GALVmed
Protecting Livestock – Saving Human Life

newsletter

July 2011

GALVmed is a not-for-profit global alliance of public, private and government partners. By making livestock vaccines, diagnostics and medicines accessible and affordable to the millions for whom livestock is a lifeline GALVmed is *protecting livestock and saving human life*. It is currently funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the UK Government's Department for International Development and the European Union.

GALVmed has initially focused on four priority diseases: East Coast fever (which affects cattle), Rift Valley fever (cattle, sheep, goats, camels and also people), porcine cysticercosis (pigs and also people) and Newcastle disease (poultry). This newsletter reports on the announcement of a new programme on African animal trypanosomosis – see page 2 for details.

The *Chicken of Change* campaign is a pilot GALVmed advocacy programme promoting the value of livestock to young people and policy makers. Find out more on page 11.

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GALVmed awarded £8 million to develop tools for better control of African animal trypanosomosis

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Calcutta Telegraph reports on GALVmed-sponsored study on porcine cysticercosis

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Capacity building at AU-CTTBD

GALVmed continues to build capacity at the African Union Centre for Ticks and Tick-Borne Diseases in Lilongwe, Malawi.

Counting the cost of ECF in Kenya

During May and June 2011 GALVmed has been developing a baseline study to enable assessment of the impact of East Coast fever vaccination in cattle owned by Maasai communities in the pastoralist region of Kajiado in Kenya's Rift Valley Province.

Wellcome Trust funds global partnership to tackle haemorrhagic septicaemia

An international consortium of researchers has secured a £1 million award to develop a new vaccine to help control haemorrhagic septicaemia, a deadly disease of cattle, buffalo and other animals.

VACNADA update

GALVmed continues to provide a range of capacity building activities to eight vaccine producing laboratories in sub-Saharan Africa through a €6.9million grant.

Key partner profile: African Union-Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources

With its vision of "an Africa in which animal resources contribute significantly to the reduction of poverty and hunger", the Nairobi-based AU-IBAR has been a natural and valued partner of GALVmed from the outset.

Livestock productivity strategy paper launched at Inter-Agency Donor Meeting

The 12th Annual Inter-Agency Donor Group meeting (for pro-poor livestock research) was hosted by AU-IBAR and took place at their Nairobi headquarters in mid-May 2011.

New advocacy strategy for GALVmed in Africa: *Driving Change*

A small team led by Hameed Nuru, GALVmed's Senior Director: Policy and External Affairs, has been looking at their advocacy approach.

A GALVmed advocacy campaign: *Driving Change* in practice

One of the first activities under GALVmed's new advocacy strategy has already been showcased at a major World Bank conference held in Washington in June 2011.

Dr Michael Witty looks back over five years as chair of GALVmed

"I started as Board vice-Chairman and then, less than a year later, in the face of concerns about GALVmed's direction and with the threat of closure from our sponsor DFID, I was asked to take the chairmanship..."

The GALVmed team under the microscope

Team members talk about their roles and tell us a little about themselves.

New post to improve vaccines production

GALVmed has been leading on the recruitment of a Coordinator/Head of the new Process Development Laboratory at the Africa Union Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Centre (PANVAC), Debre Zeit, Ethiopia.

Monitoring & Evaluation Manager vacancy

Applications must reach GALVmed by mid-night (UK time) on 22 July 2011.

Steve Sloan, GALVmed's CEO, has the **Last Word**... on on tryps, trips and the power of diversity.

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GALVmed awarded £8 million to develop tools for better control of African animal trypanosomosis

On the 19 May 2011, GALVmed announced that it had been awarded £8 million by the UK Government's Department for International Development (DFID) to facilitate the development of new and improved drugs, diagnostics and perhaps even a vaccine for the control of African animal trypanosomosis.

African animal trypanosomosis, also known as trypanosomiasis, nagana or simply tryps, has been estimated to cost Africa US$5 billion a year. The disease is caused by a several species of single-celled protozoan parasites and is spread by tsetse flies as they feed on animals' blood.

The first step in GALVmed's ambitious 5-year programme will be to review current control options and scan the horizon to identify promising on-going research that could lead to better tools. The focus will be on tools that can be used at the level of the individual livestock keeper. The research groups who are working on the most promising leads will be invited to join forces with GALVmed.

In developing the current initiative, GALVmed's board and management has been inspired by recent successes in the control of the closely related human disease sleeping sickness, which is also transmitted by tsetse flies. A public-private partnership between the World Health Organisation and several pharmaceutical companies has seen the number of sleeping sickness cases in Africa drop by more than 80% over the past four years. And the campaign 'Stamp Out Sleeping Sickness' (SOS), involving partners from universities in Uganda and Edinburgh, a veterinary pharmaceutical company, private philanthropists and national authorities, has succeeded in halting the spread of the disease in Uganda.

Steve Sloan, GALVmed CEO, explains:

"Initially GALVmed's role will be catalytic, injecting new energy into tryps research and securing the funding necessary to make real progress. We recognise that tryps is an intractable problem that has engaged many of the best minds in the sector. So, the implementation of our plan to develop a better tryps toolkit will see the world's best scientists working closely with the world's top veterinary pharmaceutical and diagnostic companies.

Our scoping work over the past two years has revealed research which appears to have high-potential to lead to powerful new drugs, vaccines and diagnostics. We will maximise the chances of success by building on these leads. Our 'portfolio approach' means we will constantly and rigorously review the performance of the different research and development components, channelling resources to those areas that show the most potential and stopping those that fail to deliver against their initial promise. This approach and the recent progress made in the control of sleeping sickness gave DFID the confidence to make its first major investment in tryps research for more than a decade."

Commenting on the announcement Modibo Traoré, FAO's Assistant Director-General, Agriculture and Consumer Protection Department, said: *"Tryps is one of the most significant challenges facing Africa as it looks towards the twenty first century and DFID is to be congratulated for its imagination and courage in funding this initiative."*

An estimated 50 million cattle and 70 million sheep and goats are at risk of trypanosomosis and some 3 million cattle die from the disease annually. Tryps reduces meat and milk production, prevents the use of draft oxen for land cultivation in tsetse-infested areas and acts as a deterrent to upgrading low-yielding local breeds of livestock. This affects over 10 million square kilometres of fertile land spread across nearly 40 countries in Africa and therefore has a huge impact on food and nutritional security and livelihoods across the continent.

Dr Baptiste Dungu, GALVmed Senior Director: Research & Development, said: *"The development of a vaccine has often been considered impossible and there has been little to show for work done on new drugs since the 1950s and 60s. But by bringing together a stellar cast of the best scientists, companies and leaders, and building on a handful of very promising leads we have a real opportunity to reignite research toward the development of control tools for this devastating disease. It is also our hope that this funding will be a trigger to stimulate more funding from other donors toward African animal trypanosomosis."*

UK Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for International Development Stephen O'Brien said: *"This is a disease that ruins the lives of poor farmers across Africa who depend on their livestock to get by. Their ability to get food, pay for medicine or buy education materials for their children is intrinsically linked to the health of their cattle, sheep and goats. Tryps is causing serious loss of livestock and driving up poverty across Africa. This new research promises to find simple, effective ways to tackle this disease, and to put those tools straight into the hands of those who need them most."*

What is tryps?

