

DairyCaB

'Colombian-Netherlands Dairy Capacity and Business Development project'

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DairyCaB stimulates dairy sector development in Colombia. The 3-years project aims to establish a dairy business platform by initiating and supporting activities in business development and capacity building in the Colombian department of Antioquia. Demonstration farms initiate, test, monitor and train on technical innovations and introductions by Netherlands and Colombian private sector partners.

Best of two worlds

The project's approach is to adapt and disseminate Dutch knowledge and expertise to the local Colombian dairy production circumstances. Demonstration and capacity building are key components.

Short-term: education

On the short term the project aims to design and establish a Demonstration and Training Farm (DTF) in the Dairy North and Eastern Antioquia Conglomerate (DNEAC). On the farm private companies and knowledge institutions share experiences and knowledge by demonstrations to, and training of extension staff and farmers. The first DTF acts as a model for the development of more DTF's in the province of Antioquia.

Long-term: enhanced milk production

On the long term the project aims to increase the performance of dairy farms, and the local supplying and milk processing industry. Equipping the DTF with appropriate knowledge, training and technology will support the Colombian dairy farmers to develop a sustainable, cost-efficient businesses in which they produce high quality milk.

Regional inception phase

The project starts with an inventory of the regional network of the value-chain stakeholders involved in the dairy clusters in the DNEAC in Antioquia. This inception phase will identify the major knowledge and technical constraints of the dairy farming system, and subsequently define the training, and knowledge needs, products and service gaps. Technical constraints can result in business opportunities. A framework of curricula for education and training and improvement plan for institutes will be designed based on entrepreneurship and collaborative actions.

Wageningen UR Livestock Research strengthens dairy development in the Antioquia Province of Colombia, together with the University of Antioquia, Saenz Fety, Barenbrug and Eurofins Agro.

DairyCaB is the acronym of 'Colombian-Netherlands Dairy Capacity and Business Development project'.

The 3-years project starts on December 1st, 2015, and is financially supported by the Transition Facility, administered by The Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO) on behalf of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The project consortium has been established, following the fact-finding study 'Mooodooi, Dairy Opportunities for Colombia-Dutch Win-Win' conducted by RVO.

Upscaling

After the inception phase, the project demonstrates the possible innovations adapted to the local farming systems in the target area for small and medium-scale producers.

The acquired knowledge is disseminated by publications and integrated in vocational and scientific education, and regional training programmes.

Prioritised technical topics are so far:

- Animal housing;
- Animal management;
- Cultivation of different fodder and grass varieties;
- Fodder harvesting and conservation;
- Feed analyses and animal feeding according to the analyses;
- Milking methods;
- Storing techniques to handle good quality milk.



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