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 (DFID) and the European Union.

Protus Onyango, Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Development, Kenya addressing the GALVmed Gender Workshop [see page 4 for details]

In this issue:

First Word: Meet the new Chair
Dr Shadrack Moephu, GALVmed’s new board chair, sets out his vision for the next six years……and meet the Interim CEO – Professor Peter Wells.

What is the ‘GALVmed model’?  
The elements, approaches and roles that characterise GALVmed and that together describe the alliance’s ‘unique selling proposition’.

’Burst of creativity’ helps GALVmed develop gender strategy  
29 delegates from partner organisations in 14 countries helped to formulate GALVmed’s new gender strategy.

Reports focus on role of gender in livestock  
Two pieces of desk research commissioned from Beth A Miller helped set the scene for the GALVmed gender strategy workshop. One deals with sub-Saharan Africa and one South Asia.

Media watch...  
Media coverage of GALVmed over the past few months.

‘Livestock key building block for success in modern Kenya’: Initial results of the Kenyan Dream Initiative  
Findings and lessons from GALVmed and Well Told Story’s innovative mass media advocacy campaign.

GALVmed Report: Kenya small-scale livestock keepers ‘perceive vaccines to be ineffective’  
A study by the Biotechnology Trust Africa provides both encouraging and worrying information about small-scale livestock keepers in two areas of Kenya.

GALVmed Report: US$1.4m Newcastle disease vaccine market in India held back by lack of awareness  
A new study estimated the size of the Newcastle disease market in India’s backyard poultry sector and explored options to extend vaccine coverage in the sector.

Updates on GALVmed’s projects and programmes  
Updates on tryps, ECF, PPR, porcine cysticercosis, RVF and Newcastle disease, and news from Vetvac.org and VACNADA.

Key partner profile: IFAH  
The International Federation for Animal Health (IFAH) – motto ‘healthier animals, healthier worlds’ – is a valued partner of GALVmed – see why.

Meet the South Asia Advisory Committee Chair  
The newsletter team caught up with Dr Narayan Hegde at the recent board meeting in Edinburgh.

Team changes  
GALVmed appoints new Tryps Programme Manager; Professor Julie Fitzpatrick confirmed as vice-chair of GALVmed board; and Pierre-Marie Borne assumes the role of chair of board sub-committee for global access.

The GALVmed team under the microscope  
In this issue: Tryps Programme Manager Grant Napier; Assistant Director Policy and External Affairs Lois Muraguri; and Chief Scientific Adviser Andy Peters talk about their roles in the organisations and tell us a little about themselves.

Last Word  
Steve Sloan, GALVmed CEO, has the Last Word... on mainstreaming gender, inspiring individuals, empowerment and livestock as a driver of economic development
First Word: Meet the new Chair

Steve Sloan, CEO of GALVmed, introduces the new board chair: "Dr Shadrack Moephuli is a considered leader. But if the mark of a great leader is the ability to simplify complex ideas and present them clearly, logically and persuasively, then GALVmed is in very good hands. He talks with great sincerity about his vision for GALVmed. Scottish law defines the role of the board as providing care, diligence and skill – these will be cornerstones of his tenure at GALVmed."

Dr Shadrack Moephuli writes:

My role as chair of GALVmed is clear. It is my job to work with the board to offer guidance and advice to the management team, without being pulled into the detail; acting as an ambassador, an advocate and maintaining an overview of risks facing the organisation.

Like all NGOs, we have to guard against the dangers of failing to deliver on promises to funders and stakeholders. Pragmatically situations change, but it is the measure of a good organisation how they square up to this situation with honesty and integrity. The need to safeguard the organisation’s reputation amongst partners and stakeholders is paramount. But the biggest potential risk is not being able to derive the resources to make our business plans. Of course we need to ensure that we offer clarity about what we can offer and, as importantly, the potential impact in economic, cultural and social terms.

However, GALVmed is in a good place. It has a smart strategy, hardworking and committed individuals in its team and persuasive leaders. This will help the transition into the new phase of GALVmed’s development. Up until now the focus has been on proof-of-concepts and pilot projects. Now we are putting in place a tranche of funding to move to delivery at scale. For GALVmed this is a critical period where will be making a sustainable impact on diseases and communities: working with partners to establish effective models that best scale-up the production and delivery of vaccines and other animal health products. As a scientist I am excited by the range of cutting-edge solutions which are being generated specifically to meet the needs of poor livestock keepers. Donor investment is yielding low-cost appropriate technologies, which can be delivered at scale and with solutions that are smarter than some of the thinking from large-scale pharmaceutical companies.

For me the mark of success for GALVmed has to be getting to the point where no-one needs us – because we have done the job we set out to do: putting vaccines in the reach of poor livestock keepers so that the prevalence of disease drops and yields, food security and incomes all increase.

Working towards this goal helps us to be focused about the way that we need to work. So, I have been delighted to see the success of GALVmed’s capacity building programmes. These interventions are effectively changing the landscape of vaccine production. This has gone much further than arriving with equipment: it has assessed needs, supported quality systems and built competencies. This is sustainable change facilitated by GALVmed and it is empowerment in action.

One of the areas where I feel I can really help is in ensuring our strategies are aligned with national and regional strategies. I am very clear that GALVmed is not a lobbying organisation – it is an information broker; by making information available to policy makers, change will follow and pro-poor technologies and approaches will become more prevalent.

The reach of GALVmed is expanding into new geographic areas and more neglected diseases are being tackled. But I can still see a time in the future when we will be celebrating the fact that GALVmed will have created a sustainable infrastructure, which means we can genuinely say our work here is done.

...and the Interim CEO

Steve Sloan’s last official function as GALVmed CEO was on 1 December 2011 when he attended the commissioning event for the equipment and facilities provided to the National Veterinary Institute, Ethiopia under the VACNADA programme.

The process for recruiting Steve’s successor is currently underway. Meanwhile an Interim CEO has been appointed – Professor Peter Wells (on left in photo, with Steve Sloan). Peter is already well known to many of the GALVmed team having served on two advisory committees and attended board meetings as an observer.

Peter has close to 30 years experience of the veterinary pharmaceutical industry and has served in senior positions with a number of leading companies in the UK. He also has research experience in veterinary microbiology and vaccinology in Europe, North America and Africa, and has a PhD in veterinary pharmacology.

Interim CEO Peter Wells commented: Steve Sloan has invested an incredible amount of energy and commitment in GALVmed, from its inception, through infancy, to the maturing organisation that I have experienced it to be over the past two years as a member of both GALVmed’s Expert Scientific Committee and the Tryps Programme Steering Committee. I know GALVmed to be focused on delivery for resource-poor livestock keepers by working entirely through partnerships. This alliance has broadly-based expertise and strong leadership from the developing world in the board, directorate and partners. I look forward to supporting Chairman Shadrack Moephuli and to being a ‘bridge’ for GALVmed’s staff and stakeholders, going forward.
What is the ‘GALVmed model’?

From time to time reference is made to the ‘GALVmed model’ – but what is this model?

An important feature of GALVmed’s approach and way of working is flexibility, which makes it hard to provide a rigid definition of the model. But there are a number of elements, approaches and roles that characterise GALVmed: together these describe the alliance’s ‘unique selling proposition’ in the livestock and animal health sectors.

Overall, GALVmed’s objective can be thought of as identifying and supplying the missing pieces of a jigsaw puzzle to complete the picture – that which prevents a priority animal health product being made available, accessible and affordable to poor livestock keepers on a sustainable basis.