African animal trypanosomosis is a serious, often fatal disease that affects livestock including cattle, sheep, goats and pigs. It is caused by several species of single-celled protozoan parasite, especially *Trypanosoma congolense* and *T. vivax*. The parasites are transmitted by infected tsetse flies as they feed on animals' blood.

23 species of tsetse are widely distributed throughout Africa. Control of tryps relies largely on the use of a small number of relatively toxic drugs which have been in constant use for more than half a century. It is also possible to control the tsetse, the biting flies that transmit the disease, but this presents significant logistical challenges. From the early 20th century onwards *T.vivax* has also been reported from various countries in South America, having been introduced from Africa in infected cattle.

The tsetse and trypanosomosis problem was discussed by the African Heads of State and Government in July 2000 at the Organisation for African Unity Summit in Lomé, Togo. Their decision, passed in Lomé and advocating the eradication of tsetse flies from the continent of Africa (Decision AGH/Dec.156(XXXVI), states:

"[The African Heads of State and Government] Recognizes the seriousness of the problem as one of Africa's greatest constraints to socio-economic development, severely affecting human and livestock health, limiting land use, causing poverty and perpetuating underdevelopment on the continent..."

Project implementation

To implement this ambitious undertaking, GALVmed is in the process of recruiting a programme manager for the African Animal Trypanosomosis Project. The manager, who will be based in Southern Africa, will be responsible for ensuring that the agreed deliverables with different partners are met within the timeframe and budget, and overseeing the contracts with the funders, DFID, and all other project partners.

There will be a large number of partners involved in the delivery of the various strands of this work, including the development of candidates for new drugs, field diagnostic assays and evaluation of potential candidate vaccines. To cope with the large workload involved in putting the necessary contracts in place, GALVmed will be relying on different types of expertise, including a team of interns – see page 16 for details of the interns. GALVmed will also use the opportunity this project presents to strengthen its capacity building initiatives with African institutions and scientists.

The billion shilling grant

Kenya's Daily Nation covered the announcement of the tryps grant with an attention-grabbing story headlined *'Sh1 billion fund unveiled to help fight livestock diseases'.* In Rwanda, the New Times ran the story together with a quote from Dr Théogène Rutagwenda, the Director General of Animal Resources in the Ministry of Agriculture, who said: *"We would of course love to have that GALVmed initiative".* And IRIN, the humanitarian news and analysis service of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, combined news of the isolation of two genes critical to the development of trypanosomosis-resistant cattle with the announcement of the grant. Researchers from Liverpool University, UK and the International Livestock Research Institute cautioned, however, that it would be decades before disease-resistant cattle were available to small-scale farmers.

Calcutta Telegraph reports on GALVmed-sponsored study on porcine cysticercosis

Porcine cysticercosis was one of the priority diseases which formed the focus of GALVmed's first business plan. A full description of GALVmed's work on this important zoonotic disease will be featured in the newsletter soon. Meanwhile, a story based on a GALVmed-sponsored marketing study for tools to control porcine cysticercosis in Assam state, India was recently featured in the Calcutta Telegraph newspaper.

The study, which is also being carried out in selected villages in Nepal and the Indian states of Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Meghalaya and Nagaland, is being undertaken by Intellevet, an Indian company specializing in veterinary clinical trials and technology solutions.

Intellevet's Dr Kakoli Ahmed, who is conducting the survey in the districts of Jorhat, Golaghat and Sivasagar in Assam state, explained in the article that in Assam many pigs are kept in backyards or allowed to roam freely. The study is showing that, although state vets instruct farmers to deworm their animals, very few of the predominantly poor pig keepers do so; combined with the lack of hygiene and sanitation, and lack of pig slaughter houses in the state and no meat inspection at markets, the cysticercosis cycle is maintained. Cysticercosis affects people causing a range of conditions, the most serious of which include epilepsy and even death.

The article contrasts the situation in Assam, with that in Meghalaya and Nagaland where pig farming is much more organised, local authorities do not allow pigs to roam freely and the state vets ensure pigs are de-wormed every two months.

According to Dr Manav Narayan Baruah, a paediatrician at Jorhat Medical College and Hospital, the hospital detects around three new cases of cysticercosis a month. He explained:

"The prevalence of the disease is high here, especially among the tea community, and the symptoms are seizures like epileptic fits which can be life-threatening. Not only should pigs and cattle be de-wormed but humans, too, should be de-wormed every six months according to WHO recommendations."

In brief: **pig keeping in Assam**

Assam is a state in northeastern Indian. The 27.5 million people who live in Assam have a per capita income that is half the average for India and 36% live below the poverty line. The predominantly rural economy is based largely on rice but most households produce less than is needed for their own consumption. Assam is ethnically very mixed, including a high proportion of tribal people for who pig keeping is integral to their way of life.

There are 1.5 million pigs in Assam, mostly kept by the poor in low input market-oriented systems, with the small herds (1-5 pigs per household) often managed by women. Although growth rates are slow, mainly due to poor nutrition, pigs make significant contributions to their owners' livelihoods and represent an important source of financial independence for women. There is a trend towards keeping an increasing proportion of crossbred pigs and also to tethering or penning rather than free roaming.

Source: Deka, R. et al. (2007) Assam's pig subsector: Current status, constraints and opportunities. ILRI Research Report. ILRI, Nairobi, Kenya

ECF vaccine marketing in Malawi

Malawi has a cattle population estimated at around one million, with 90% owned by rural communities and the balance owned by large-scale commercial farmers. The tick-borne disease East Coast fever (ECF) accounts for 60% of cattle deaths due to disease in northern and central Malawi where the tick vector of ECF is found.

GALVmed has succeeded in registering the ECF Infection and Treatment Method (ITM) vaccine for use in Malawi as well as Kenya and Tanzania. It has also selected the African Union Centre for Ticks and Tick-Borne Disease (AU-CTTBD) at Lilongwe to manufacture the vaccine and is supporting a comprehensive capacity building programme, covering both technical and business aspects, as well as providing the necessary infrastructure and equipment, to enable sustainable production of high-quality vaccine.

6 ADVERTISING

GOOD NEWS FOR
CATTLE OWNERS!!

Recent work undertaken by GALVmed, AU-CTTBD and GSJ Animal Health and Livestock Production Company Limited (GSJ), the company appointed as the local vaccine distributor in Malawi, has shown that although Malawian farmers are well aware of the risk of ECF, they did not know that a vaccine was available. An awareness raising campaign was therefore carried out by the three partners in December 2010 and January 2011.

The *Good News for Cattle Owners* campaign utilised a variety of media and approaches including 70 adverts run on local radio stations, newspaper ads run in weekday and weekend newspapers, and 33 roadside meeting, the latter organised in conjunction with the Department of Animal Health and Livestock Development.

The campaign introduced farmers to the benefits of vaccination and emphasised that it provided life-long immunity so long as the cattle continued to be exposed to ticks.

