EU and AU-IBAR in partnership with GALVmed, PANVAC and CIRAD to reduce the impact of animal diseases through increased access and use of quality vaccines in Africa.

Assistance to 1 million livestock keeping households, vaccine producing laboratories, public and private veterinary services in Africa.

The European Union (EU) and the African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) launch the Vaccines for the Control of Neglected Animal Diseases in Africa (VACNADA) Project in a bid to reduce the loss of animals through diseases and lessen the negative effects of the soaring food prices on vulnerable households in Africa. The project targets 1 million livestock keepers living in rural communities in 15 African Union (AU) Member States; vaccine producing laboratories; public and private veterinary services. The targeted livestock keepers will benefit from protection of their chicken, sheep, goats and cattle through vaccination against some major epidemic diseases affecting productivity and resilience with negative impacts on livelihoods.

The project will procure vaccines from African vaccine producing laboratories and distribute them to the target countries for vaccination of animals; develop and/or strengthen the vaccine distribution systems through technical training, development of business plans, facilitating access to credit and improvement of the cold chain infrastructure; upgrade laboratory capacities and provide technical support to standardize and improve production and quality of selected vaccines and strengthen mechanisms for the implementation of quality assurance in vaccine production on the African continent.

Interventions will be coordinated by AU-IBAR in close partnership with the Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines (GALVmed), the Centre for International Cooperation in Agronomic Research for Development (CIRAD), the Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Centre (PANVAC) and National Veterinary Authorities in the respective countries.

This project is part of the EU Food Facility, a three year European initiative with an overall budget of 1 Billion Euro in response to soaring food prices that aims to help the most vulnerable countries to move towards long-term food security.

The contract between the European Union and AU-IBAR was signed on 26th December 2009 and the first activities will start in January 2010.