholders' Workshop

## Meeting Objectives

1. To encourage interaction within projects.
2. To facilitate connections across projects.
3. To help projects consider ways of translating the products of their research to benefit end-users.
4. To engage with Stakeholders.

Time	Duration (mins.)	Programme
		<b>Tuesday, 1 December</b>
09:15	45	<b>Registration</b> Alan Clarke, Cambridge Project Administrator
10:00	15	<b>Welcome</b> James Wood, University of Cambridge Duncan Barker, Livelihoods Advisor DFID Melanie Welham, Director of Science, BBSRC
10:15	10	<b>Individual introductions at tables</b>
10:25	90	<b>Project Introductions (5 mins. each)</b> Facilitator: Amanda Read  Each project will submit up to two slides (without animations) ahead of time, which summarise the project's aims and what has been achieved since the project started. You may like to include hurdles (e.g. scientific, bureaucratic, administrative) you've either managed, or are attempting, to overcome.  To be presented by a project member other than the PI.  Project member to introduce other members of the team.
11:55	10	<b>Invite ideas for Soapbox</b> Facilitator: Amanda Read

12:05	55	<b>LUNCH</b>
13:05	85	<b>Embedding Interdisciplinarity Pt 1</b> Laura Meagher, Independent consultant
14:30	20	<b>Coffee</b>
14:50	40	<b>Embedding Interdisciplinarity Pt 2</b> Laura Meagher, Independent consultant
15:45	15	<b>Topics for participant-led discussion (ideas for discussion during Day 2)</b> Facilitators: Amanda Read/Peter Stevenson
16:30	20	<b>Soapbox</b>
16:50		<b>Close</b>
18:30	30	<b>Pre-dinner drinks</b>
19:00	-	<b>Dinner</b>
		<b>Wednesday, 2 December</b>
08:30	30	<b>Morning check-in</b> Peter Stevenson
09:00	90	<b>First round of impact mapping</b> Facilitator: Amanda Read/Peter Stevenson
10:30	30	<b>BREAK for coffee/tea</b>
11:00	60	<b>Presenting/feedback impact maps – encourage people to continue to update</b>
12:00	60	<b>LUNCH + publicity leaflets/publications</b>
13:00	90	<b>Participant-led discussion groups.</b> <i>potential topics could include engaging with medical community; social science; farmer involvement; communication etc. The ZELS-AS students are invited to take part.(2 rounds – approx. 45 mins each)</i>
14:30	20	<b>BREAK for coffee</b>
14:50	30	<b>Soapbox.</b> <i>suggested topics might be opportunities for new collaborations/training for 2016</i>
15:20	10	<b>Closing remarks</b> Fundors

# Welcome and Introduction

## Organisers' Welcome

Welcome to the ZELS Grantholders' workshop. This event is hosted by Professors James Wood and Duncan Maskell, the University of Cambridge.

We would like to extend our grateful thanks to all speakers, chairs and delegates for their input to this event. We hope your experience will be valuable and rewarding.

## Aims of the Grantholders' Workshop 2015

- To encourage interaction within projects.
- To facilitate connections across projects.
- To help projects consider ways of translating the products of their research to benefit end-users.
- To engage with Stakeholders.

## Funding

ZELS is a GBP 20.5M jointly-funded research initiative between:

- Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC)
- Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Dstl)
- Department for International Development (DFID)
- Economic and Social Sciences Research Council (ESRC)
- Medical Research Council (MRC)
- Natural Environment Research Council (NERC)

## Vision

The vision of ZELS is to make a step change in the research evidence available to inform decision makers on how to minimise the health risks associated with the rapidly changing nature of livestock systems in developing countries, focusing on those risks which impact on the livelihoods and health of poor people.

## Aims

The key aims of the Programme are:

- To reduce the impact of zoonoses on poor people and their livestock. The initiative recognises that priorities for endemic, new and/or (re)-emerging zoonotic diseases may vary from region to region. It will address the problem of zoonoses by generating high quality research in technical and policy areas
- To forge mutually-beneficial inter- and multi-disciplinary partnerships between researchers in the UK and developing countries that create trans-national added value through meaningful intellectual collaboration, and enhance the scientific capabilities of southern partners for the longer term.