GALVmed does this by:

- Working with the best available partners from anywhere in the world (the ‘Global Alliance’), providing leadership and acting as a catalyst, investor, facilitator of networks and honest broker
- Making expertise, resources and networks available to initiatives led by others
- Building on research leads and findings from the best scientists in the world
- Respecting intellectual property rights whilst seeking to achieve pro-poor outcomes

Supporting several approaches in parallel (the ‘portfolio approach’) to spread risk and increase chance of success

Providing rigorous ‘stop-go’ management: allocating resources to the most promising parts of the portfolio and halting those that fail to deliver on their early promise

Working to measurable targets with clear indicators of success and delivery timeframes

Leveraging commercial acumen, but tempering this with guidance from civil society

Creating access for the poor – whilst making quality-assured animal health products available to all

Identifying and justifying effective use of public subsidy to overcome barriers and constraints to benefit resource poor livestock keepers and their broader communities

Maintaining a focus on sustainability

Providing evidence to inform development of more enabling institutional and policy frameworks, and more rational investment strategies.

Steve Sloan, GALVmed CEO explains: “Returning to the jigsaw analogy, the ‘before’ situation can perhaps be characterised as a puzzle where some pieces are missing and there is no picture on the lid to act as a guide. The ‘after’ situation sees GALVmed and partners working together to work out what the picture on the lid should be, identifying which pieces are missing and providing alternatives that fit, and ensuring that all the parts of the puzzle fit together to form the intended image.

Essentially, GALVmed identifies the barriers to success and creates partnerships to overcome these to achieve a sustainable solution that protects livestock and saves human lives and livelihoods.”

To achieve this, the alliance applies its model to undertake four different types of activity:

Building capacity and sustainability: Wherever possible GALVmed intends that the new and improved vaccines and other products brought to market under its auspices are made in the regions where they will be used. To facilitate this it supports a wide range of activities aimed at capacity building of personnel and upgrading laboratory equipment, facilities and processes, especially for African production facilities, to enable them to produce high quality products and to meet demand sustainably.

Enabling innovation: GALVmed identifies opportunities to build on promising leads to develop new and improved vaccines and other animal health products for priority livestock diseases. It then establishes and nurtures the partnerships needed to bring these products to market and make sure they are accessible and affordable to livestock keepers, including the poor. In doing so it brings to bear the joint expertise of academia and the wider research community, the veterinary pharmaceutical and allied industries, and governmental and civil society partners, with GALVmed acting as a catalyst, investor, facilitator of networks and honest broker.

Creating a more enabling policy and institutional environment: GALVmed also undertakes activities designed to improve the policy and institutional framework within which the animal health and livestock sectors operate. This aims to allow animal health products and services to be delivered effectively to livestock keepers, including the poor. This enables healthy livestock and poultry to fulfil their potential to support sustainable livelihoods, enhance food and nutritional security, and contribute to economic growth while posing minimal danger to their keepers, consumers of livestock products and the broader local, regional and global community.

Advocacy, communication and resource mobilisation: An important goal for GALVmed is to increase awareness of the important role that livestock play in the lives of the poor and the opportunities livestock provide as a pathway out of poverty. GALVmed also aims to providing compelling evidence to make the case for investment of international development assistance and regional and national budgets in livestock research and development. It has enjoyed considerable success in mobilising funds to enable it to work towards its objectives and is currently actively seeking further funds to finance its ambitious plans to continue to protect livestock and save human life.

Finally, GALVmed has developed an initial list of 13 prioritised diseases. Four of these have formed the focus of its first business plan, which runs up until the end of 2011: these are East Coast fever, Rift Valley fever, porcine cysticercosis and Newcastle disease. But as Steve Sloan explains, in keeping with its flexible approach, this list is not set in concrete: ‘As new opportunities and needs are identified, additional diseases will be added to the list and others potentially removed based upon the expert advice and guidance of our scientists and our advisory and governance bodies.”

1 Civil society, also known as the third sector, includes charities, development non-governmental organizations, community groups, women’s organizations, faith-based organizations, professional associations, trade unions, self-help groups, social movements, business associations, coalitions and advocacy groups
‘Burst of creativity’ helps GALVmed develop gender strategy

Twenty-nine delegates from partner organisations in fourteen countries accepted GALVmed’s invitation to attend a workshop, held in Nairobi on the 18 and 19 October 2011, to help formulate its new gender strategy.

Development agencies have long recognized the need for gender mainstreaming as a means of achieving sustainable change. GALVmed is specifically interested in the impact of gender roles in relation to poor livestock keepers in resource-poor environments in Asia and Africa, and the strategies and tactics that would make a positive impact.

Ahead of the workshop, GALVmed commissioned Beth A Miller to undertake desk research into the situation in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia, copies of which are available in the report section of the GALVmed website (see box, page 5).

Beth said:

“GALVmed is determined that new livestock vaccines and medicines will have a positive impact on women and resource poor livestock keepers, but this will require intentional collection of information on constraints and opportunities at each point along the value chain, from selection of priority species, to outreach partners, and methods of data collection. When GALVmed brought together this group to consider the links between gender and livestock in developing countries, they unleashed a burst of creativity and insight which will have an impact from economics to agriculture, private enterprise and social research. This was an historic meeting indeed!”

The workshop explored gender considerations under four themes:

- data collection and monitoring and evaluation
- business development, commercialization and markets
- capacity building, training and extension services
- mainstreaming gender – in programmes and internally

In the design of the workshop there was a strong emphasis on learning from proven models of practice elsewhere or reviewing how obstacles had been overcome – using the expertise of the delegates in a range of different contexts.

Through presentations, small group discussions and plenary sessions, the participants identified three key activities related to developing GALVmed’s gender strategy:

- Identify the gender gaps and opportunities within GALVmed’s existing policies and practices to see how gender and poverty are understood and addressed
- Use existing data collection tools that address gender and other social categories such as class, ethnicity, caste and age
- Assess partner organizations’ capacity to implement gender responsive pilot projects
Lois Muraguri, Assistant Director: Policy and External Affairs, explains: “GALVmed is serious about gender, not only for purposes of social justice but because of the sound economic case. Poverty reduction through livestock has to start from the reality of the role women play in tending animals and in particular cultures this role focuses on particular animals – usually smaller ruminants and poultry.

The workshop was important for us as a commitment to take the best practice within GALVmed and from other sectors and to try to institutionalise it into the range of context and settings in which we operate. We have to acknowledge that getting this approach right will take time and resources as well as commitment. So I am delighted that

FAO has agreed to partner GALVmed and a consortium of other interested organisations to develop a new gender and livestock learning group. This will help us to keep up to date with evolving concepts, methodologies, tools and practices on gender and to embed these into GALVmed’s working practices.”

The workshop outputs will be synthesised into a strategy which will go to the GALVmed board for ratification in early 2012. Meanwhile the draft strategy will be posted on the GALVmed website for consultation and comment. The GALVmed Twitter feed is used to highlight to partners important information and news – so, to keep updated on this and other GALVmed developments why not visit the website www.galvmed.org and sign-up?

GALVmed would like to thank the following people who participated in the gender workshop: Resham Pd. Acharya, Nepal; Meenakshi Batra, War Child Canada, Afghanistan; Milan Kumar Biswas, Kegflarm, India; Michel Bonane, CAVtk, DRC; Joseph Bwanka, Makerere University, Uganda; Nicole DeHaan, FAO, Italy; Amanda Caine, GALVmed Board Member, UK; Catherine Hill, Canada; Milton Obote Joshua, Moi University, Kenya; Margaret Kroma, AGR, Kenya; Prettie Karmarkar, BAI, India, Lucy Maarise, Netherlands; Beth Miller, USA; Dr Samuel Minoungou, Veto Impact, Burkina Faso; Piyush Misra, Bhodl Milk Producers’ Cooperative Society, India; Josephine Mugamby, CAHNET, Kenya; Gerald Mutinda, EADD, Kenya; James Mutonyi, AGMARK, Kenya; Theodore Mwabi, South Africa; Kisa Juma Ngoiwa, Kenya Camel Assoc & DDVS, Kenya; Jemimah Njuki, ILRI, Kenya; Esther Ochanda, Ministry of Livestock Development, Kenya; Mr Protus Onyango, Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Development, Kenya; Anuradha Prasad, India; Harun Ur Rashid, BRAC, Uganda; Keshav Sah, Heifer International, Nepal; Ibrahim M Salih, Heifer International, Cameroon; William Ssendagire, Heifer International, Uganda; Taraprasad Tripathi, PRADAN, India; Hilda Munyua, AU-IBAR, Kenya.

