



**TRANSFORMATIVE
RESEARCH
CHALLENGE
2025**

Gender Mainstreaming in the Eradication of Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) Prize





Gender Mainstreaming in the Eradication of Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) Prize

(Co-hosted by FAO PPR-GEP Secretariat)

Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) is a highly contagious disease affecting small ruminants, causing devastating socio-economic impacts and annual losses of up to USD 2.1 billion across nearly 70 countries in Europe, the Middle East, Africa and Asia. Women, who make up 60% of low-income livestock keepers and play a critical role in small ruminant farming, face systemic barriers to accessing veterinary services, training and resources essential for disease control. These gender-based inequities not only undermine women's livelihoods but also hinder global efforts to eradicate PPR.

Objective of the prize:

This prize seeks to empower young researchers to develop transformative, gender-responsive solutions to combat PPR and address the challenges faced by women in livestock systems. By identifying barriers to small ruminant management, veterinary services and access to training and resources, the initiative aims to analyse the impact of gender norms on disease control. Findings will inform gender-responsive policies, such as targeted veterinary training, financial support and increased participation of women in cooperatives. With resources for diagnosis, surveillance and vaccination, PPR control is achievable while empowering women economically and building resilience in the livestock sector.





Themes of the prize:

The research topics of interest for the Gender Mainstreaming in the Eradication of PPR include, but are not limited to:

- Generating evidence to support the integration of gender and biodiversity considerations into national livestock and climate action policies and making this evidence accessible to policymakers;
- Conducting studies on gender/youth sex-segregated analyses of the livestock sector in targeted countries and turn these outcomes into advocacy for policy makers;
- Modelling strategies to estimate the basic reproductive rate of Peste des Petits Ruminants Virus (PPRV) for optimal use of vaccines and implementation of other disease control strategies;
- Understanding the role of wildlife and other atypical species in the spread and potential maintenance of PPRV;
- Validating existing or new PPR diagnostic tests using wildlife samples;
- Research related to PPR disease management, including epidemiological and serological studies (e.g., surveillance);
- Research related to the socio-economic impact of PPR, including cost-benefit or value chain analysis, with a focus on gender and youth dimensions;
- Research that uses participatory methods to investigate PPR occurrence and transmission; and
- Research related to other priority small ruminant diseases and small ruminant production.

Application Deadline:

Researchers must submit their applications by 9 May 2025.





What do young researchers gain?

- **Research funding:** Winning teams receive up to USD 8 000 in research funding to implement their research projects. In addition, one team will be selected from the winners of each TRC category as the overall winner of the 2025 Transformative Research Challenge and will be awarded an additional USD 10 000 in research funding.
- **Global visibility:** Finalist teams receive recognition for their innovative work through the WFF website and social media channels, showcasing their projects to a global audience.
- **Networking opportunities:** Finalist teams connect with a global network of young leaders, agrifood experts and representatives from the public and private sectors, including the United Nations.
- **Invitation to FAO headquarters:** Finalist teams are invited to present their research at the **TRC Finals** held at **FAO headquarters in Rome** in **October 2025**, in front of a high-level jury and a global audience via live stream on a range of platforms including UN Web TV.
- **Post awards support:** Finalists are invited to apply for the **WFF Youth Food Lab** incubator programme. Winning teams may also receive continued support to further develop and implement their research proposals.

In addition, winning teams will receive:

- A dedicated space on the PPR Global Eradication Programme webpage.
- The opportunity to become part of a global platform for youth to showcase their innovative research ideas.