## Scope

ZELS research scope will be multi-level, interconnected and will address the aim of reducing the impact of zoonosis on poor people and their livestock in developing countries.

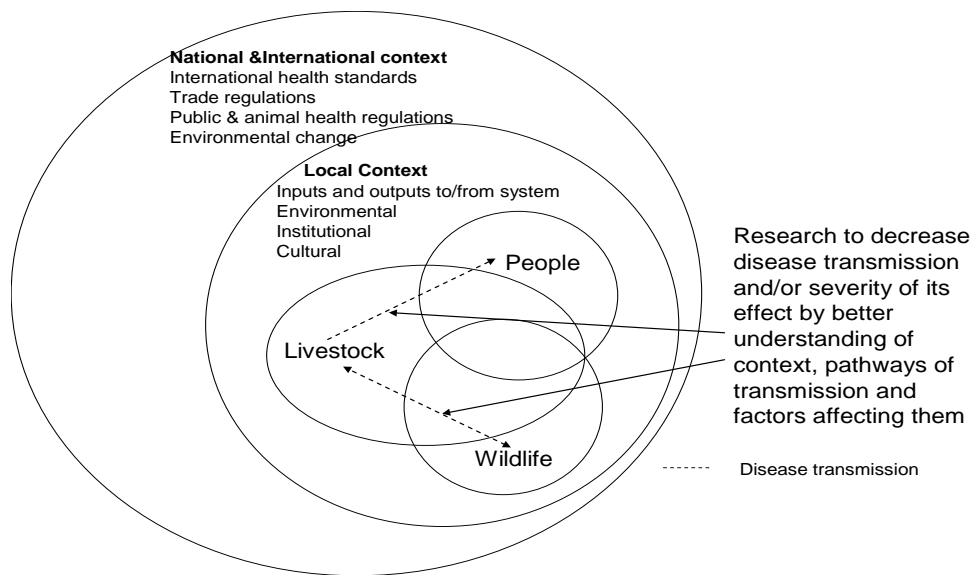


Fig. 1 Illustration of the scope of the programme

## Research and Training

The initiative is made up of 11 projects which will investigate emerging and endemic zoonotic diseases in developing countries.

Over the next five years, UK researchers will work in partnership with more than 30 overseas institutes and organisations to generate scientific evidence to inform the selection of risk-based and cost-effective prevention and control options which may contribute to decreasing the likelihood of occurrence, prevent the transmission, and reduce the impact of major zoonotic diseases. The projects will also offer significant benefits to British farmers and consumers. Several of the zoonoses being tackled by the initiative have already had serious consequences in the UK. Global supply chain systems and climate change may result in more zoonoses crossing our borders. A key outcome of these collaborations is to enhance the scientific capabilities of developing countries for the longer term. £1.5M of the funding has been set aside specifically to do this; 15 students from the UK and developing countries will receive doctoral training in ZELS related research.

## **ZELS Projects**

### ***Social, Economic and Environmental Drivers of Zoonoses in Tanzania (SEEDZ)***

Livestock systems in Africa are undergoing rapid transition. Changes in market dynamics, land-use and agricultural policy, environmental factors, cultural practices and technology are all changing the way people keep and manage livestock, both for food and as sources of income. However, the consequences of these changes on zoonotic disease risk are almost unknown.

This project is focusing on Brucellosis, Q-fever and Rift Valley Fever (RVF) which can all result in livestock production losses and cause severe illnesses in people, with the potential for chronic disability or death. Fever-causing zoonoses, such as these, are particularly problematic because they are difficult to diagnose on symptoms alone, and in sub-Saharan Africa are almost always misdiagnosed, with serious consequences for human health.

An interdisciplinary team of researchers from the UK, Tanzania, New Zealand and the USA will be examining how social, economic and environmental drivers of change affect zoonotic disease risks through changing patterns of livestock ownership, management and human behaviour.

