Promoting sustainable agro-pastoral systems should increase livestock feed diversity and quality, enhance crop productivity, and assist pastoralists to obtain at least some temporary rights to use small areas of land for pasture, in a systematic combination with crops.

Rapidly growing populations in the West and Central Africa regions is increasingly making it imperative for the intensification of integrated agriculture-livestock systems. Both crop and livestock farmers are seeking ways to counteract widespread pasture degradation and declining crop yield. This requires the development and promotion of innovations that sustainably integrate crops and cattle particularly with regards to better forage grasses and fertility-boosting legumes on farms. Improved rotational systems including and improved pastures are expected to increase economic benefits to farmers than in systems where crops are grown without any integration with livestock.

This CAADP-aligned project is focused on mapping-out agro-pastoral spaces and identifying possible tools for discussions and negotiation between users of commonly shared natural resources thus reducing possibilities of conflicts between crop producers and livestock keepers as well as other value chain actors in the agro-pastoral system. The project is also adapting innovations for improved management of degraded soils, in addition to introducing improved livestock feeding for better nutrition and fattening of ruminants.

Main Beneficiaries
Crop/livestock farmers involved in the project and eventually the vast majority of the crop/livestock community will benefit from improved crop-livestock integration techniques, including improved forage crops and livestock fattening methods. Scientists are learning from farmers some of their indigenous and cultural crop-livestock practices with a view to adding value to those practices.

Main Regional Benefits
Techniques developed in this project on intensification crop-livestock systems could be adapted to the other countries of the region. The restoration of degraded grazing and arable lands in the Sahel remains a principal priority in West and Central Africa.

Partners
This project is funded by AusAID, and is coordinated by CORAF/WECARD. The implementation of this project is led by a Non-Governmental Organization, Association pour la Promotion de l'Elevage au Sahel et en Savane (APESS), Burkina Faso. The partners are University of Maroua, Cameroon; ISRA, Senegal; Institut de Developpement Rurale, Burkina Faso; IRAD, Cameroon; ILRI, Nairobi; University of Dschang, Cameroon; AGRHYMET, Niger; and ITRAD, Chad.
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| **1 Knowledge Base**| - Current state of agro-pastoral systems in the participating countries documented.  
- Database on current state of agro-pastoral system in project areas established.  
- Gaps in research and development within the crop/livestock system identified.  
- Framework for consultation between actors sharing common natural resources developed. | Outcome 1  
Informed research and development interventions in the crop/livestock system  
Outcome 2  
Improved collaboration among crop/livestock value chain actors. | Increased revenues and wellbeing of producers in agro-pastoral systems in Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Niger and Senegal |
| **2 Technologies & Innovations** | - Improved forage and soil health enhancing crops proposed to farmers.  
- Improved livestock rations for ruminant fattening proposed.  
- Innovative agro-pastoral rotational and other cultural practices proposed to farmers.  
- Options for reducing potential conflicts between crop growers and pastoralists identified. | Outcome 3  
Increased resilience of production systems to failure  
Outcome 4  
Increased production of diversified food products  
Outcome 5  
Reduced incidents of conflicts between crop growers and livestock farmers |                                                                                                                                 |
| **3 Capacity Strengthening** | - Capacity strengthening needs of farmers in agro-pastoral systems identified.  
- Instructional materials detailing the steps needed in improving intensive crop-livestock systems developed.  
- Capacity of farmers to intensify crop-livestock systems strengthened.  
- Capacity of actors in agro-pastoral systems to access inputs and services strengthened.  
- Mechanism for improved flow of market information developed. | Outcome 6  
Increased production of forage, meat and other crop livestock products  
Outcome 7  
Increased volumes of crop and livestock products marketed. |                                                                                                                                 |