



Improving income opportunities for rural population

FSDP was to contribute to higher income and job opportunities in rural areas, and higher food security for the target groups through improving the environment for a sustained development of the dairy/livestock industries

OBJECTIVE

FSDP aimed to reinforce research and capacity building in animal production for poverty alleviation and food security.

Improving the living conditions of medium scale businesses

The EC-supported FSDP program developed capacity building and research programs in diverse sectors of animal production: planning, management, training, credit, and extension. The target groups were medium scale dairy businesses, particularly medium scale livestock holders and processors. Activity components focused on Rinderpest eradication (it had not been eradicated yet at the start of the project), technical training and administrative services in dairy production, supports (especially FSDP Credit System). The main results are:

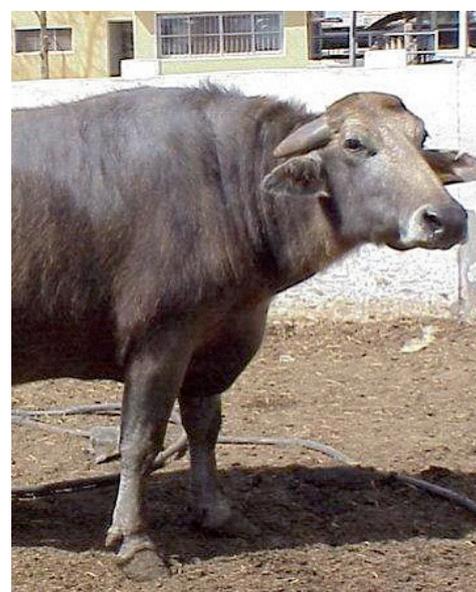
- 1996 declaration of Egypt being provisionally free of Rinderpest and the establishment of Livestock Epidemiological Planning Unit ;
- 45 extension packages developed and tested leading to silage intro-

duction and adoption, among other benefits ;

- Buffalo nucleus herd for the genetic improvement of national buffalo population ;
- 15 000 trainees passed through the Dairy Training Unit ;
- project impact on daily milk yield in targeted areas was an increase of 13% -32% for local buffalo, crossbred and exotic cows ;
- medium-size livestock holder can positively respond to well planned and implemented extension packages ;
- milk production from all genotypes considered by the project can be improved through the provision of appropriate milk marketing and processing procedures and the good care of cow's reproduction hygiene ;
- Credit is an important lubricant in medium size dairy sector.

A large partnership

From its inception the project endeavoured to forge a link between livestock producers, officials and stakeholders of different kinds. With availability of information, technology and credit, achievements of the



project proved to be sustainable. Just one good example is the introduction of silage making and use, a technology practically unknown to the Egyptian farmers before.

The project helped strengthen the links between animal production and animal health offices and between these offices and the extension services both at the headquarters level in Cairo and at the local levels. It also opened up channels of partnership with the European Union.