

SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT IN THE HIGH PLATEAU

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During the first year of execution, the project “Sustainable livestock production, health and environment in the high plateau of Bolivia”, has worked towards the generation of a joint space between communities (producers, association of farmers), academics and policy-governmental actors, in order to establish an inter-organisational platform of public policy on public health, livestock and environment.

Also, the research protocol has been designed and approved by ethical committees and the project team has been preparing all the formalities and technical requirements in order to initiate the implementation of the research activities.

PROMETA has entered into an agreement with the governmental services of public health and animal health (SEDES and SENASAG) to cooperate in the research.

In parallel it has initiated pilot initiatives in regard to animal health, livestock management, conservation of native grasslands and planting of supplemental feed for livestock. These activities are part of the “pilots” included in the proposal and have contributed to the engagement of the project team and the beneficiary communities.

In its first year, the project has also succeeded at engaging local universities, which was one of the expected outputs. An agreement has been signed with the Universidad Autónoma Juan Misael Saracho (UAJMS), and as a result six students are working on pilot schemes related to the quality and sustainability of native pastures.

It is important to highlight the positive impact of the diffusion and socialisation of the concept of “ecohealth”, representative actors of the different sectors have shown their interest in working with this holistic approach to get better results in the population and public health promotion activities.

The Project team considers that the objectives and actions have been fulfilling the expectation of the communities and institutional actors, given that, before the Project, there was an unmet demand to work on different aspects of their local development in a coordinated and integral way.