In Malawi GSJ buy the ECF vaccine from AU-CTTBD and sells it to farmers for the equivalent of approximately US$ 3 per dose; the vaccination regimen also requires a simultaneous injection of long-acting oxytetracycline which costs an additional US$ 2.50 for a 250 kg animal. Feedback from farmers received during the *Good News* campaign revealed that these costs were quite acceptable to most farmers and the selling price includes a margin for the vaccine distributor which is comparable to many other veterinary products.

In Malawi, GSJ are targeting three types of cattle owner as potential customers for the vaccine:

- **Commercial farmers:** This sector is the easiest to access because they have animal handling facilities and large numbers of cattle can be presented for vaccination at the same time. The payment is made in advance.
- **Small-scale farmers in the traditional sector:** For the small-scale farmers, a GSJ field officer first goes around to organise farmers who need cattle to be vaccinated. They arrange a vaccination point and date for cattle to be assembled. Payment is made in advance. This sector presents certain challenges in that sometimes not enough cattle are made available to make the trip economically worthwhile for the distributor and in order not to waste vaccine doses. A particular problem occurs before maize crops are harvested when standing crops constrain cattle movements.
- **Smallholder dairy farmers:** Smallholder dairy farmers are organised around a milk chilling plant as cooperatives. They have a system of paying for veterinary services, including vaccination, by a check-off system whereby invoices are settled monthly when they get paid for their milk.

Vaccine coverage achieved so far is relatively modest at around one thousand doses, but it is anticipated that this figure will be improved upon when the maize crop is harvested and cattle in the predominant traditional sector can be more readily accessed.

Cattle being vaccinated on a large-scale commercial farm in Malawi

A GSJ vet prepres a does of oxytetracycline

Capacity building at AU-CTTBD

GALVmed has been working to develop capacity at the African Union Centre for Ticks and Tick-Borne Diseases (AU-CTTBD) in Lilongwe, Malawi. This involved a two-day seminar to train the laboratory's management team in intellectual asset management and contracting held in May 2011. The topics included intellectual property rights, protection of proprietary assets and contract drafting using practical case-exercises.

Josef Geoola, the Intellectual Property and Legal Officer: Research and Development at GALVmed who delivered the training, explained:

"Intellectual assets are inventions, data, know-how and other non-tangible assets which are generated or traded through a business' operations. At institutions such as CTTBD, where the most sustainable value lies within intangibles, it is crucial that these are identified early-on and leveraged strategically through contracts so that the institution can maximize the potential value."

Following on from this work, in May and June GALVmed supported a management training programme for CTTBD in order to strengthen the sustainability and operating efficiency of the centre. The course covered strategic planning, marketing, finance, creative problem solving and project management. It was designed by Wellspring Development of Malawi alongside Open University Worldwide. The programme was designed to enable managers to learn some of the key theories and techniques in commercial management and also supported them to create an action plan. This training will be followed up and supported over coming months as CTTBD implements these plans. Further support will include the introduction of a new bespoke accounting, inventory and process control software developed specifically for CTTBD by Bases y Datos of Spain.

The AU-CTTBD is being supported by GALVmed to enable it to manufacture and supply a quality assured East Coast fever vaccine throughout the region.

Counting the cost of ECF in Kenya

During May and June 2011 GALVmed has been developing a baseline study to enable assessment of the impact of East Coast fever vaccination in cattle owned by Maasai communities in the pastoralist region of Kajiado in Kenya's Rift Valley Province, just south of Nairobi.

The field research is part of a collaborative study between GALVmed, Washington State University, the Spanish software development company Bases y Datos, and the NGO VETAID. The research is largely quantitative and is based on household surveys with identified respondents.

Structured interviews have been pre-tested and 160 household surveys completed by the eight specially trained local enumerators. All the data is currently being analysed using software developed for GALVmed by Bases y Datos.

This work is paving the way for a larger study to be conducted later in 2011 which will be completed by March 2012. This research supports GALVmed's objective to develop data-driven decision making tools for socio-economic impact and better understanding of markets.

Jonathan Yoder, an Associate Professor at Washington State University, said:

"This project is in the first wave of what will be a sustained long-term effort by the Paul Allen School for Global Animal Health at Washington State University. Our goal as economists affiliated with the School is to help improve economic welfare and alleviate poverty in livestock-dependent communities in East Africa and elsewhere though a better understanding of the most economically effective approaches to livestock disease management. This ECF vaccination assessment effort is both important in its own right and an ideal opportunity to help us move forward in pursuit of our long-term goal."

This approach of better articulating disease control investment in economic as well as scientific terms is noted in GALVmed's new advocacy strategy as part of the way to drive additional investment into livestock programmes (see page 10 for more details).

Lois Muraguri, GALVmed's Assistant Director: Policy and External Affairs, said:

"This is an important new partnership for GALVmed. It brings together a cross-disciplinary and international team and through training a team of eight enumerators we are also building local research capacity.

My challenge is to ensure that we make the emerging data available to others in the field who can use it. One of GALVmed's priorities is to find ways of sharing more information including by making available grey literature and raw data."

Wellcome Trust funds global partnership to tackle haemorrhagic septicaemia

An international consortium of researchers has secured a £1million award to develop a new vaccine to help control haemorrhagic septicaemia, a deadly disease of cattle and other animals.

The three year project is being funded by a Wellcome Trust Translation Award. These awards are designed to bridge the funding gap in the commercialisation of new technologies.

Haemorrhagic septicaemia is an endemic bacterial disease that affects cattle, buffalo and camels across South Asia, Africa and South America. Transmission of bacteria is airborne, but infection leads quickly to systemic disease causing death of the animal within 24 hours.

In India, it is estimated that haemorrhagic septicaemia is responsible for approximately half of all bovine deaths. The disease is a significant economic problem for resource-poor farmers who rely on these animals for meat, milk, draft power, manure and fuel.

Dr Baptiste Dungu, Senior Director: Research and Development, said:

"Haemorrhagic septicaemia is one of the thirteen diseases identified by GALVmed as most affecting the livelihood of poor livestock keepers in the developing world. The expected benefits for this vaccine, i.e. broader cross-protection and longer immunity, will be very crucial in controlling the disease in communities with limited access to other veterinary services. GALVmed is proud to contribute to this consortium through its insight and knowledge on product availability and access to poor livestock keepers."

The consortium, which is led by the Moredun Research Institute and includes the University of Glasgow and the Indian Veterinary Research Institute, plans to develop and test a new vaccine for this disease over the next three years. GALVmed along with Inocul8, a development company which is part of the Moredon Group and which focuses on commercialisation of academic research, and Indian Immunologicals Ltd, whose facilities at Hyderabad and Ooty are among the largest vaccine producing plants in the world, have been recruited as organisations with the commercial experience required to get a new vaccine licensed and manufactured in India.

Steve Sloan, Chief Executive of GALVmed said:

"GALVmed is committed to partnership working. In many cases it is our role to lead the partnership and work directly with the funders, but in this case we are being brought into the team led by Moredun to provide specific expertise which exploits our knowledge and networks.

I am delighted that this opportunity has come along as we are starting to develop our team and build our investment in South Asia. I am excited by the opportunity to make an impact on haemorrhagic septicaemia and to work with our partners to ensure that poorer farmers can benefit from any advances that are made."

