

Gender Mainstreaming And PPR Eradication Prize

(co-hosted with FAO PPR-GEP Secretariat)

This prize, focusing on Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) and gender, aims to encourage teams of young researchers to propose transformative solutions for combating this viral disease, with an emphasis on integrating gender as a key aspect of their research. PPR is highly contagious and currently prevalent in nearly 70 countries across the Middle East, Arabian Peninsula, Africa, and Asia, causing annual economic losses of up to USD 2.1 billion.

Empowering women and youth is essential for the sustainable development of the livestock sector and pastoral systems, achieving gender equality, building a world free from hunger, malnutrition, and poverty, and ensuring resilient livelihoods for everyone.

The inability of families, communities, and institutions to anticipate, absorb, or recover from PPR outbreaks can compromise national and regional development efforts and reverse decades of progress. However, the control and eradication of PPR are technically feasible if resources are available for accurate diagnosis, surveillance, and vaccination, coupled with stakeholder engagement, political will, and advocacy.

The research topics of interest for the Gender Mainstreaming and PPR Eradication Prize include, but are not limited to:

- **Evidence generated is made available to policy** makers to strengthen or mainstream gender and biodiversity in existing national livestock and climate action policies.
- Studies on gender/youth sex segregated analysis into the livestock sector in targeted countries.
- Modelling strategies for the estimation of the basic reproductive rate of PPR 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 PPR.
- 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.

Researchers must submit their applications by May 15, 2024. Finalists will receive:

- Personalized mentorship from globally recognized experts in their field to help “translate” their concept note into a concrete research output.
- Coaching to effectively pitch their research proposals during the finals at the WFF flagship event.
- Access to a global network of youth leaders and organizations from the public and private sectors, including the United Nations.

In addition to the above, four winning teams will each receive:

- \$10,000 in research grants to go from idea to action.
- Publication of research findings by FAO.
- A dedicated space on the PPR Global Eradication Programme webpage.
- The opportunity to become part of a global platform for youth to showcase their innovative research ideas.
- Ongoing promotion through the WFF platforms.