

Bulletin of
Animal Health and Production
in Africa

**Call for Submission of
Abstracts**



**Special Edition on
Resilient African Feed and
Fodder Systems**

1.0 Background

The African Union-InterAfrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) are jointly implementing the Resilient African Feed and Fodder Systems (RAFFS) project from December 2022 to December 2025. This initiative aims to counteract the detrimental effects of recent global crises, including the Covid-19 pandemic, climate shocks, and geopolitical conflicts, on the feed and fodder systems in Africa.

Livestock serves as a cornerstone of food security, livelihoods, and incomes throughout Africa, contributing substantially to the continent's agricultural GDP and employing a significant portion of its population, particularly women. However, the compounded impacts of the triple C crises have disrupted the supply chains of feed and fodder, posing formidable challenges to developmental goals, livelihoods, food security, and nutrition.

To address these multifaceted challenges, collaborative actions, coordination, and investments are a key operation modality of the Project. The RAFFS Project is collaborating closely with African Union Member States, through the Regional Economic Communities, with particular focus on the most affected regions of IGAD, ECOWAS, ECCAS and SADC. The Project is being piloted in six (6) countries: Cameroon, Kenya, Nigeria, Somalia, Uganda and Zimbabwe, and aims to enhance the resilience of African feed and fodder systems through four Result Areas:

1. Result 1: Knowledge and Analytical Ecosystem: Establishing a robust knowledge base for informed solutions.
2. Result 2: Business Models and Partnerships: Supporting viable business models and strategic partnerships to attract investments.
3. Result 3: Women Empowerment: Enabling women's participation and benefits in feed, fodder, and animal sourced food supply chains.
4. Result 4: Policy and Institutional Reforms: Reformation of policies, regulations, and institutions for a resilient feed and fodder industry.

2.0 Invitation for Submissions

The RAFFS Project aspires to make substantial contributions to food security and nutrition by ensuring the continued sustainability of Africa's livestock sector through promoting development of feed and fodder systems. Successful implementation of the Project is anticipated to deepen our understanding of the impacts of crises on feed and fodder systems, catalyze action and investment, and instigate systemic changes aimed at enhancing the organization and performance of the feed and fodder sector.

In light of the significance of this initiative, scholars and practitioners are invited to make submissions of abstracts for articles that will be featured in the Special Issue on Resilient African Feed and Fodder Systems of the Bulletin of Animal Health and Production in Africa (BAHPA)

3.0 Key features of the Bulletin of Animal Health and Production

The Bulletin of Animal Health and Production in Africa is a scholarly journal dedicated to publishing research articles, reviews, and case studies related to animal health, production, trade and welfare. It serves as a platform for researchers, practitioners, policymakers, and stakeholders in the field of animal resources development to share their findings, insights, and innovations.

Scope: The bulletin covers a wide range of topics within the field of animal health and production, including but not limited to veterinary medicine, livestock management, animal nutrition, animal breeding, disease control, and animal welfare.

Peer-reviewed: All submissions undergo a rigorous peer-review process to ensure the quality, validity, and relevance of the published articles. This process helps maintain the integrity and credibility of the journal's content.

Open Access: The Bulletin of Animal Health and Production follows an open-access publishing model, meaning that all articles are freely available to readers worldwide without subscription fees or access barriers. This open-access policy promotes the dissemination of knowledge and facilitates broader accessibility to scientific research. Previous bulletins are available for access on AU-IBAR's open access repository via: <http://repository.au-ibar.org/handle/123456789/1172>

Interdisciplinary Approach: The bulletin welcomes contributions from diverse disciplines and perspectives, fostering interdisciplinary dialogue and collaboration among researchers and practitioners working in animal health and production.

Global Reach: With a continental editorial board and global readership, the Bulletin of Animal Health and Production provides a global platform for researchers to showcase their work and engage with a wide audience of scholars, professionals, and policymakers from around Africa and the world.

4.0 Scope of Publication on Special Issue of Bulletin of Animal Health and Production

AU-IBAR welcomes contributions in form of abstracts on encompassing a wide range of topics, including but not limited to:

- Research findings on the resilience of African feed and fodder systems
- Case studies showcasing successful interventions and innovations including business and investment models
- Policy analyses and recommendations for enhancing growth and resilience of African feed and fodder systems
- Best practices and lessons learned from on-the-ground initiatives

4.1 Topics in this Edition

Topics may cover the following feed and fodder themes under each component relating to:

1. Knowledge and Analytical Ecosystem:

- Data-driven Decision Making
- Functional feed and fodder ecosystems

- Feed Inventory, National Feed Balance and Early Warning Systems
- Research and Development Initiatives
- Information Sharing and Collaboration
- Technology Integration and Innovation
- Capacity Building and Training Programs

2. Business Models and Partnerships:

- Sustainable Business Models
- Public-Private Partnerships
- Value Chain Integration
- Market Access Strategies
- Attracting increased Investment
- Financing Mechanisms
- Socioeconomic Impacts and Livelihoods

3. Women Beneficial Inclusion, Empowerment, Business and Trade Growth:

- Gender-Inclusive Policies and Programs
- Skills Development and Training for Women
- Access to Resources and Markets
- Supportive Social and Cultural Environment
- Leadership and Entrepreneurship Opportunities for Women

4. Policy and Institutional Reforms:

- Policy Coherence and Alignment
- Regulatory Framework Enhancement
- Institutional Strengthening
- Stakeholder Engagement and Participation
- Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanisms

5.0 Submission Guidelines and Deadlines:

- Manuscripts to be submitted should be original and not under consideration for publication elsewhere.
- Abstracts not exceeding 500 word. Abstracts should have the theme name and proposed title of the paper.
- Abstracts should be submitted electronically to Email Address: **bahpa@au-ibar.org**

- Submission deadline is **July 15 2024**.
- Emails should bear the subject: **RAFFS BAHPA Edition**
- Writers of accepted Abstracts will be informed by **August 15 2024**
- Submission of Full papers should be made by **September 30 2024**. The RAFFS Project has planned a Feed and Fodder Conference for 25th and 26th November 2024 where the papers will be presented.
- For inquiries or further information, please contact [bahpa@au-ibar.org].