VACNADA update

Vaccines for the Control of Neglected Animal Diseases in Africa (VACNADA) is a partnership of the AU-IBAR, GALVmed, the Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Centre of the African Union (AU-PANVAC) and CIRAD (the French agricultural research for development organisation). GALVmed is responsible for providing a range of capacity building activities to eight vaccine producing laboratories in sub-Saharan Africa through a €6.9million grant.

GALVmed recently organised and delivered a marketing and business skills workshop for the laboratories involved in the VACNADA programme. This was held in Nairobi at the beginning of June 2011. In addition to the skills and knowledge that was shared at the event the delegates, pictured above, really valued the opportunity to network with their peers.

Minister praises VACNADA programme at GALVmed workshop

The Kenya Minister for Livestock Development, Hon Dr Mohamed Kuti, EGH, MP, briefs the press about the work of GALVmed and VACNADA after officially launching the Nairobi workshop. In his speech he said:

"I am made to understand that in the VACNADA project implementation partnership, GALVmed is focusing on:

- *improving production capacity and quality for the selected vaccines for the neglected animal diseases in Africa, and*
- *strengthening distribution systems and vaccination market surveys.*

As a result of the GALVmed implemented activities on vaccination market surveys and strengthening vaccines distribution systems, this workshop has been organized to review and discuss how the findings affect the participating vaccine producing institutions and how a market modelling tool may be acquired and used by the various institutions for strategic management of vaccines production and distribution.

I am also confident that taking into account the various activities of the different implementing partners, the VACNADA project will achieve the expected results which are:

- *procurement of vaccines from African laboratories and supply to selected target countries.*
- *vaccination of targeted animal populations against the selected diseases*
- *improvement of production capacity and quality of selected vaccines within Africa.*
- *strengthening of independent laboratory quality systems on the African continent*

I wish to thank you for coming to Kenya to share your experiences on veterinary vaccines marketing issues... Once again our sincere thanks go to the European Union for the support rendered in this and many other efforts in the livestock industry on the African continent."

VACNADA equipment starts to make an impact

New laminar flow equipment, provided under the VACNADA programme, is now in use at the Institute Senegalais de Recherches Agricoles–Laboratoire National De L'Elevage et des Recherches Vétérinaires (ISRA/LNERV) in Dakar-Hann, Senegal.

GALVmed has also just concluded contract negotiations with LSI PVT Ltd for the supply and installation of a new lyophiliser at KEVEVAPI in Kenya. The value of contract is US$ 297,825 funded under the VACNADA programme.

A special edition of the GALVmed newsletter focussing on VACNADA is planned for later in the year.

Key partner profile: African Union-Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR)

With its vision of "an Africa in which animal resources contribute significantly to the reduction of poverty and hunger" the Nairobi-based African Union-Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) has been a natural and valued partner of GALVmed from the outset.

Currently GALVmed and AU-IBAR's partnership is manifest by:

- AU-IBAR through its Director, currently Professor Ahmed El-Sawalhy, being a member of GALVmed's Board of Observers, thereby contributing to the Alliance's strategy, oversight and governance
- the €20 million EC-funded VACNADA project, which is coordinated by AU-IBAR in close partnership with GALVmed, the Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Centre (AU-PANVAC), and the Centre for International Cooperation in Agronomic Research for Development (CIRAD)
- the East Coast Fever Task Force, chaired by AU-IBAR, which provides guidance and oversight for GALVmed's work on registration, manufacture and commercialisation of the ECF vaccine

Established in 1951 initially to control rinderpest in Africa, AU-IBAR's role has been progressively widened. Its mandate now includes a much wider range of diseases as well as animal production issues, and most recently was expanded further to include the utilisation of fisheries and wildlife as well as livestock resources.

The Bureau's Strategic Plan for 2010-2014 spells out its strategic niche, which is "to work at continental and regional levels, through the RECs [Regional Economic Communities] and with other regional bodies as key partners". The plan goes on to explain: "An important area of focus for this Strategic Plan is the development and promotion of common African positions within the global animal resources arena".

AU-IBAR is a specialized technical office of the Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture (DREA) of the African Union Commission (AUC). As such, it enjoys unique convening power and is a critical instrument for advocacy; it is able to bring together animal resource policy and decision-makers from African Union member states, including at ministerial levels or higher. AU-IBAR is therefore well placed to translate technical recommendations into national, regional and continent-wide policies and practices.

AU-IBAR's mandate is to support and coordinate the utilization of animals (livestock, fisheries and wildlife) as a resource for human wellbeing in the Member States of the African Union and to contribute to economic development. Its work is organised around seven goals, which are to:

- Improve public and animal health through the control and possible eradication of transboundary animal diseases and zoonoses
- Improve the management of animal resources and the natural resource bases on which they depend
- Explore investment options and enhance competitiveness of African animal products
- Contribute to the development of relevant standards and regulations and enhance compliance by Member States
- Strengthen institutional capacity and support policy development and harmonization
- Disseminate information and knowledge on animal resources to Member States, Regional Economic Communities and other relevant institutions
- Provide essential support to Member States with special needs or in emergency situations.

GALVmed's Senior Director for Policy and External Affairs, Dr Hameed Nuru, was formerly the Senior Policy Officer for Livestock and Fisheries in AU-IBAR, where he also oversaw Partnerships and the Trade & Marketing units. He is therefore well placed to sum up the importance of this pivotal relationship: *"AU-IBAR remains a close partner of GALVmed, sharing collaborative insights into furthering the African livestock agenda".*

Livestock productivity strategy paper launched at Inter-Agency Donor Meeting

The 12th Annual Inter-Agency Donor Group meeting (for pro-poor livestock research) was hosted by the African Union-Interafrican Bureau of Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) and took place at their Nairobi headquarters in mid-May.

The meeting was attended by the major bilateral and multilateral donors and investment agencies as well as representatives from national, regional and international livestock research organisations, the private sector and GALVmed. This was the first time this series of meetings had taken place in Africa; previously they had taken place in Europe. For GALVmed and many other attendees the decision to hold the meeting in Africa was crucial to them attending.

Every year for the past 12 years an inter-agency meeting has taken place with a view to sharing ideas, improving coordination, promoting concerted effort and thereby achieving better impact from investment in pro-poor livestock research. One of the early outcomes of this series of meetings was discussions which culminated in the establishment of GALVmed.

At the Nairobi Inter-Agency meeting GALVmed's Senior Director for Policy and External Affairs, Dr Hameed Nuru, gave a presentation during the Setting the Scene session titled *Livestock Development in Africa – Impetus Strategy Paper.*

The presentation was based on a forthcoming GALVmed paper written by Tim Leyland who worked closely with Dr Nuru. *The Impetus Strategy Paper – A Path to Prosperity: new directions for African Livestock* – builds on recent analyses by FAO, the World Bank and AU-IBAR on African livestock and global livestock sector development, along with detailed analysis by the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) on animal health and veterinary governance. It brings together information, evidence and examples from a range of key informants, studies and literature and aims to assist GALVmed and its partners to identify potential areas where they might extend their work to best support livestock productivity primarily for resource poor farmers.