Reports focus on role of gender issues in livestock

Two pieces of desk research were recently commissioned by GALVmed to help set the scene for its gender strategy workshop. The result is two reports, one dealing with sub-Saharan Africa and one South Asia. Both reports, by GALVmed consultant Beth A Miller, are available in the reports section of the website. Below we share some of their findings:

Women typically spend more time with the livestock than their husbands – cleaning, feeding and treating sick animals – and so are well placed to spot signs of livestock disease. Men, however, usually receive the bulk of the training; women struggle to attend training and other livestock events because of their long working day, limitations in travelling and domestic duties.

Where medicines are available in the village, women purchase them directly. However, if travel to the agro-vet is needed a male relative usually makes the purchase and this may affect the timing of the treatment. And men are generally responsible for preventative animal healthcare such as dipping and de-worming.

When making purchase decisions, African men choose suppliers based on price while women base their decisions on trust. South Asian women who purchase animal health supplies prefer to purchase from other women, close to home and with verbal instructions – since many of them are illiterate. The report sees potential market development for the private sector, especially if they promote women-friendly technologies in clean, friendly and safe stores.

Veterinarians and extension agents are usually men, who may not be able to interact with women, particularly Muslim women. Many animal health technicians or veterinarians do not regard women as farmers or producers; they tend to talk to men even if the wife is responsible for the animals.

In South Asia, the cultural attitude towards women was highlighted as a major constraint. Although ministries of agriculture acknowledge that animal care training targeted at women yields greater impact, political will and adequate budgets have not, thus far, been forthcoming. Men need to be reassured that the benefits of their wives earning and using income or attending training will outweigh the criticism they may invite by adapting traditions to meet current needs. But women’s roles in South Asian livestock production have already started to change; for example more women now participate in groups and engage in marketing and public meetings. And due to male outmigration, rural women have also taken on more physically demanding agricultural chores in addition to their traditional roles.

The reports suggest that in both regions companies prefer to purchase from women livestock keepers because they offer higher quality products. However, as livestock keeping becomes commercialised, women tend to be replaced by their menfolk in the management of the enterprise.

The reports have three common overarching lessons:

› Invest in institutions and people in addition to technology

› Market incentives are essential for sustainability, but only after investments are made to upgrade the skills, contacts, capital and confidence of women and other marginalized people

› Social attitudes and behaviours change over time: market incentives are one tool, but publicity campaigns, role models, and community-based activity are also important.

For copies of the reports: The gender and social dimensions to keeping livestock in Africa: Implication for animal health interventions and The gender and social dimensions to keeping livestock in South Asia: Implication for animal health interventions visit www.galvmed.org/news-resources/reports
Media watch

Recently GALVmed’s work has achieved considerable media attention including:

New appointments...

> **Farmers Guardian** 10 October  New chairman for international veterinary board

> **www.farminguk.com** 10 October  New chair at GALVmed as focus moves to delivery at scale

> **Animal Pharm** 21 October  MRI chief elected as GALVmed vice-chair

> **Meat Trade News** 26 October  South Africa – New chair at GALVmed as focus moves to delivery at scale

> **Asia Poultry News** – Latest Asia Poultry News from Agriculture Industry Today 26 October

South Africa – New chair at GALVmed as focus moves to delivery at scale. Also featured in Vets Online, UKSPA and Veterinary Record

Vetvac.org...

> **Animal Pharm** 21 October  GALVmed seeks more industry partners for third world vaccine research

> **VetSurgeon** 26 October  New online database of livestock and poultry vaccines

> **The Dairy Site** 27 October  New, Free Global Database For Livestock Vaccines

> **Pig333.com – Latest Swine News** 28 October  Galvmed publishes database with vaccine information

> **Vets Online and Farming UK** 26 October 2011  A new on-line database aims to become a unique free ‘one-stop’ source of information on all the livestock and poultry vaccines produced throughout the world.

> **Meat Trade News** 26 October 2011  Vetvac.org is a free to access and easy to use searchable database which provides detailed information about livestock and poultry vaccines.

> **Agriculture Industry Today** 26 October 2011  ... all markets, providing the most complete compendium of licensed livestock vaccine products available worldwide.

> **The Poultry Site** 27 October 2011  A new on-line database aims to become a unique free ‘one-stop’ source of information on all the livestock and poultry vaccines produced throughout the world.

Also featured in 3tres3.com 21 October 2011 and *Milk World* 27 October 2011

VACNADA (Vaccines for the Control of Neglected Animal Diseases of Africa) launch in Senegal...

> **Le Soleil online** 28 October 2011

Agriculture: FCFA 800 million to improve research. “Starting today, ISRA is able to meet all the needs of breeders in the country, in terms of vaccine production” said Minister of Agriculture Khadim Gueye as a result of VACNADA [Vaccines for the Control of Neglected Animal Diseases of Africa] investment in the Senegal vaccine production lab...

Vaccines...

> **New Scientist** 28 September 2011  Vaccines enjoy a healthy return ... “Animals need jabs too” references the work of GALVmed

Working with the private sector...

> **DFID Research & Development** 4 October  Public Private Partnerships – Animal Health

Tryps and porcine cysticercosis

> **Rwanda Animal Resources Development Authority website**  Livestock farmers to join fight against Tsetse Fly

> **Meat Trade News and The Pig Site** 14 November 2011  The first industrially produced vaccine against porcine cysticercosis

> **Epilepsy Research UK** 14 November 2011  Global vaccine to prevent parasite leading to epilepsy
During June and July 2011 Kenya’s airwaves, newspapers, post boxes, mobile phones, computers, offices and roadside hoardings were deployed as part of a unique communications experiment. The aim was to explore the affect a targeted, creative and integrated mass media campaign can have in increasing awareness and changing attitudes to livestock.

The campaign was commissioned by GALVmed and executed by the Nairobi-based communications company Well Told Story (WTS). In addition to serving as a large-scale experiment, the campaign – the Kenyan Dream Initiative – also had a specific advocacy goal. This was to invite Kenyan policy and decision makers to think afresh about the importance of livestock as an engine for growth for both individuals and the nation. An important component was to increase understanding of the constraints that the young and poor face as they try to realize their own dreams through livestock-based livelihoods. So the campaign had two target audiences: young Kenyans and key opinion formers.

WTS produces the award-winning multi-media youth communication phenomena Shujaaz, which combines the use of monthly comics, daily radio broadcasts and a range of social media to entertain, inform, inspire and engage with millions of young Kenyans. Specially conducted research by WTS had previously shown that young smallholder farmers and peri-urban youth (some of whom kept livestock) had a fundamental belief in the value of livestock and its potential to improve livelihoods: 70% of the youthful Shujaaz audience believed that livestock underpins success and this finding became the cornerstone of the campaign.

