



CASE STUDY

PigBoost - the first artificial insemination, tagging, & data reporting system for pigs in Uganda.

Improving economic sustainability for pig farmers

Pig farming is one of the fastest growing livestock activities in Uganda. It takes place in peri-urban areas and is a business activity that offers good cashflow opportunities for small-holder farmers.

Challenges across the industry

The pig industry offers a route to reduce poverty by targeting farmers who rely on animal production for income and food security. However, pig production in Kampala lacks digital innovation, productivity, and profitability. Alongside this, there is also an evident poor practice of animal health procedures.

These factors impact scalability, investment, and the livelihoods of stakeholders. This is worsened by the continual contamination of food and the inequitable trade of pigs which is progressively decreasing farmer profit margins.

Overall, these challenges compromise the integrity of the pig supply chain in Uganda. This also means that farmers are missing out on the growing demand for pork products.

New software for better data management

The "PigBoost" project aims to bridge the gap between pig farmers, veterinarians, and extension service providers.

AbacusBio's decision support tool, Dtreo (<https://dtreo.io/>), provides the data and information platform. This tool enables real-time monitoring to improve animal performance, genetic selection and disease management. It also connects farmer cooperatives and veterinarian extension services.

By utilising Dtreo's cloud-based software, Vetline's data pipeline will become digitalised. This will allow users to make better decisions about animal management and breeding.

→ Animal diseases and limited provision of animal health services costs pig farmers in Kampala US\$16 to US\$32M in animal losses annually.

→ Currently in Uganda there is illegal trade of counterfeit veterinary medicine



→ Lack of digital recording means farmers cannot select and breed pigs fit for the market.



→ Pork consumption in Uganda is 3.4kg per capita

→ On average, sows only produce 8 piglets per year

→ Finishing animals achieve less than 60% of the target sale weight for slaughter.

Turning data into impactful change

The purpose of Dtreo is to improve productivity and profitability of pig production. The new tool supports better integration within the supply chain in Uganda. The PigBoost project also aims to provide economic sustainability to pig farmers and ensure the well-being of farming families.

Outcomes of the project are on track to align with the Department for International Developments (DFID) key themes:

- improving productivity,
- increasing the value of production to smallholders,
- implementing an innovative data-driven food system,
- addressing food safety,
- issues in the supply chain,
- deliver nutritious, healthy and safe food.

Strengthening connections between farmers, service providers & stakeholders

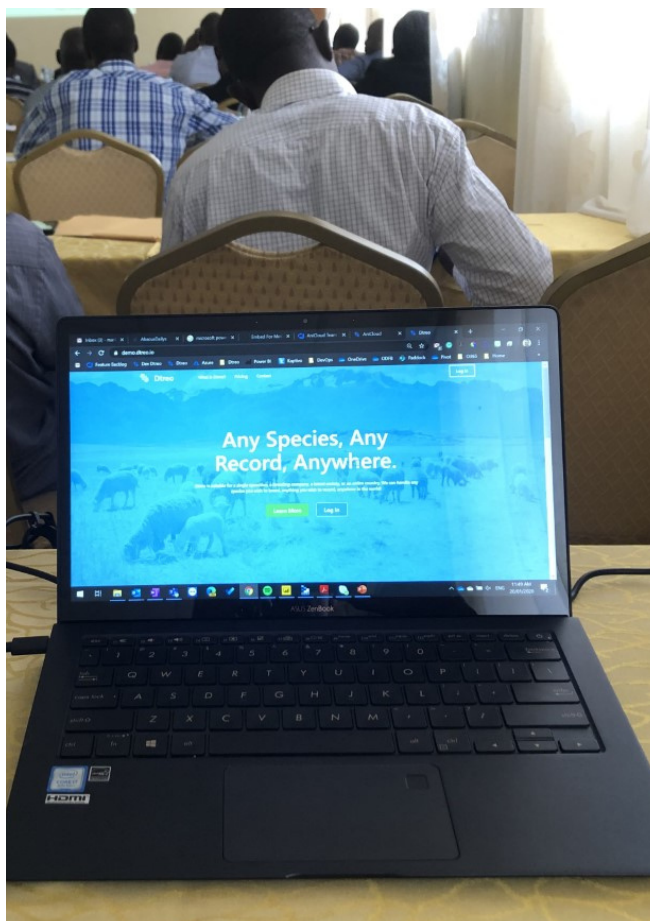
The impact of the project has increased by partnering with Ugandan organisations. Support was also received from the Animal Production division of the Kampala City Council, the Ministry of Agriculture, the National Animal Genetic Resource Centre, and the National Agricultural Advisory.

Connecting these stakeholders increases transparency and ensures the return of value to farmers. Partnerships like the ones in this project are also appealing to future investors.

Updates on the PigBoost project

Keep up to date with our collaborators: Vetline Services, Makerere University, Roslin Institute & Innovate UK.

More information about Dtreo can be found on <https://dtreo.io/> or you can connect with one of the consultants from the PigBoost project via our website <https://abacusbio.com>



Our collaborators



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Our consultants



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