The paper highlights areas that can immediately improve livestock development in Africa, focusing on trends and issues that are relevant to GALVmed now and in the future. It also reviews the key players working to develop the sector, concluding that whilst there is a well ordered structure from global, through continental and regional, to national level, the voices of farmers, small businesses and entrepreneurs are missing from the policy process. With GALVmed's strong private sector linkages the paper suggests that it should consider further how it can work with development partners to support and advocate for small businesses working in particular value chains.

GALVmed and partners are currently working on plans which seek to take forward the ideas and options presented in the *Impetus Strategy Paper*. Further information on these developments will be released in the coming months.

New advocacy strategy for GALVmed in Africa: **Driving Change**

Whilst GALVmed has been busy recently developing its overall business plan for the next five years, a small team led by Hameed Nuru, GALVmed's Senior Director: Policy and External Affairs, has been looking at the advocacy approach needed to support this. The result is *Driving Change*, a document which lays out the advocacy strategy for Africa and the assumptions and working principles that underpin it.

The strategy recognises that advocacy within GALVmed has two key components: the promotion of GALVmed and its agenda (the launch phase) and the promotion of policies that favour the creation of wealth for poor farmers through the development and access of control tools for the livestock diseases they face. Within Africa, thanks to intensive efforts by its senior management and many face-to-face meetings, a good level of awareness and understanding of GALVmed has been achieved. So, here the emphasis will now be much more focused on specific policy issues and the policy framework.

Driving Change defines six objectives for GALVmed's advocacy strategy in Africa:

- To drive the creation and implementation of policies that support the development of control tools (vaccines, drugs and diagnostics) which enable poor livestock keepers to address the disease challenges they face.
- To create an enabling policy making and implementing environment.
- To raise the profile of livestock within the 'agriculture eco-system' resulting in the creation of holistic and balanced policies and a greater share of voice and resource of livestock within the agricultural sector.
- To promote the GALVmed methodology of global public-private partnership.
- To develop a policy oriented knowledge bank that can be used as a public good.
- To encourage and support the general assumption of an advocacy mindset and approach throughout the whole of GALVmed.

The document also identifies the broad target audiences for GALVmed's advocacy initiatives. These include: the major global agriculture, health and trade organisations; donors; major political players from the regions and countries; law proposers and writers , i.e. the technocrats; relevant scientific and research communities; frontline veterinary personnel in the countries where GALVmed have projects; entrepreneurs and private enterprises; poor livestock keepers – GALVmed is committed to ensuring that their voice is incorporated into the policy making process; and other NGOs working at local, regional and international levels.

Driving Change introduces a 'hierarchy of responses' that relevant audiences need to be moved through in order for policy change to happen, with advocacy playing a role at each stage. These are:

- **Knowledge** – of the issues and those involved and affected (and of GALVmed)
- **Understanding** – realisation of their potential role and of the options available
- **Engagement** – willingness to be involved in the change process, participation in the agenda
- **Commitment** – in the form of promises of money and/or actions
- **Delivery of promises** – real participation.

Hameed Nuru explains the thinking behind the strategy and the next steps:

"Fundamental to GALVmed's change model is a commitment to working in partnership and building alliances. This means by definition that much of our advocacy strategy and activity will be done with partners outside the organisation.

This reliance on partners and the need to leverage the energy and experience of others in order to create effective change means that learning and knowledge needs to be gathered throughout the process by GALVmed and its partners. In order to ensure that this knowledge is used and built upon a wiki approach will be used.

Now that our advocacy objectives for Africa have been defined our next step is to develop an implementation plan, including a framework to monitor the success of the activities.

But many of the critical elements in enabling GALVmed to succeed are outside its direct control and there will inevitably be changes, for example in political structures and breakthroughs in science and technology. Many of the outcomes are dependent on partnerships and a sustainable alliance, so assumptions have to be made with regard to others willingness to partner in a timely fashion. GALVmed have a fundamental belief that, whatever the changes, working in partnership and building alliances will be the most effective way ahead and we are committed to seeing them work.

So, changes to the exact activities and tasks are to be expected. Lessons will be learnt along the way and the learning will need to be analysed, internalised and applied. In this context our advocacy strategy should be seen as a living, dynamic thing I am confident, however, that it is both robust and flexible enough to enable GALVmed to achieve the objectives that it has set itself."

A GALVmed advocacy campaign: *Driving Change* in practice

One of the first activities under GALVmed's new advocacy strategy has already been showcased at a major World Bank conference held in Washington in June 2011.

GALVmed's *Kenyan Dream* campaign is an innovative multi-media advocacy initiative which aims to challenge attitudes to livestock amongst both the nation's young people and policy makers. It builds on the finding from especially undertaken research that seven out of every ten Kenyans see livestock as a key to creating prosperous future livelihoods – or, as the campaign puts it, to build their dreams.

Rob Burnet, a Nairobi-based social entrepreneur whose communications company Well Told Story is leading the campaign in Kenya, said:

"I was invited to speak at the World Bank conference, Entertainment Education: A Solution for Cost Effective, High Impact Development Communication, which explored options for leveraging commercial entertainment media, such as TV, radio and film, and new media, including cell phone apps, SMS, social media and the internet, for development impact in finance, health and other sectors.

In my talk I was able to showcase the campaign we devised for GALVmed. We call it a 'total media' campaign. The brief was to challenge attitudes to livestock keeping amongst young Kenyans at large scale, and leverage this to test how much policy makers and shapers were aware of the potential of livestock to support poverty alleviation and pathways to progress – and also to see how aware they were of the GALVmed Kenyan Dream campaign."

The debt collector has come to the house and the goat is protecting Charlie Pele, the hero of the story...

The ***Kenyan Dream*** campaign has several components and works at different levels:

For the youth campaign, pro-livestock stories appeared in the June and July 2011 issues of *Shujaaz*, an award-winning comic which eventually reaches some six million Kenyans. *Shujaaz* is the largest circulation periodical in East Africa: up to 600,000 copies are distributed through The Nation newspaper and via 12,000 Safaricom Mpesa (a mobile phone based money transfer system) outlets, the latter particularly important in more remote rural areas. The peak readership of *Shujaaz* is 18-26 year olds and it is drawn and written (in a combination of Swahili, English and cool vernacular Sheng) by Kenyans whose average age is 23. The stories and their underlying messages also reached a potential audience of 15 million through daily radio shows syndicated to 22 local stations. Young people were invited to respond to the livestock-based stories using SMS, Facebook and other social media – the best of which were incorporated into the radio phone-ins and comics.

Rob Burnet who founded *Shujaaz* explains:

"In Shujaaz all of our stories are character-led. In the first story in this campaign the charismatic DJ Boyie leads the readers and listeners through the issues. The story follows the fortunes of a fictional wannabe recording artist who learns the hard way that keeping chickens could have offered him a financial foundation on which to build his dreams. We also meet Eunice, who, back in the real world, has put herself through education and an internship by keeping chickens and selling eggs – she is now an employee at Shujaaz.

Eunice was one of many young people approached to be the real-life face of the campaign. But the fact that most were too embarrassed to be featured, and to admit their dreams had been built on livestock, speaks volumes about the need for the campaign."