Elements of the campaign specifically targeted at young people were:

- 2 six-page livestock-themed stories in consecutive issues of the Shujaaz comics circulated countrywide as inserts within the Saturday Nation newspaper, and via 12,000 Safaricom/Mpesa kiosks in rural areas and informal settlements
- 2 weeks of short daily radio programmes, expanding on the comic books’ content, aired countrywide on 20 FM stations
- 2 weeks of daily Facebook updates and correspondence, and daily Twitter updates focused on the Kenyan Dream Initiative storylines: the Facebook was viewed approximately 20,000 times by Shujaaz fans

The advocacy campaign targeted at opinion makers consisted of a two-part direct mailing sent to a selected list of government and non-governmental officials. The centrepiece of the mailing was the four pronged advocacy proposal entitled ‘The Kenyan Dream Initiative’ (see box). This was developed following targeted qualitative research conducted by GALVmed amongst key policy makers in Nairobi.

The title ‘Kenyan Dream Initiative’ was chosen because the WTS research had shown that the young saw livestock as the basis for the successful realisation of people’s aspirations. The packs also contained letters from Hameed Nuru, GALVmed’s Senior Director of Policy and External Affairs, issues of the Shujaaz comics and eye-catching supporting materials such as stickers and a small, stand-up cut-out figure that came to be known as the ‘Chicken of Change’.

In the letter included in the second pack, recipients were reminded that Kenyan Agriculture Minister Dr Sally Kosgei had recently told reporters that her education was paid for by agriculture – she had achieved her dreams with help from livestock. The letter went on: “we are asking you to help others realise their dreams too.” The campaign was supported by press and billboard advertising and articles in mainstream media.

**The Kenyan Dream Initiative**

The campaign flyer asked policy and decision makers “to help livestock to look after people. After all it looked after you.”

The campaign had four main messages:

1. Legitimise the poor. Take a cross ministry perspective on laws that affect the poor and the keeping of livestock
2. Enable the poor. Bring experts from different policy areas together to create policies that work for the poor
3. Give the poor a voice at the table. Look to create an economically inclusive methodology – an ‘African Economics’ that includes the very poor
4. Concentrate on what works. Put an end to the ‘one size fits all’ mentality when it comes to the distribution of funds

It ended by saying: “This initiative depends on you. It needs champions, people who are prepared to be as innovative, flexible and adaptable as the very poor that you serve...We urge you to take inspiration from the young and the poor and take up the challenge of innovative leadership in these demanding times.”
Reports describing the campaign and its impacts and lessons will soon be available on the GALVmed website. Meanwhile some standout findings and results include:

Telephone surveys of random samples of 100 Shujaaz fans [approximately half male/half female, half urban/half rural] revealed that 80% were involved in livestock keeping and 90% involved with growing crops, either where they lived or at the family home. One in five of those not keeping livestock explained that all their animals had died from disease.

75% of those interviewed agreed that keeping livestock was a key building block for success in modern Kenya.

Before publication 25% agreed strongly that the government should invest more money in livestock, growing to 59% two months after the publication of the Shujaaz stories.

Before the Shujaaz stories, 26% of livestock keepers mentioned financial assistance as a main need: this fell to 14% after, with access to medicine growing from 86% to 98%, and access to information growing from 14% to 24%.

The African Centre for Technology Studies (ACTS), an independent think-tank which focuses on the application of science and technology to development, conducted interviews with the key advocacy campaign targets, such as permanent secretaries in government ministries. ACTS report that there was unanimous agreement by all respondents with all four campaign messages (see box) and that livestock is a potential engine for growth and a pathway out of poverty and food security for the country. In addition some respondents:

➤ Agreed on the need to review outdated laws.
➤ Endorsed the idea that creating an argument for the potential of livestock and the multiplier effect it would have on the economy was an important issue that would facilitate in attracting investments into the sector.
➤ Endorsed the need for developing properly constructed pilots programmes in the livestock sub-sector to increase production amongst different groups.
➤ Felt that this campaign provided them with an opportunity to start thinking of how their departments can start engaging more with other stakeholders in their work in order to start attracting investment both locally and internationally.

When interviewed by ACTS, both the Minister for Northern Kenya and Arid Lands, Mohammed Elmi, and his Permanent Secretary had the campaign’s Chicken of Change figures displayed on their desks, over a month after receiving them. The ‘Chicken of Change’ and campaign stickers were prominent in most offices visited by the ACTS researchers.

A major challenge that emerged was that some respondents from non-agricultural departments, including the finance ministry, felt that livestock issues do not fall in their department’s responsibility: some were completely unaware of the campaign, others wondered why their offices had received packs on livestock issues and had passed on the promotional kits to their junior staff unopened.

Rob Burnet, the social entrepreneur who established WTS and conceived the Shujaaz initiative, has used the campaign as an example of a successful integrated multi-media advocacy campaign in two recent high-level international meetings: the World Bank conference Entertainment Education, a Solution for Cost Effective, High Impact Development Communication in Washington DC in June, and during a keynote speech at the International Fund for Agricultural Development Global Share Fair in Rome in September 2011.

Reflecting on lessons-learned from being involved in this campaign, Stuart Brown, GALVmed’s Communications Manager said:

"Shujaaz is a publishing phenomenon that appealed to us because it reaches millions of young Kenyans, has great rural penetration and can evidence knowledge and behavioural change amongst its interactive readership using SMS, Facebook and more traditional communications channels. The publication’s authenticity is also important to us since the storylines and drawing are produced by a dynamic team of Kenyans with an average age of 23 and strong female representation. Even so, investing in a comic was a new departure and it took a combination of challenge and reassurance to give us the impetus to begin.

The process of the campaign re-emphasised to me the importance of hearing end-users and decision-makers properly and being willing to revise fundamentally the sometimes too neat pre-conceived ideas we’d started with for this campaign which like many looked good on paper 4,000 miles away. Consultant, Adam Lury and Rob Burnet, Director of WTS, were instrumental in this process.

Building on the WTS research, we began by asking if young Kenyans could identify anyone in Kenya who had made it big on the back of livestock. ‘Everyone!’ was the universal and emphatic chorus. Face-face discussion with groups of young Kenyans in urban, peri-urban and rural locations reminded us of the distinctive challenges that differing resource-poor environments present. We were struck with the overwhelming message from Kenyan youth, [drawn towards cities in line with world-wide patterns of urbanisation], that even when they know that money can be made from keeping livestock, farming to them is ‘not cool’ and that they would rather be ‘hustlers’ pursuing their dreams. Urban and peri-urban young Kenyans told us that they do not all know how to care for livestock, that in some situation bye-laws prevent them from doing so and that some would not know where to turn for information on how to do so. In rural situations we heard that people closest to the land are already adapting to changing weather patterns by re-calibrating their investment in crops and livestock to balance their risk.

Conversations with former Treasury officials were enlightening as they spoke about the compelling business case based on economics that was characteristically made to them by departments pitching for funds for crops, whereas the appeals for budget share for livestock were not always presented in language and concepts that were meaningful to the Treasury. It is interesting that one of the major challenges that emerged during this first experiment was the response from some non-agricultural departments, including the finance ministry – that livestock issues do not come under their department’s responsibility. Overall, however, the Kenyan Dream Initiative has been an encouraging step forward.”
A recently published study, commissioned by GALVmed and carried out by the Biotechnology Trust Africa, provides both encouraging and worrying information about small-scale livestock keepers in two areas of Kenya. Encouragingly, two-thirds of respondents (60% of whom were women) reported that they vaccinated their cattle, although far fewer vaccinated their sheep and goats or poultry.

The respondents appeared well-versed in livestock diseases: around two-thirds identified East Coast fever as the most important disease of cattle and contagious caprine pleuropneumonia as the most important disease of small ruminants, while more than 90% considered Newcastle disease to be the most important disease of poultry. And the vast majority of respondents said they were willing to pay for vaccines.

More worryingly, up to three-quarters of respondents perceived vaccines to be ineffective. And, although most were willing to pay for vaccines, the amount they were prepared to pay was low – just KSh20 (USD 0.20) per cow. In comparison, the cost of the GALVmed-supported ECF vaccine is around 15-times this amount.