The case of Tanzania will be used to explore the nature of livestock systems, focusing on two systems undergoing rapid transition: (1) the pastoral-wildlife sector affected particularly by expansion of crop-based agriculture and changes in land-use policy, and (2) the peri-urban livestock sector.

#### **Collaborators:**

- University of Glasgow, UK
- Institute of Development Studies, Sussex University, UK
- Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology, Tanzania
- Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania
- Kilimanjaro Christian Medical College, Tanzania
- Kilimanjaro Clinical Research Institute, Tanzania
- Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Development, Tanzania
- National Institute for Medical Research, Tanzania
- Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute, Tanzania
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- University of Otago, NZ
- Washington State University, USA

**Contact:** Professor Sarah Cleaveland, University of Glasgow.  
[sarah.cleaveland@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:sarah.cleaveland@glasgow.ac.uk)



## ***Zoonoses in Livestock in Kenya (ZooLINK)***

Continuing changes to livestock production systems in Kenya and elsewhere to satisfy increased demand for livestock products affect the risk of zoonoses and other infectious diseases. The most important changes are the commercialisation and intensification of what was previously subsistence farming, changes in trading patterns (e.g. the distances that livestock and their products are transported), and changes in favoured breeds.

There is therefore a pressing need for good surveillance of zoonoses in order to establish their true burden, how that is changing and to support control measures.

Researchers from the UK and Kenya are joining forces with Kenyan government departments to provide evidence that an enhanced surveillance system can contribute to improving public health in a cost-effective manner. They will achieve this by increasing awareness of zoonoses, improving diagnostic support (including developing new diagnostic assays), enhancing the recording, storage, analysis, interpretation and sharing of data, and by bringing about closer integration between the human and animal health sectors.

During the five year project researchers working in western Kenya will closely monitor, model and optimise the enhanced surveillance system's performance, and undertake a comprehensive economic analysis of the activities. The evidence will contribute to a better understanding and anticipation of changes in zoonotic disease burdens, and to recommendations for effective interventions.

The research will also provide a platform for Kenyan public and animal health workers to get hands-on training and to become familiar with a 'One Health' approach to surveillance, creating a cadre of individuals with first-hand experience of this way of working - leaving a strong legacy in its own right.

### **Collaborators:**

- University of Liverpool, UK
- University of Edinburgh, UK
- Royal Veterinary College, UK
- University of Nottingham, UK
- International Livestock Research Institute, Kenya
- University of Nairobi, Kenya
- Kenya Medical Research Institute, Kenya

**Contact:** Professor Eric Fèvre, Institute of Infection and Global Health, University of Liverpool

[Eric.Fevre@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:Eric.Fevre@liverpool.ac.uk)

## ***Establishment of a multi-sectoral strategy for the control of brucellosis in the main peri-urban dairy production zones of West and Central Africa***

As one of the most prevalent zoonotic diseases, brucellosis is an important constraint on the livelihoods of poor people, directly by causing chronic disability and indirectly via decreased livestock productivity. The heaviest burden is on vulnerable populations in Sub-Saharan Africa, in particular West and Central Africa, where emergent livestock systems are rapidly expanding to meet demand for milk from burgeoning urban populations.

The main routes by which people can be infected by brucellosis are consumption of contaminated dairy products and direct contact with infected animals. Therefore, the control of human brucellosis depends on its control in animals, mainly ruminants.

Researchers from the UK and Senegal are taking an interdisciplinary approach to consider the different biological, social and institutional dimensions of the disease relevant for its control. The main focus is on the first phase of control of the disease: the reduction of prevalence by vaccination.

Field studies in a number of countries in West and Central Africa will measure the burden of brucellosis in livestock, identify routes by which people become infected, assess farmers' perceptions and attitudes toward the disease, assess vaccines for effectiveness in livestock, and explore key stakeholder and institutional relationships to identify how to effectively deliver control measures for brucellosis.