For the policy-makers campaign, a group of over 100 Kenyan politicians and senior civil servants was selected, including those from the livestock, agriculture and planning ministries, and also their colleagues from the treasury and from other relevant NGOs, agencies and associations. They all received two packs which included illustrated briefings, copies of the comics, cartoons, advertisements and a cartoon cut-out showing Kenyans, from all walks of life, being carried on the back of a chicken – dubbed the *Chicken of Change*. This image, featured on the cover of this newsletter, is also depicted on a billboard located in close proximity to the Kenyan Parliament building. It urges people to 'jump onboard', supporting poor livestock keepers. Before and after surveys will test shifts in attitudes and awareness of the campaign among the national youth audience, and also the policy makers.

Hameed Nuru, GALVmed's Senior Director of Policy and External Affairs, said:

"A focus on young Kenyans as well as policy makers was quite deliberate. With the age of the average Kenyan farmer having been recently reported as 59 years, with a third over 65, it is clearly important to change attitudes to keeping livestock and other forms of farming amongst the young. The tide of urbanisation sees lots of young people turning their backs on traditional agricultural livelihoods to find work in the cities. Unfortunately most of Africa is currently not creating jobs fast enough and youth unemployment is endemic.

Although 70% of Kenyans rely heavily on their poultry, sheep, goats, pigs and cattle, the livestock sector received only 2% of gross government expenditure in 2010/2011.

The core message of the campaign is that livestock secures livelihoods – so why aren't African governments spending a bit more money on this vital sector, and why aren't young Kenyans embracing this opportunity more enthusiastically.

Part of our learning so far is that the livestock lobby has not been presenting compelling economic arguments for investment. Scientists have tended to frame arguments too narrowly – based, for example, on eradication of a disease or pest. We need to draw our alliance wider, to bring in a broader group including economists and social scientists, to follow up this campaign, which we hope will capture the hearts and minds of the policy makers."

Dr Michael Witty looks back over five years as chair of GALVmed

I have been involved with GALVmed right from its conception in 2000 when DFID invited me, as the head of Pfizer's Animal Health UK R&D group, to the first Inter-Agency Donor Group meeting. They posed the question: *"Why have the millions of dollars provided by donors to support livestock research not yielded products that have improved the health of the animals of poor livestock keepers?".*

As someone new to the development arena, I was naive enough to suggest that this failure might be due to the fact that the well-meaning efforts of academics and NGOs lacked experience on how to develop, register and commercialise new products. I suggested animal health companies were better equipped to turn concepts into commercial products, and to ruthlessly manage a portfolio of projects focussing efforts on the more promising ones. Unfortunately, industry seemed not particularly interested in high-risk products for which there appeared not to be a large profitable market.

I now realise that there are many other challenges and obstacles to getting new products into the hands of the poor livestock keeper. However, my comments seemed to resonate with DFID and others who suggested that there was a need for a public-private partnership.

By 2005, GALVmed was established as a not-for-profit company to drive the availability of new livestock products that meet the needs of the world's poorest livestock keepers, with a board representing academia, industry and the NGO sectors. I started as Board vice-Chairman and then, less than a year later, in the face of concerns about GALVmed's direction and with the threat of closure from our sponsor DFID, I was asked to take the chairmanship. Fortunately, working with Steve Sloan and Sam Thevasagayam (the then R&D director), we were able to turn this around, reorient the organisation and provide DFID with the belief to continue funding. Steve has done a great job in building the organisation up from that point and we achieved the other major grants from DFID, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the European Commission. Our success speaks to the importance of our cause and the funders' confidence and expectation that GALVmed could deliver, as well as much hard work. We have already made a great start in demonstrating that this confidence is not misplaced with good progress on our first four diseases and the VACNADA project.

With almost 30 years in Pfizer Animal Health, as well as my veterinary product expertise, I brought my own industry knowledge, expertise of managing a large organisation, strategic and business leadership skills. More importantly, I and other industry colleagues on the board bought a delivery-focused, business-like approach. You can do the best scientific R&D and be the partner of choice but if it doesn't put product into the hands of the customer then it counts for nothing. We also brought access to a network of experts in creating and delivering new animal health products. I am proud that Pfizer Animal Health has been a great supporter of GALVmed from the start, especially through the roles of the Pfizer Global Health Fellows. Their expert contribution has been considerable and I hope other animal health companies will adopt this model.

GALVmed is an alliance. It needs partners to be successful since we do not develop, manufacture or sell products ourselves. Finding the right partners that can deliver quality work to timelines for a fair price can be challenging. Sometimes partners do not have the expertise or resources to deliver what they claim and this can really slow down the process. Helping partners realise that we operate like a business with milestones and timelines, and that failure to deliver means discontinuing of funding, is sometimes difficult. We have not always been successful but we have found some great partners all over the world. Sometimes we have been able to help them build the capacity they need to deliver that quality which is then there for the future.

It would be wrong to claim that there are not sometimes tensions between the different partners and stakeholders but that is a strength of the GALVmed alliance. These organisations often have very different cultures and very different objectives and working practises. This is accentuated by the global nature of GALVmed with partners around the globe in both developed and less developed countries. Each interest group brings a different perspective and expertise to help us come up with solutions and strategies that will really work and which are win-win for the partners.

Our new Impetus Strategy Paper sets out some of the barriers that stand in the way of improving livestock health. This will provide a great tool to highlight the role of livestock in reducing poverty, to align the strategies of other stakeholders towards addressing those barriers and to gain funding and momentum behind the efforts to build sustainable value chains for livestock products that will reach the poorest livestock keeper.

GALVmed's vision was not just to be an organisation but to model a new way of working. I think we have been fulfilling that vision through our efforts to ensure regional involvement in both project partnerships and organisational leadership. I am delighted by the diversity that we have achieved with our team and board.

The role of the board has changed over the six years. When we started, the board role was very hands-on, since we had a small and inexperienced staff, but this has changed. Our input now should be more strategic than tactical, offering oversight rather than day-to-day management. Of course the board members still have a lot to offer through their individual expertise, which they share when needed.

When setting up GALVmed, I had proposed that board members should step down after a maximum of six consecutive years. I believe that this is important to get new ideas and expertise into the organisation. Clearly it will be sad for me when I now have to retire from the board in October having served my full term but I shall look on as a proud parent, helping out where I can but not interfering!

GALVmed has given me a great opportunity to give something back after a career which has given me both skills and a good living. My greatest satisfaction comes from helping to feed the poor, to prevent life-threatening zoonotic diseases and to help people out of poverty. Not many roles can have such a direct impact on humankind.

I wish my successor Dr Shadrack Moephuli every success as the new GALVmed Chairman. As an African, he is well placed to encourage our regional board trustees and members to take a more engaged and leading role in the organisation and to attract new talent from Africa.