The study also confirmed a worrying trend that has been reported elsewhere: the average Kenyan farmer is getting older – more than 40% of respondents in this study were 49 years or older. But for all of Kenya, more than 42% of the population is under 15 years of age. It appears that young Kenyans are turning their back on farming – which makes campaigns such as the GALVmed-backed Kenya Dreams initiative (see page 7) all the more important and timely.

The study involved 558 respondents in two areas where small-scale, mixed crop-livestock farming predominates: Machakos District, which lies some 60 kilometres southeast of the capital Nairobi, and Kakamega District, which is in western Kenya approximately 50 kilometres from Lake Victoria. In both areas a typical farm was 0.4 to 2 hectares and combined growing crops with up to 10 cattle, sheep and goats, and up to 20 chickens to support families of 6 or more people. In the vast majority of households no family members had permanent jobs off the farm.

GALVmed’s Senior Director for Policy & External Affairs, Hameed Nuru commented: ‘Listening properly to the people we seek to support is something we take seriously, as the Kenyan Dream Initiative illustrates. This recent study underlines the importance of awareness-raising and sensitisation of livestock keepers about the value of vaccination. People in resource poor situations have many pressures on their shoulders and our work continues in providing them with sources of information about animal health products which can help support livelihoods and sustain food security. GALVmed is strengthening its capacity to respond to this essential ongoing dialogue with all parts of the value chain, through the creation of two new posts within GALVmed: Market Development and Access Director and Monitoring and Evaluation Manager. We shall continue to seek to hear our end users and conduct surveys on the state of knowledge, attitude and practice.’


A second study commissioned by GALVmed set out to estimate the market size for Newcastle disease vaccine in backyard poultry in India and to explore options to extend vaccination coverage in this sector.

The study showed that India is a country of two highly polarised markets for Newcastle disease vaccine. In the large-scale commercial sector the disease is well managed: three private vaccine manufacturers supply more than 90% of Newcastle disease vaccines, with the total market worth around US$ 44 million a year. In contrast, in the backyard poultry sector, in some states vaccination against this disease is almost unheard of.

The study found that the main issue is one of lack of awareness: backyard poultry owners are not aware of the benefits of vaccination and the private vaccine manufacturers lack awareness of the needs of the backyard sector.

The problems and needs of the landless and small and marginal farmers in the tribal belt, who make up the majority of those who keep just a few birds to supplement household diets and as a source of cash income, are very different from the large-scale producers who the vaccine manufacturing companies understand well. But, encouragingly, the vaccine makers and distributors are interested in this market, which the GALVmed report has estimated as representing 260 million doses of vaccine a year worth around US$ 1.4 million.

The study suggests that willingness to pay is not an issue for the small-scale poultry keepers, but doorstep delivery of services is a major constraint: they are sceptical about government-provided services as these are either nonexistent or irregular.

There are also some practical issues to overcome – such as the birds tend to be free-ranging and can only be caught for vaccination at night or early morning, but government para-vets regard the remote tribal areas to be unsafe after dark and it is time consuming work.

Para-vets are few and the area under their jurisdiction is vast. Pack size is also an issue: average flocks are tiny, just 2-8 birds, whereas the smallest pack of vaccine is designed for 100 birds.

Poultry owners indicated, however, that they were willing to cooperate with their neighbours to provide the critical mass of birds needed. And while their poultry were being vaccinated they were also keen that their goats were protected against the most important diseases. Mamta Dhawan, GALVmed’s Programme Manager for South Asia commented: ‘We commissioned this study because we believe in the importance of having a contemporaneous picture of the market. Backyard poultry is one of the most neglected areas and therefore there was a dire need to understand the ground realities through the market study. From the study it is evident that there is much to be done in raising the awareness of small poultry farmer about the value of vaccination and also bringing it to their doorstep to see the benefits first hand. Working through implementing partners is absolutely key here and is central to our approach. As a facilitating organisation, we recognise the need to connect all parts of the value chain and to explore differing perspectives openly with all stakeholders. We also recognise the diversity of different states and continue to plan accordingly.

I value the opportunity to spend time regularly with communities at the heart of our pilot projects here in India and Nepal so that together we can respond to the adversities and opportunities that resource-poor people encounter in their day-to-day lives. The willingness of poor farmers to bring together male poultry farmers of a neighbourhood to come together to respond to the present challenge of large pack size is a further constructive finding of which we take note.’


GALVmed Newsletter December 2011 | page 9
Updates on GALVmed’s projects and programmes

GALVmed has just announced a drug discovery contract awarded under its new DFID-funded tryps programme. Anacor Pharmaceuticals Inc., a California based biopharmaceutical company established in 2002, is being contracted for a programme of work which, it is hoped, will lead to the discovery of two novel trypanocidal drugs: one for treatment and one for prevention of animal African trypanosomosis (AAT).

Anacor focuses on discovering, developing and commercializing novel small-molecule therapeutics derived from its unique boron chemistry platform: currently it has five compounds in Phase II and Phase III human clinical evaluation for a variety of anti-infective and anti-inflammatory indications.

As part of a Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative (DNDi) supported project, Anacor, in collaboration with Scynexis Inc. (a US company providing outsourced drug discovery) and the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute discovered a series of oxaborale compounds that show considerable promise as candidate drugs against human African trypanosomosis (HAT). In June 2011, Anacor and DNDi announced the successful completion of pre-clinical studies for one such compound – the first new oral drug candidate discovered specifically to combat Stage 1 and Stage 2 HAT, which will be advanced to Phase I human clinical trials in early 2012. As part of the HAT programme more than 700 compounds were synthesized. A number of these have properties which could make them suitable for the treatment and prevention of AAT; these compounds will be screened for efficacy and safety under the 24-month GALVmed contract.

Baptiste Dungu, GALVmed Senior Director Research and Development commented: “This partnership agreement with Anacor forms a critical component of GALVmed’s trypanocide drug discovery programme. Anacor’s oxaborale compounds have shown great promise for the treatment of sleeping sickness.

If the success achieved in that programme can be emulated for animal African trypanosomosis, the prospects of developing the first new trypanocidal drugs for half a century look bright.”

The Centre for Ticks and Tick-Borne Diseases (CTTBD) in Malawi started production of East Coast fever vaccine in October 2011. The production process is, however, very lengthy; the first batch of vaccine will not be ready until July 2013. Meanwhile, the one million dose batch produced by the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), Nairobi, will be used to meet demand, initially in Kenya, Tanzania and Malawi. Production at CTTBD has been made possible as a result of the transfer of technology and knowhow from ILRI. GALVmed has also facilitated a significant investment in equipment, facilities and training to enable CTTBD to produce high quality ECF vaccine on a sustainable basis.

GALVmed recently commissioned a study to establish why peste des petits ruminants (PPR) vaccines, even though available, are not used. The report of the study will be available in due course.

Pharmacokinetic trials have been completed for oxfendazole, an anthelmintic which will be used to eliminate Taenia solium (pork tapeworm) infections from pigs as part of the integrated approach to the control of the zoonotic disease porcine cysticercosis. The study established that a withdrawal period of 17 days is indicated – that is the minimum time interval needed between treatment of pigs and their slaughter for human consumption. Additional trials are ongoing to enable this product to be registered for use in pigs: currently it can only be used in ruminants and horses. The Moroccan veterinary pharmaceutical company MCI Santé Animale has been selected to produce a new formulation of the product for pigs: production will begin soon.

