This prize on Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR), also known as sheep and goat plague, aims to encourage teams of young researchers to propose transformative solutions to combat the viral disease. Highly contagious, the PPR is currently present in nearly 70 countries in the Middle East and Arabian Peninsula, Africa, and Asia where it causes annual economic losses of up to USD 2.1 billion.

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. However, the control and eradication of PPR is technically possible if the resources are available for accurate diagnosis, surveillance, and vaccination, coupled with stakeholder engagement, political will, and advocacy. Thus, the PPR Special Prize research topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Modelling strategies for the estimation of the basic reproductive rate of Peste des Petits Ruminants Virus (PPRV) for optimal use of vaccines and implementation of other disease control strategies
- Understanding the role of wildlife and other atypical species in the spread and potential maintenance of PPRV
- Validation of currently available PPR diagnostic tests using wildlife samples and/or validation of new diagnostic tests
- Research related to PPR disease management, including epidemiological and serological studies (e.g., surveillance)
- Research related to the socio-economic impact of PPR, including cost-benefit or value chain analysis, and that incorporates gender and youth components
- Research that uses participatory methods to investigate PPR occurrence and transmission
- Research related to other priority small ruminant diseases and small ruminant production

The researchers shall send their applications until the 31st of May 2023 to be eligible for this prize. Finalists and winners can receive:

- $10,000 on research grant for 5 teams to go from idea to action
- Publication of research findings within FAO
- An exclusive spot in the next PPR GEP webpage to bring their research to practice
- Personalized mentorship from globally recognized experts in their field to help “translate” their concept note into a concrete research output
- Each team will be coached in the preparation of the lightening talk for the final presentations
- Access to a global audience of young leaders and organizations from the public and private sectors, including the United Nations
- A platform for global youth to showcase their innovative research ideas and the chance to pitch their research project to a global audience and international expert panel at the WFF
- Ongoing promotion through the WFF platforms

To learn more and find out how you can join, coordinator@world-food-forum.org www.world-food-forum.org