### **Collaborators:**

- Royal Veterinary College, UK
- London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK
- Animal and Plant Health Agency, UK
- Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines (GALVmed), UK
- Interstate School of Veterinary Science and Medicine – Dakar, Senegal

**Contact:** Professor Javier Guitian, Royal Veterinary College.  
[jguitian@rvc.ac.uk](mailto:jguitian@rvc.ac.uk)

## ***Molecular epidemiology of brucellosis in northern Tanzania***

Brucellosis is one of most widespread human diseases acquired from animals, and is one of the highest priority animal diseases in Africa.

Brucellosis infects many animal species, including key livestock species - cattle, sheep, and goats - and most human infections are acquired through direct contact with livestock or transmission through untreated milk products. Brucellosis has wide-ranging impacts that include animal losses due to abortion, lost milk production, slaughter of infected animals, and human illness reducing work capacity.

Researchers in the UK, Tanzania and New Zealand will collaborate to develop the evidence-base to inform the use of *Brucella* vaccines in sub-Saharan Africa, and build capacity in Tanzanian laboratories to identify the disease. The project aims to identify the ruminant species that act as sources of human infection and the *Brucella* species most responsible for human disease in rural and urban environments in northern Tanzania. This project will provide the first large systematic evidence base to guide which vaccine should be used in which animal population.

The research will be conducted hand-in-hand with Tanzanian government scientists charged with formulating national policies for the control of brucellosis.

### **Collaborators:**

- University of Glasgow, UK
- Animal and Plant Health Agency, UK
- Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania
- Kilimanjaro Christian Medical College, Tanzania
- Ministry of Livestock Development, Tanzania
- Central Veterinary Laboratory, Tanzania
- University of Otago, New Zealand

**Contact:** Professor Daniel Haydon, University of Glasgow  
[daniel.haydon@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:daniel.haydon@glasgow.ac.uk)

## ***Combating avian influenza through systematic analysis of antigenic drift, genetic variation, and development of novel diagnostic tools and vaccines***

Dramatic progress has been made in providing animal protein at affordable prices to rapidly expanding populations. Poultry production in developing countries has helped meet goals in poverty alleviation and reduction in rural unemployment, particularly amongst women.

However, the emergence and spread of avian influenza viruses in many countries has threatened the sustainability of the poultry sector by incurring heavy losses in poultry production.

Avian influenza virus (AIV) is classified into highly pathogenic (HPAI), e.g. H5N1, and low pathogenic (LPAI) forms based on the severity of the illness they cause in poultry. The rapid genetic evolution of these viruses in birds remains a credible threat for pandemic emergence.

Large scale culling in response to outbreaks of disease in poor countries has become impractical for economic, ecological and ethical reasons.

A multidisciplinary research team from the UK, Vietnam and Pakistan will exploit next generation biotechnological approaches to advance our understanding of how genetic and antigenic diversity influence the protective power of poultry AIV vaccines and the sensitivity of diagnostic tests to differentiate AIV subtypes.

The research aims to develop more effective intervention strategies to minimise economic losses due to influenza within the poultry sector, and to mitigate the risk of pandemic emergence. Better control measures may offer substantial benefits to wider communities on both the national and global scale.

### **Collaborators:**

- The Pirbright Institute, UK
- National Institute for Medical Research, UK
- Imperial College London, UK
- University of Oxford, Tropical Medicine, Vietnam
- National Center for Veterinary Diagnostics, Vietnam
- University of Veterinary & Animal Science, Pakistan
- National Agricultural Research Centre, Pakistan Agricultural Research Council Pakistan

**Contact:** Dr Munir Iqbal, The Pirbright Institute  
[munir.iqbal@pirbright.ac.uk](mailto:munir.iqbal@pirbright.ac.uk)

## ***An integrated management-based approach for surveillance and control of zoonoses in emerging livestock systems: Myanmar Pig Partnership***