Liquid nitrogen being produced at CTTBD

In November, ECF Project Manager, Victor Mbao received the following exciting e-mail from project partner, Dr Nkhwachi Gondwe, Acting Director CTTBD: “Dr Mbao, what a great relief! Yesterday CTTBD started harvesting its own liquid nitrogen from the plant! It was so memorable watching the excitement on all staff members when the first litres were being harvested. It was obviously unbelievable to all of us that now one of the major constraining factors is now in the past! About 180 litres of the commodity were harvested since production started last Friday, 4 November [although there was some interruption because of electricity problems]. On behalf of all my fellow staff at CTTBD I present our sincere appreciation to GALVmed for easing the centre’s activities very significantly. This will help save a lot of resources including financially, time, vehicle lifespan (no more trips to Lusaka or any other place to buy liquid nitrogen!) and many more. Once again please pass our sincere thanks to GALVmed.”
Back in February 2011, the newsletter reported that GALVmed’s objectives for Rift Valley fever (RVF) were to:

- establish a strategic stock of the newly commercialised monovalent RVF C13 live vaccine that can rapidly be made available and used in the event of an RVF outbreak, in partnership with Onderstepoort Biological Products (OBP), South Africa
- promote the broader use of the RVF C13 vaccine in Africa
- develop and make available one of two candidate multivalent vaccines that confer protection against RVF as well as lumpy skin disease and sheep and goat pox for use in routine prophylaxis:
  - a combination vaccine, based on the RVF C13 vaccine and a commercially available live attenuated lumpy skin disease (LSD) vaccine, in partnership with OBP, South Africa
  - a new generation recombinant RVF-LSD vaccine being developed in partnership with Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute (OVI), South Africa
- develop and make available a new pen-side diagnostic assay for RVF, in partnership with OVI

Nine months on, what progress has been made?

- Prototype pen-side rapid diagnostic assays have been produced for testing in cattle and sheep. Further optimisation of these assays has been conducted after evaluation with field sera in South Africa. GALVmed facilitated a meeting between the OVI team and Certest, the Spanish contract research organisation developing the assay. Larger scale evaluation of the assay will commence in November 2011, leading to a possible launch of the assay in the first half of 2012.

- A technical meeting with experts in virology and bio-processing related to vaccines, coming from key research and pharmaceutical industry organisations, will take place in December 2011 to review plans for the strategic vaccine stock.

- Two field studies have been initiated in Senegal and Kenya with the monovalent RVF C13 vaccine to generate local field data that will facilitate the registration of the vaccine in West and East Africa, respectively. The study in Senegal included a laboratory-based evaluation of the vaccine in order to confirm safety: to date vaccination has never been used as a control measure for RVF in West Africa due to safety concerns with the Smithburn RVF vaccine, which is most commonly used for RVF control elsewhere. Given the very good results obtained to date in both studies, it is anticipated that the adoption of this safe vaccine will be a great contribution to the control of the disease on the African continent. These field trials have also been opportunities for capacity building in different technologies, including ultrasound-based pregnancy diagnosis.

- After obtaining a favourable proof-of-concept for the combination RVF C13-LSD vaccine developed with OBP, data required for registration of the vaccine are being generated in controlled studies in target animals. This has included safety and efficacy data. Production processes for this combination vaccine have also been developed.

- More work is being conducted with OVI in order to determine the proof-of-concept for the recombinant RVF-LSD vaccine

- Work has just started on market assessments for both the pen-side test and multivalent RVF/LSD vaccine with the results being expected by the end March 2012.

- We are now confident that by the end of 2012 we will have a field diagnostic assay that will not require laboratory support to be performed, enough data to register the monovalent RVF C13 vaccine in West and East Africa, a basis for a RVF contingency plan in the form of a vaccine bank, and a dossier for the registration of the multivalent combination RVF-LSD vaccine”.

GALVmed would like to thank our partners on the Rift Valley fever programme, including:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Kenya; Certest, Spain; Basis & Datos, Spain; Centro de Investigacion en Sanidad Animal (CISA), Spain; ClinVet – a South African contract research company; Department of Veterinary Services, Kenya; Kenya Agriculture Research Institute (KARI); Institut Sénégalais de Recherches Agricoles (ISRA), Senegal; OBP, OVI and PARSCIVET EURL, a veterinary clinical monitoring company based in Strasburg.

- An animation film was showcased which helped people to understand the features and benefits of Vetvac. The website has also been updated with a new tutorial section to help users search for information and submit data.

Pastoralists in Tanzania showing off the ear tag denoting that this animal has been vaccinated against ECF

Together with the South Africa veterinary vaccine company DeltaGene, MCI have also been selected by GALVmed for the production of the I2 strain of Newcastle disease vaccine for the African continent.

An agreement has just been signed between GALVmed and Hester Biosciences Limited, a specialist poultry vaccine company based in Ahmedabad, Western India. The objective is to develop and manufacture thermotolerant Newcastle disease vaccines, i.e. vaccines which can be stored without the need of refrigeration as required by conventional vaccines. To do this, Hester will work to develop a novel freeze-drying protocol in which Newcastle disease virus suspended in solutions of sugars can be slowly dried while remaining viable. This technology should make it possible to produce various live Newcastle disease vaccines, such as Lasota B-1, in thermotolerant form. Currently the need for an effective cold chain makes it difficult to make conventional vaccines available to backyard and village poultry keepers, especially in remote rural areas in Africa and Asia. As a result, vaccine coverage in this sector is very low and losses due to the disease are high. Making thermotolerant vaccine available, combined with efforts to raise awareness of the benefits of vaccination, is expected to increase uptake of vaccination in this important sector.

Vetvac.org – the on-line database of vaccines being development by GALVmed and Inocul8 – was exhibited at the 30th World Veterinary Congress in Cape Town, South Africa. The event took place between 10 and 14 October 2011. An animated film was showcased which helped people to understand the features and benefits of Vetvac. The website has also been updated with a new tutorial section to help users search for information and submit data.

By early November 2011, Vetvac contained information on close to 2000 livestock vaccine products. This was in part thanks to a successful publicity campaign which has seen a wide range of mostly on-line publications carrying the Vetvac story. During October and November a series of events has been held to mark the commissioning of equipment and facilities, underpinned by a broad range of capacity building, at the eight labs which have benefited from the VACNA DA project. A special issue of the GALVmed newsletter focused on VACNA DA will be produced shortly.

Working with valued partners in Africa and Europe we have achieved considerable progress. That progress is due to the expertise and commitment of a large team. And GALVmed benefited once again from the expert assistance of a Pfizer Global Health Fellow: Michael Pearce, Associate Director Veterinary Medicine Research and Development for Pfizer in the UK, was assigned to OVI and OBP from March to August 2010 to provide support in the design and running of the clinical trials.

The project has brought together partners from public and private sectors to collaborate in order to come up with new solutions; for example the partnerships between Certest and OVI on the diagnostic assay and between OBP and ClinVet on the vaccine.

GALVmed Newsletter December 2011 I page 11
Facilitating mutual recognition and harmonisation of veterinary medicines regulation in Africa is a mutual interest shared by IFAH and GALVmed. The aim is to improve access to veterinary medicines in communities that depend on livestock for their livelihood.

The International Federation for Animal Health (IFAH) – motto ‘healthier animals, healthier worlds’ – is a valued partner of GALVmed. It serves as an observer on the GALVmed board in which capacity it acts as an expert source of advice and information. We recently met up with Barbara Freischem, Executive Director at IFAH, to find out how GALVmed and the federation work together.

We started off by asking her what developments at IFAH made Barbara most proud. First Barbara highlighted the way that her members work together in their common interest. Second she identified the fact that IFAH has become a trusted source of information, not just for regulators but to a wider audience. This has come as a result of making information on IFAH and the industry more accessible and illustrating the importance of veterinary medicines to society through redesigning the IFAH website – potential lessons, perhaps, for GALVmed.

Like GALVmed, IFAH represents companies who are charged with bringing animal health products to the market. GALVmed goes a step further and makes products available to the poor, a role which IFAH members who are active in developing countries value.