The GALVmed team under the microscope

Here members of the GALVmed team talk about their role in the organization and also tell us a little about themselves. This may help break the ice when first meeting them. A set of the team's biographies is also available at www.galvmed.org

Dr Baptiste Dungu

Job title: Senior Director: Research and Development

Nationality: South African citizen

Joined GALVmed: 2008

Relevant career highlights: Until November 2008, Baty was the Chief Scientific Officer of the Onderstepoort Biological Products (OBP), South Africa, the largest veterinary vaccine developer and manufacturer on the African continent. He worked at Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute (OVI) and OBP for 16 years. He has conducted numerous consultancies on behalf of international institutions including the FAO, AU-IBAR and IAEA in Africa on different aspects of animal disease control strategies. His areas of specialization include veterinary vaccinology, diagnostic technologies and the development of disease control tools.

Education: Baty qualified as a veterinarian in the DR Congo and did his post-graduate studies in South Africa.

Key publications: Baty has published more than 20 articles in international peer reviewed journals.

Sharon Ross

Job title: Business Manager

Role in GALVmed: Sharon is responsible for the human resource needs of the organization including recruitment, staff development and contracting for all staff and consultants. She is also responsible for administration and corporate requirements of the office, managing the work of the administration team and ensuring alignment throughout each of the country offices.

Joined GALVmed: Sharon has worked with GALVmed since March 2007

Nationality: British

Relevant career highlights: Sharon previously worked with the various departments within the International Organisation for Migration including the Bureau for Africa and the Middle East (working closely with UN agencies) in Geneva and then moved to Rome to work with the World Food Programme coordinating emergency food-aid programmes. Sharon also has experience in working with charity organisations locally in Edinburgh.

Education: Sharon qualified in Business Studies with Languages at Napier University.

Interests: Sharon enjoys travelling and learning about the customs of different countries. She loves to soak up the culture of Edinburgh, visiting the theatre to watch plays, concerts and in particular, dance performances. The mix of travel and dining out also brings out her passion for trying different cuisines, with Indian food being a particular favourite.

Heather Stevenson

Job title: Director of Finance

Role in GALVmed: As a member of the Senior Management team, Heather is responsible for all matters finance, corporate service and governance. Her initial responsibility (through engagement with stakeholders) is to identify and implement suitable systems, policies and procedures in addition to supporting the establishment of GALVmed's culture.

Joined GALVmed: Heather joined GALVmed late September 2008

Nationality: British

Relevant career highlights: Heather is a chartered accountant with a wealth of senior management experience across a variety of sectors including public, private and not-for-profit.

Dr Mamta Dhawan

Job title: Programme Manager, South Asia

Role in GALVmed: To establish GALVmed's presence in South Asia: India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan and Sri Lanka, acquire information for GALVmed to take critical decisions about South Asia Programme and be its interface in the region. As a start, Mamta is taking the lead in implementing three Newcastle disease pilot projects in the region.

Joined GALVmed: April 2010

Nationality: Indian

Relevant career highlights: Mamta was working as senior veterinary officer in South Asia Pro-poor Policy Programme, a joint initiative of FAO and the National Dairy Development Board of India, before taking up this assignment with GALVmed. She enjoyed her role of providing qualitative analysis to two studies concerning livelihoods related to backyard poultry and impact of bird flu on these poultry farmers. Notable successes have been the documentation of a range of good practices in smallholder poultry which provide evidence for investment policies in favour of marginalized farmers rearing backyard poultry.

Education: Mamta graduated (BVSc and AH) from the College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Bikaner, Rajasthan and later took a degree in education (Bachelor of Education) from Indira Gandhi National Open University.

Key publications: Co-author for two studies:

- *Poultry based Livelihoods of Rural Poor: Case of Kuroiler in West Bengal*
- *HPAI Impact: before and after assessment of HPAI outbreak*

Co-authored a number of papers including:

- *Small scale poultry production as a pathway out of poverty in India and West Bengal*
- *Economics of Village Poultry*
- *Sharing some observations : Control of Bird Flu in West Bengal & Bangladesh*

Interests: Mamta loves reading and enjoy dabbling in oil painting, making handicrafts in her leisure time. To beat the stress she cooks great meals and entertains her close friends and extended family. She loves nature and heads towards mountains or deserts, depending on the time of the year, to get out of Delhi's heat and pollution. Mamta has been fortunate to travel both in India and abroad thanks to her work and her husband's job in the army. This has helped her to understand different cultures, people's aspirations and way of life.

Emily Johnston

Emily Johnston will be returning to work with GALVmed and Inocul8 over the next few months to help prepare Vetvac.org for its official launch. Vetvac.org is a free online database of livestock veterinary vaccines jointly developed by GALVmed and Inocul8, a member of the Moredun Group. Emily was part of the team who helped on the initial work for a livestock vaccines catalogue which is now part of Vetvac.org. She will now be responsible for spearheading efforts to expand the content of the database to cover new and complex markets, such as China and the USA.

Emily has a BSc in Biology with Honours in Plant Science at the University of Edinburgh and won the William Turner Prize for an excellent third year performance in plant science and ecology and evolution of plants. She also successfully competed for one of eight Sainsbury Undergraduate Studentships awarded by the Gatsby Charitable Foundation in 2010, thus becoming a member of the Gatsby Plant Science Network.

Interns to help get tryps project off to flying start

Three interns will be working with Josef Geoola, GALVmed's IP and Legal Officer, to undertake due-diligence for a number of technologies within the African Animal Trypanosomosis Project.

The interns are on a master's programme at Chalmers University of Technology and the University of Gothenburg-School of Business, Economics and Law, based in Gothenburg, Sweden. The programme emphasizes business development, value creation and intellectual asset management in the context of the biosciences and knowledge-based economy.

Josef Geoola commented:

"The work that they will be doing will help to ensure that the technologies we invest in are ultimately accessible to poor livestock keepers. Because the first programme period is only 30 months long, GALVmed needed to ensure we could minimize risks associated to IP as soon as possible before actual research & development activities are commenced.

GALVmed is a diverse team and as a result we know where good partners can be found. We are committed to sourcing the best possible people to work with. The programme at Gothenburg, top rated within Scandinavia, is perfectly suited to the skills we need now to undertake the IP due diligence. This summer internship will help GALVmed make significant headway during a short period of time and provide the interns with an opportunity to further their knowledge on IP management."

The interns are:

Anna Hallbeck, a student in business design, who has completed a Bachelor in Engineering and Management at Chalmers University. She is an alternate board member for Microbial Analytics Sweden AB, a company specialising in applied research, investigations, education, and analytical services related to micro-organisms, and has recent experience as a group leader in a school project within social entrepreneurship gaining experience working with external parties and broadening the network of project partners.

Samira Rahman who is president and founder of the National Association of Ambassadors of the Swedish Federation of Young Scientists. She is currently studying Intellectual Capital Management. Samira was made a member of 'Talent for Growth' by Talentia and 'Nova100' by Nova Networks, Sweden, both of which are networks for talented students.

In 2006 Samira was awarded a scholarship to the Research Science Institute, Boston, USA where she helped conducted research within neuroscience at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Centre.

Fredrik Thorell who is currently studying at master's level in Intellectual Capital Management and Business Administration. He is the vice-president of HHGS Handelsconsulting AB, a consultancy run by students at the school, and a member of the management and operations team. Fredrik has written a thesis project with Genzyme AB, a global biotech and pharmaceutical company, analysing deregulation effects on distribution of pharmaceuticals in Sweden including competitive strategies, current trends and future development.