Our consortium expects to make several important contributions to knowledge and methodology that can inform similar efforts in Myanmar and beyond. We will describe and characterize livestock (specifically pig) systems as they are emerging, going beyond commonly used categories such as “backyard production” which may be of limited utility. We will describe the key influences on practices along production-consumption chains, including how people’s perceptions of risk at these different points affect which practices are used and how. The understanding we will develop of the constraints to the two-way flow of information on risks e.g. to and from producers and veterinary health workers, is critical to the design of effective and socially accepted surveillance and control measures. Our focus will be on pigs – a key livestock species raised by poor households. The pathogens we target cause substantial morbidity and mortality through contact and ingestion so that their impact is likely to be greatest on farmers, frontline workers and their families. The burden of these diseases in both livestock and people is often unrecognized which underlines the importance of our efforts to increase understanding of these issues at local, national and international levels. We will seek to improve communication between local and national levels, while recognizing that this is complex. Our work will meet goals identified in preparatory reports for the ZELS Initiative. We will undertake extensive baseline microbiological surveys across these ELS to gain information on prevalence of pathogens along the supply chains (including non-zoonotic but immunosuppressive infections), and to generate unprecedented archives of bacterial isolates and serum samples from livestock. We will apply new high throughput analytical tools to whole genome sequences and meta-data data from these isolates in order to gain baseline knowledge on epidemiology, potential attribution to human disease, and antimicrobial resistance. It is by integrating these social and biological studies that we will achieve our central goal of designing, implementing, and evaluating the integrated responses already mentioned.

These interrelated questions require a coordinated, interdisciplinary approach. Our revised proposal still draws on the complementary expertise of social and biological scientists and government officers from Myanmar, UK and Vietnam to bring about step changes in pro-poor control measures. We will use knowledge-driven and culturally relevant strategies that improve animal health and productivity thus protecting and improving human health. We will exploit regional scientific infrastructure and experience in pro-poor livestock strategies, accessed via our partners activities based in Vietnam (OUCRU, STEPS) and Yunnan (STEPS), to develop appropriate capacities in Myanmar, a country that is emerging from years of isolation, thereby hastening the refinement of One Health policies.

### **Collaborators:**

- University of Cambridge, UK
- Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, UK
- University of Oxford Clinical Research Unit, Vietnam
- Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development, Republic of Union of Myanmar

**Contact:** Professor Duncan Maskell, University of Cambridge. [djm47@cam.ac.uk](mailto:djm47@cam.ac.uk)

## ***Controlling and monitoring emerging zoonoses in the poultry farming and trading system in Bangladesh: an interplay between pathogens, people, policy***

Improvements in living standards and in global trade mean that there is a rapidly rising demand for and supply of animal protein. Poultry and specifically chickens are the major source of all protein consumed in the world and poultry production, adapting better than any other livestock sector to increased demand, will further expand in the near future. Intensification of poultry production sectors will increase the risk of future disease emergence including highly pathogenic avian influenza.

Outbreaks of new strains of influenza, such as H5N1, can have up to 100% mortality in chickens and other domestic poultry and very high mortality rates in human beings when the influenza "jumps" species from the animal/bird reservoir to humans.

When a new outbreak occurs, farmers and traders may change their behaviour to avoid economic losses. Such behavioural changes can modify the way disease spreads, and even prolong and strengthen the epidemic so that it becomes a widespread pandemic moving beyond a local area to the whole world.

Researchers from the UK, Bangladesh and Australia are joining forces to study the behaviour of people working in the Bangladeshi poultry farming and trading system. By combining sophisticated mathematical modelling of how poultry production and marketing works with detailed analysis of the social, cultural and economic factors which may promote disease maintenance and dissemination in Bangladesh, the collaboration aims to develop effective policies to reduce the risk of people's behaviour causing widespread disease dissemination.