IFAH is the global representative body for companies engaged in research, development, manufacturing and commercialisation of veterinary medicines, vaccines and other animal health products in both developed and developing countries. There are two types of members: company members, which have to be globally active – working in at least two continents and two countries per continent; and national and regional associations. The latter include both local small and medium-sized enterprises and international companies. Together these companies represent about 80% of the global market for animal health products.

IFAH sees a potential role for GALVmed in helping to identify and facilitating national vaccine producer groups in developing countries. Barbara explained that there are strong benefits to be gained by producer associations working collaboratively to create a policy and regulatory environment which benefits everyone. IFAH and GALVmed have a shared agenda in relation to striving for greater harmonization of veterinary medicine and vaccine registration: the two organisations worked together on the OIE Focal Point training on this topic in South Africa in late 2010. Barbara explained:

“Harmonisation has to build on trust. Countries have to learn to trust each other and I know from personal experience as a regulator that it takes time and it is painful to move from thinking nationally to thinking transnationally. But the process can be made better for everyone concerned. Regulatory authorities are very resource intensive and they have to ask: how much of this is necessary? Isn’t it possible to build on what others have done and learned, rather than starting from scratch in each country?”

Most recently with the advent of the new tryps project, GALVmed has been working with IFAH to link up with their work with FAO on standards and protocols for the quality control of trypanocidal drugs.

We asked Barbara what sort of organisations we should be working with. She said the most important thing was to find partners that could be trusted to deliver. GALVmed should be pushing to get products into the hands of end users and keep pushing for results. She highlighted the need for GALVmed to invest time in bringing the policy people along and to try to make sure the role of livestock is understood, especially in Africa, and was happy that IFAH was working with GALVmed in this area.

Meet the South Asia Advisory Committee Chair

Dr Narayan Hegde is chair of GALVmed’s South Asia Regional Advisory Committee. The newsletter team caught up with him at the recent board meeting in Edinburgh. He said:

“The South Asia advisory group is proving to be a really valuable forum to share knowledge and insights about practice across the region. But as a GALVmed board member I can also ensure that we share information and emerging practice between South Asia and Africa. I think this an exciting opportunity for genuine two-way learning. We have an excellent staff team in India who are very pragmatic in their approach and this has already started to show results.

For me the areas for GALVmed to work on are the facilitation of the production of vaccine and animal health products that benefit poor farmers and enabling them to make sustained use of these products to ensure payback on investment. This will only be possible if farmers, including backyard farmers, are aware of the benefits of treating their livestock and the impact this will have on their livelihoods. We need to show how healthy animal increase productivity and break the vicious circles of poverty based on poor people’s low quality and unproductive livestock.

Levels of literacy amongst farmers make spreading messages problematic, but we have been using street theatre as part of the work in Orissa and it seems to be effective. My own organisation, BAIF, has in the past worked on spreading key messages through schools. Poor people see their children’s education as a potential route out of poverty and they see schools as a trusted third party. So helping children to understand what needs to be done, coupled with clear information campaigns which stress the direct benefits to the farmers, tend to be highly effective.

GALVmed’s job is also to listen. This will make us more responsive. The Newcastle disease campaign has already been extended to meet the local people’s needs in relation to other diseases. There is great wisdom amongst farmers and in particular amongst the tribal people: we need to think about how we work effectively to incorporate such knowledge into our thinking and actions.

Finally, we need to establish a mechanism for direct communication with livestock keeper communities, to identify emerging problems and to initiate suitable services while sensitising the policy makers. I think, however, we are identifying a clear role for GALVmed, especially in the backyard sector.”

Dr Narayan G Hegde is a leader in rural development. He is a trustee and principle advisor to BAIF Development Research Foundation, a highly respected voluntary foundation in India which is committed to sustainable development of the rural poor. He is widely published and serves on a broad range of committees and panels.
Team changes

GALVmed appoints manager for new tryps programme

GALVmed has appointed South African molecular biologist Grant Napier as manager of its new DFID-funded tryps programme. Grant, who will be based in Johannesburg, said:

“Tryps has a significant impact on the livelihoods of people in Africa and I’m excited to be part of these ambitious collaborative plans which GALVmed is leading. We’re aiming to facilitate the development of new and improved drugs, diagnostics and perhaps even an African animal trypanosomosis vaccine. Working with a number of leading discovery and development partners globally – in the US, UK, France, Switzerland, Belgium and South Africa – and clinical sites in sub-Saharan Africa we will be conducting discovery and development activities to identify drug and vaccine leads as well as diagnostic tools that could lead to improved animal health. For me it’s a great way we can leverage scientific knowledge in protecting livestock and thereby improve African livelihoods.”

See below for biography.
For details of the appointment of Peter Wells as Interim CEO please see page 2.

New board appointments

Professor Julie Fitzpatrick was confirmed as vice-chair of GALVmed at the October 2011 board meeting. Julie is also chair of the board technical sub-committee and a member of the board sub-committee on global access (marketing and distribution).

Julie is the Scientific Director of the Moredun Research Institute and Chief Executive of the Moredun Group. Her research interests focus on farm animal health and disease and animal welfare. In 2003 she was awarded the G Norman Hall Medal for research into animal diseases by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS) Trust.

Julie is a member of the RCVS Research Committee, the Advisory Committee on Animal Feedstuffs and the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council Strategy Group. She sits on the Scottish Government’s Agriculture Strategy Group and Animal Health and Welfare Strategy Group, and is a member of the Science Advisory Committee. She also acts as Chairman of the British Veterinary Association’s Veterinary Policy Group (VPG).

Pierre-Marie Borne, Director of Public Affairs at Ceva Santé Animale, has assumed the role of chair of the GALVmed sub-committee on global access. This group is concerned with ensuring effective distribution of vaccines and other animal health products.
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

Grant Napier

**Job title:** Tryps Programme Manager

**Role in GALVmed:** Establishment and management of the GALVmed tryps programme office in Johannesburg and responsible for overall management of the GALVmed tryps programme. This includes: negotiation and management of contracts with funders and discovery/development partners; supervision and responsibility for programme staff, consultants, budgets and reporting; and exploring and identifying new opportunities for delivery of different African Animal trypanosomosis products.

**Nationality:** South African

**Joined GALVmed:** September 2011

Relevant career highlights: Grant is a molecular biologist whose career has spanned 15 years working as: a scientist in the discovery of a recombinant vaccine for African horse sickness at the Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute; as a product manager in human infectious disease molecular sales and marketing for Roche Diagnostics; as business development and project manager in human clinical trials contract laboratory services for the Wits Health Consortium; and as the as Managing Director for Elevation Biotech an HIV biologicals discovery company that was spun out of the University of the Witwatersrand and the South African National Health Laboratory Service and that conducted HIV vaccine discovery research with funding from the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI). Prior to joining GALVmed he worked as an independent business development consultant to the biotech and healthcare industry in South Africa providing strategic, business development and project management services to local and multi-national companies and NGO’s.

**Education:** M Sc in Genetics, University of Pretoria (1999); B Sc (Hons) in Microbiology, University of Cape Town (1992)


**Interests:** Professional: Drug, vaccine and diagnostics discovery and development, especially in infectious and neglected diseases, with particular passion for HIV and infectious diseases relevant to sub-Saharan Africa.

**Personal:** Mountain biking, running, cooking, writing and mostly music and singing (in all forms) and travelling especially in least developed countries and wilderness areas in sub-Saharan Africa.