New post to improve vaccines production

The Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Centre of the Africa Union (AU-PANVAC) and the National Veterinary Institute (NVI), Ethiopia are working with GALVmed to establish a Vaccine Process Development Laboratory.

Initially the laboratory will focus on three priority diseases: peste des petits ruminants (PPR), contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP) and contagious caprine pleuropneumonia (CCPP).

Under the management of AU-PANVAC this facility will review the efficacy of the production processes for these vaccines and develop and facilitate the implementation of new methodologies for the production line with minimum disruption on production and quality.

To make this possible GALVmed has been leading on the recruitment of a Coordinator /Head of Vaccine Process Development Laboratory who will be based in Debre Zeit, Ethiopia.

Applications closed on 1 July 2011 for this one year contract. We will profile the successful applicant in a future newsletter.

GALVmed
Protecting Livestock – Saving Human Life

Monitoring & Evaluation Manager

Salary competitive – dependent on experience
Based in Africa, with significant continental and international travel

GALVmed (Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines) is a not-for-profit organisation whose mission is to develop vaccines, medicines and diagnostics to benefit the poorest livestock keepers in the developing world.
For GALVmed, monitoring & evaluation is essential to:

- inform us if we're delivering on time, budget and target
- inform our decisions on organisational processes
- provide transparency of GALVmed's operations to our board and partners,
- meet donors' reporting requirements
- demonstrate best practice behaviour, enable auditing and scrutinising of our activities by partners, donors, governments, academia and the general public
- contribute in the generation, collection and analysis of high quality livestock data useful for advocacy and policy.

Interested? If you have...

- a degree, with post-graduate qualification
- international experience and understanding of multi-lateral organisations, especially from not-for-profit sector
- developing country experience, preferably in socio-economic impact assessment in livestock sector
- senior level monitoring & evaluation experience
- an understanding of policy & advocacy within a multi-cultural, developmental setting
- excellent organisational skills with the ability to effectively communicate the pro-poor agenda
- excellent written & verbal presentation skills

...then GALVmed would like to hear from you!

Please visit our website www.galvmed.org/vacancies to review the job description. If you would like to discuss the role further please contact: Dr Lois Muraguri, Assistant Director, Policy and External Affairs on: +267 3121 209 (based in Botswana). Application is by CV with a covering letter outlining your interest in the role and also an indication of your current salary to Sharon Ross, Business Manager: recruitment@galvmed.org

Closing date: ***Applications must reach GALVmed by midnight (UK time) on 22 July 2011.***

If you would like further information, or you wish to make any comments, please contact us by email on newsletter@galvmed.org

Last word

Tryps, trips and the power of diversity

Meeting of minds: His Excellency Mr Erastus Mwencha, Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission, and Steve Sloan, CEO of GALVmed, meeting at the African Union Headquarters, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in May 2011

GALVmed CEO Steve Sloan writes:

In May I attended the 12th Annual Inter-Agency Donor Group meeting for pro-poor livestock research, hosted by AU-IBAR in Nairobi – the first time this series of meetings had been held in Africa. I was struck by what a good meeting it was largely because, for the first time that I can remember, this group included authentic African voices. All the evidence shows that diverse teams make better decisions and certainly inspire better debate. I certainly witness this with the diverse team of staff, board members, associates and partners we have put together at GALVmed.

The interesting thing for me was that the diverse organisations and members at Inter-Agency meeting did not lead to discord. In fact there was a great sense of coming together between everyone there in a way that I found exciting and stimulating.

Our colleagues at AU-IBAR did a great job setting up the meeting. I was particularly struck by an intervention by their Chief Animal Production Officer, Simplice Nouala. He suggested that because the dominant development narrative looks only at production and access to market, we cannot ensure that livestock development helps the poor. He said: *"Only when policies consider livestock's other roles will livestock development become a pathway out of poverty".*

For some time now I have been struck that too often in the developing world livestock keeping is not seen as a desirable livelihood choice. For example, the women we featured in India in the last issue of the newsletter kept saying: *"I am keeping livestock so that my son/daughter can get an education and a good job in the government."*

In Africa, however, jobs are not being created fast enough to keep pace with the ever-growing cohorts of young people looking for employment. This is one reason why I am delighted we are now working with the award-winning Kenyan multi-media youth communication initiative *Shujaaz* on an advocacy campaign which will try to show that livestock enterprises are a viable option for young people. We wanted to find young Kenyans for whom livestock had been the foundation of their success. But tellingly many of the people we found who had kept livestock to pay their school fees, for example, were too embarrassed to say so publically – this was somehow perceived to be 'backward'. So, it is important we try to challenge this attitude and demonstrate to young African's that working in the livestock sector and its related value chains, as small-scale entrepreneurs or employees, can bring attractive rewards.

From Nairobi I went on to Ethiopia to meet up with His Excellency Mr Erastus Mwencha, Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission. I was able to share with him our fantastic news that GALVmed has been awarded £8 million (US$ 12.8m) by DFID to lead a consortium to develop new tools to control African animal trypanosomosis. For me, however, our most substantive conversation was around issues of harmonisation of vaccine regulation and registration in Africa. GALVmed hosted a very successful workshop back in November 2010 at which key partners from across the continent came together and showed great enthusiasm for practical steps to be taken towards harmonisation. In Ethiopia we explored ways that GALVmed and the African Union could work together on this important common cause.

Harmonisation of vaccine registration will serve to cut the lead-time on products being made available to the livestock community, reduce costs and help develop new markets for pharmaceutical companies.

I started by talking about the power of diversity. 'Team GALVmed' encompasses a great range of skills and, unusually for a charity in the livestock sector, we have strong expertise in fundraising from high net-worth individuals. The new business plan will utilise this asset to open up new opportunities and options for us, to complement the support we receive from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and DFID.

Charles and Elizabeth Handy's book, *New Philanthropists*, points the way here: so we will be looking for venture philanthropists – to whom we will offer social rather than financial rewards. But we will also be exploring new models of skills and knowledge sharing, building on the excellent support we already receive from Pfizer's Global Health Fellows program (designed to develop and strengthen health skills, services and systems in underserved communities around the world), which has resulted in six 6-month placements with fantastic expertise bringing more diversity to our team. For participants in the programme, assignments offer a unique professional development opportunity – so this is a win-win arrangement.

In finalising the new business plan, I am keen that GALVmed contribute both towards facilitating healthy livestock businesses as well as healthy livestock, so we need to find partners to work with on market development for livestock products. But clearly, remembering Simplice's intervention in Nairobi, we also have to be aware of and address the many and complex non-monetary roles that livestock play in the lives of the poor.

With this all this going on I was not short of things to talk about when I made presentations to the African Colleges Meeting in June in Leeds, UK and the SSAFE meeting in Madison, New Jersey. SSAFE is a US public private partnership which integrates food safety with plant and animal health. In both cases I talked about private sector approaches to poverty alleviation, drawing on some of the examples I have shared here.

Commissioning editor: **Stuart Brown, GALVmed**
Researched and written by **Keith Sones Associates, London and Nairobi**
Designed by **Emma Quinn Design, Edinburgh**

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