### **Collaborators:**

- Royal Veterinary College, UK
- London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK
- Chatham House, UK
- Chittagong Vet and Animal Sciences University, Bangladesh
- Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research, Bangladesh
- Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute, Bangladesh
- Bangladesh Department of Livestock Services, Bangladesh
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Bangladesh
- University of Queensland, Australia

**Contact:** Professor Dirk Pfeiffer, Royal Veterinary College.  
[pfeiffer@rvc.ac.uk](mailto:pfeiffer@rvc.ac.uk)

## ***Life on the edge: tackling human African trypanosomiasis on the edge of wilderness areas***

Tsetse flies transmit trypanosomes, microscopic parasites which cause sleeping sickness (Human African Trypanosomiasis or HAT). There is no vaccine or drug for the disease and it is ultimately fatal if left untreated. In eastern and southern Africa, about 12M people are at risk of Rhodesian HAT, an acute form of the disease caused by *Trypanosoma brucei rhodesiense*.

Rhodesian HAT is especially difficult to control because the trypanosome which causes it is present in a range of wild mammals and livestock. In wilderness areas, tsetse flies infected after feeding on wildlife can spread the disease to people and livestock in surrounding areas and livestock can consequently become a source of further infection to people.

Researchers from the UK, Tanzania and South Africa will spend the next three years identifying cost effective and “ecologically smart” strategies to control HAT to protect local people living around the Serengeti, focusing on disease hotspots at the boundary between wilderness and settled areas. Tsetse flies also carry other trypanosomes that cause serious disease in livestock, so control of HAT will also bring added benefits in reducing livestock disease and boosting the productivity of small-holder farmers.

The researchers will develop recommendations for farmers, doctors, veterinarians and managers of wildlife areas for control of the disease in humans and animals in the Serengeti area, and generate guidance on monitoring and managing HAT in wilderness areas.

### **Collaborators:**

- Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, UK
- The Roslin Institute, University of Edinburgh, UK
- Scotland’s Rural College, UK
- University of Glasgow, UK
- Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis Research Institute, Tanzania
- South African Centre for Epidemiological Modelling and Analysis, Republic of South Africa

**Contact:** Professor Stephen Torr, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine  
[Steve.Torr@LSTMed.ac.uk](mailto:Steve.Torr@LSTMed.ac.uk)

## ***Epidemiology and evolution of zoonotic schistosomiasis in a changing world***

Schistosomiasis affects more than 240M people worldwide, and over 700M people live in endemic areas (WHO, 2014). Caused by schistosome parasitic worms, schistosomiasis is a disease that causes chronic and debilitating illness in people (typically the poor) who come into contact with fresh water where there are snails infected with the larval stages of the parasite. Species of schistosomes are also common in cattle, sheep and goats.

Environmental change and changes in agricultural practices may increase the potential for disease transmission and increase the opportunities for mixing of different species of human and animal schistosomes. This mixing within the human or animal hosts can result in novel hybrids which may influence their potential for disease transmission and morbidity.

A multidisciplinary team of researchers from the UK, Niger and Senegal, will spend the next three years in an effort to understand the populations at risk of infection and disease with hybrid schistosomes, with a view to informing control programmes, including schistosomiasis elimination.

The researchers also aim to produce new diagnostic tests and surveillance methods for use in the field.

The project will help scientists document the evolution of a zoonotic infection.

### **Collaborators:**

- Royal Veterinary College, London, UK
- The Natural History Museum, UK
- RISEAL Niger
- University Gaston Berger - Saint-Louis, Senegal

**Contact:** Professor Joanne Webster, Royal Veterinary College London  
[jo.webster@rvc.ac.uk](mailto:jo.webster@rvc.ac.uk)



## ***ETHICOBOTS (Ethiopia Control of Bovine Tuberculosis Strategies)***

Ethiopia has the largest livestock population in Africa including 53M cattle. A rapidly growing human population (85M people) and high rate of urbanisation puts more pressure on farmers to meet the demand for food.

In Ethiopia livestock contributes to a high proportion of national income and is key to economic development. Traditional, extensive farming systems with the less productive local Zebu cattle are being supplemented and replaced with intensive farming of imported breeds such as Holstein-Friesian at a rapid rate.