GALVmed Newsletter December 2011 | page 14
Lois Muraguri

**Job title:** Assistant Director, Policy and External Affairs

**Role in GALVmed:** Lois’ role is to ensure the maximum impact of GALVmed by supporting the implementation and monitoring of GALVmed projects, communications, global access, market development and partnership strategies. She mostly works on policy issues encountered during GALVmed activities as well as tracking international and national policy trends relevant to GALVmed’s agenda. Lois is currently coordinating the development and implementation of an M&E strategy and the development of a gender plan. Lois also supports advocacy activities by ensuring GALVmed is linked into and represented in the relevant global, regional and national forums, and that GALVmed is seen as a respected organisation and a key player in the livestock arena.

**Nationality:** Kenyan & British

**Joined GALVmed:** June 2010

**Relevant career highlights:** Lois was formerly a research fellow in life sciences and development at the Innogen ESRC Centre for Social and Economic Research on innovation in genomics at the Open University, UK where she worked on policy issues in the context of technology product development public-private partnerships. Her career interests include the dynamics of public private partnerships in the context of technology transfer, the interface between intellectual property rights and the innovation process in health and agriculture and models for creating an enabling policy environment for translating research into viable marketable products in the pro-poor context. Lois has worked/consulted for the International Crop Research Institute for Semi Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) and the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) among others before joining GALVmed.

**Education:** Lois is a lawyer with an LL.M (Warwick University, UK) and a Ph.D (Queen Mary, University of London, UK) specialising in intellectual property in product development public-private partnerships in the context of development. Her thesis primarily looked at organisational, national and international policies and processes and how they interface with product development partnerships to translate effectively research into products for the benefit of the poor.

**Key publications:** Lois has published approximately 11 papers in scientific and legal journals.

**Interests:** Lois is professionally drawn to anything challenging and complex such as finding synergies between actors to address poverty. She’s particularly interested in how enabling environments can be created so that innovations can be practically and sustainably translated to solve development related problems. She’s an adrenalin junkie – likes anything fast and exciting that will hurl her out of her comfort zone and force her to apply her mind and expand her horizons. She’ll try anything once…

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Professor Andy Peters

**Job title:** Chief Scientific Adviser

**Role in GALVmed:** Andy has been involved with GALVmed almost since the beginning as a member of the initial Technical Advisory Committee. He produced various technical reports for the organisation, prepared the registration dossier for the ECF-ITM and managed the registration process in Kenya and Tanzania. He acted as interim Head of Research and Development pending Dr Baptiste Dungu’s appointment in November 2008. His work is currently focused on the registration of Newcastle disease vaccine in Africa as well as providing advisory input and supporting GALVmed staff on other projects.

**Joined GALVmed:** Andy has been involved with GALVmed since 2006.

**Nationality:** British

**Relevant career highlights:** Andy is currently managing director of ARPEXAS Ltd, a consultancy company providing support to the animal health industry and academia in new product development. He is also Vice President, Animal Health, at AspenBio Pharma Inc, Denver, Colorado, USA. Andy spent his career in various positions in industry and academia, most recently as head of EU vaccine R&D for Pfizer Animal Health (1998-2005) and Professor of Animal Health, Royal Veterinary College, University of London.

**Education:** He is a veterinarian with PhD and DSc degrees in animal science and currently hold a visiting professorial appointment at the University of Nottingham.

**Key publications:** He has published approximately 155 papers in the scientific and professional literature and is a regular contributor to scientific and industry meetings.

**Interests:** His interest is in translating good research into veterinary products and increasing the availability of veterinary medicines to poor livestock farmers.
Last word

GALVmed CEO Steve Sloan writes:

I have been in presence of some very inspiring people recently. I’ve seen firsthand what genuine empowerment looks like and how it can build hope and aspiration.

At the recent GALVmed gender workshop in Nairobi, perhaps because I have just become a grandfather for the first time, I was struck by what my granddaughter would make of our conversations, should she read the report of our meeting some 30 years hence. I hope she would approve. I think she would admire our attempt to bring into the mainstream the four-fifths of farmers who are women.

I was impressed by the pragmatism and commitment shown at the workshop to empower genuinely women within the context of gender issues. The desk research Beth A Miller prepared was a great starting point to help us find the missing pieces that GALVmed should address.

For too long information on livestock has been distributed to men. This information has not been effectively shared with the women and children who are often closest to the practical animal husbandry.

We need to think about whether we are listening effectively to women farmers around the world, and if not why not? Whilst the norm is for women to be invisible and unheard I have had the privilege of meeting some inspiring women around the world. Some, like a woman called Cecilia I met in Zambia, were hard to ignore. In my office I have a photograph of a Maasai woman who was the bedrock of her community. Both were a great source of inspiration: we need to celebrate the women who have these roles in livestock production and empower others to join them.

The gender workshop made me think about whether our communications reflect the reality of the contribution of women in livestock. Do women represent 80% of the images of farmers in our communications? And do we name and credit women appropriately in our publications? I want our communications to be a beacon flagging the success of the women entrepreneurs in agriculture we meet through our work. This is my first action point from the event: I am sure that across the organization there will be many more.

GALVmed’s commitment to gender was evidenced by the fact that board member Amanda Caine attended throughout. Going forward it is all too tempting to make gender the responsibility of one person or a committee. But this is not the way we plan to proceed. By consensus, gender has to be mainstreamed into everything we do, and it must be the responsibility of all our team and the concern of all our board.

When it comes to inspiration it was hard to beat the presentation by former president Lula da Silva that I heard recently at the World Food Prize in Des Moines. He stated the obvious – that if you want to make poor people less poor the best way is to give them money. But he went on to explain that you can approach this as poor farmers needing to be recipients of aid, or you can think of poor farmers as an investment opportunity and driver for growth.

I have commented in a previous newsletter about my admiration for the team at Makerere University, Uganda. Recently I visited them with Hameed Nuru to explore how we could work with their AFRISA (the Africa Institute for Strategic Animal Resource Services and Development) initiative on range of activities to facilitate registration, distribution and research for East Coast fever vaccine in Uganda. AFRISA is an autonomous agency of Makerere University which has been described as a “21st century premier design for taking Universities to the communities in Africa” – exactly the sort of organisation we need to be working with.
In the article about the GALVmed model on page 3, we talk about our work in terms of four activities – one of them is capacity building. The GALVmed element of the European Commission’s VACNADA (Vaccines for the Control of Neglected Animal Diseases in Africa) programme has involved updating eight vaccine-producing labs across Africa. They are being supported with skills, systems, equipment, facilities and information. Many of these labs had also fallen behind on capital investment programmes – which had made working conditions very difficult.

I travelled to ISRA-LNERV, Dakar-Hann, Senegal to join Khadim Guèye, Minister of Agriculture, for the VACNADA commissioning event at one of the labs. This was a really joyous occasion. This investment has empowered the staff to work more effectively, which has made them hopeful and optimistic for the future. In his speech the minister made the connection between poverty alleviation and animal health, and the value of vaccination to improve livestock productivity. He also talked about the need to value the workforce at ISRA-LNERV.

When I reviewed the business plan recently, I realized that it was Lula’s vision and Minister Guèye’s aspiration of poverty reduction through livestock that we wanted to champion throughout Africa. To do this we need a unified approach to shift thinking about livestock as a driver of economic development.

We need to set out inspiration models and approaches, drawn from the best thinking and practice in the world. A further stage will also be needed which is supporting the incremental changes that will happen in different countries and communities. This cannot be a one-size-fits-all approach – and this means the advocacy messages will need to be very sophisticated and nuanced. GALVmed will keep you posted.

Of course, given where I started this Last Word, I keep asking myself and inevitably others – have we thought through all the gender angles for our new business plan?

Finally, I need to finish by saying thank-you to the team at GALVmed. As you will have seen from another bumper edition of the GALVmed newsletter, this is a very busy time for us.

I thank all of our Alliance members for their ongoing commitment to protecting livestock and saving human lives and livelihoods.

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