



Barrier to Livestock Trade in Mali – Roundtable Event

In Mali, livestock represents a very significant source of income for the population, especially in the zones where Mali Livestock for Growth (L4G) operates. However, many farmers and traders face numerous obstacles when it comes to accessing the livestock market, both within Mali and at its borders.

Last year, the Mali Livestock for Growth project conducted a “Barriers to Trade Report”, which analyzed the extent to which traders face common challenges to exporting livestock – including dangerous transportation routes, long wait times at check points in extreme weather conditions, illegal tolls, etc. The report found that these barriers can have a severe impact on accessibility, and ultimately profitability, for traders trying to sell their livestock at markets.

Last month, L4G held a Roundtable Event that brought together project staff, USAID representatives, and various stakeholders in the livestock sectors from Mali, Burkina Faso, and Senegal to discuss the results of this study and share individual expertise surrounding these trade barriers. The meeting allowed participants to exchange ideas and propose solutions to reduce the barriers to livestock trading and contribute to improving the competitiveness of economic actors in the livestock value chain. During the meeting, the project was also able to establish monitoring committees made up of private and state actors to continue developing solutions and monitoring progress in this area. L4G is excited about this event and is hopeful that it positively contributes to the overall goal of the L4G project – to reduce poverty and improve food security in rural Mali.