Although bovine tuberculosis (bTB) is endemic in Ethiopia the prevalence is low among the local Zebu cattle, potentially because they are extensively reared and seemingly relatively resistant to the disease. Expansion of dairy farms around major urban centres has however created hotspots of TB infected cattle. With no legal requirement to test and cull infected cattle in Ethiopia, unlike in developed countries, the potential for rapid spread of bTB across the cattle trade routes through amplification by the dairy farms in these areas is a real emerging danger.

Working closely with government and local communities, researchers from the UK, Ethiopia and Switzerland will determine disease prevalence among dairy cattle in different areas, study risk management and mitigation practices for households and document how prevailing social, cultural and economic factors impact them. The researchers will compare disease susceptibility among the local and Holstein cattle and evaluate the degree of protection given by vaccination to cross-breed cattle.

The results will provide practical and effective bTB control strategies, which when applied, will significantly reduce the high rate of bTB and its zoonotic transfer in the expanding dairy sector; minimize trading of bTB infected dairy cattle to protect the national Zebu herd and the livelihood of poor farmers; and reduce the risk of zoonosis in high risk populations.

### **Collaborators:**

- University of Cambridge, UK
- Animal and Plant Health Agency, UK
- Armauer Hansen Research Institute, Ethiopia
- Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia
- Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, Switzerland
- Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research, Ethiopia
- National Animal Health Diagnostic and Investigation Center, Ethiopia

**Contact:** Professor James Wood, University of Cambridge.

[jlnw2@cam.ac.uk](mailto:jlnw2@cam.ac.uk)

## ***Hazards Associated with Zoonotic enteric pathogens in Emerging Livestock meat pathways (HAZEL)***

Whilst meat production for the commercial market offers an economic opportunity to poor farmers in developing countries, changes to meat supply systems may have major implications for food-borne diseases because risks of infection and contamination are likely to increase with production intensification of production and advancing complexity in getting food from farm to fork.

Tanzania has been identified as a hotspot for bacterial foodborne disease, including disease caused by *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter*, bacteria that may be carried by ruminants and poultry. Most livestock meat supply chains in Tanzania are informal but commercial supply chains and markets are expanding rapidly to meet growing demand from consumers. Changes in the meat supply chain may contribute to the foodborne disease risk.

A multidisciplinary team of researchers from the UK, Tanzania, New Zealand and the USA will spend the next three years assessing the microbiological hazards for human health in emerging systems of livestock meat production, processing, distribution and consumption in Tanzania. Their approach will involve a mixture of social and biological science, including field and laboratory activities and a technique known as modular process risk modelling (MPRM).

The researchers will also conduct systematic reviews of national and international regulations and policy as well as key informant interviews to identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT) in current food safety policy. SWOT analysis will be informed by MPRM findings to identify gaps and suggest improvements to national, regional, and international food safety policies.

### **Collaborators:**

- University of Glasgow, UK
- Institute of Food Research, UK
- Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre, Tanzania
- Nelson Mandela African Institute of Science and Technology, Tanzania
- Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania
- Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Development, Tanzania
- University of Otago, New Zealand
- Massey University, New Zealand
- Washington State University, USA

**Contact:** Professor Ruth Zadoks, University of Glasgow  
[ruth.zadoks@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:ruth.zadoks@glasgow.ac.uk)

## ***International training for the next generation of scientists***

The ZELS projects have formed a consortium to provide a concentrated focus for doctoral training in ZELS-related research. Through the ZELS-Associated Studentships (ZELS-AS) a single intake of 15 UK and developing country students will commence training in October 2015.

Each student will spend half their time in the UK and the other half in a developing country, and will have two supervisors, one in the home country and one in the host country.

The training environment will provide students with excellent opportunities to gain transferrable skills and to conduct original and scientifically excellent research, building a strong and active cohort of students who are able, and encouraged, to work together.

ZELS-AS will build research capacity in the UK and developing countries, aligned with the aim of reducing the impact of zoonoses on poor people and their livestock.



Zoonoses &  
Emerging Livestock Systems