 Integrated Smallholder Dairy Program (ISDAP) 

**Concept Note for the Construction of Cattle Crushes, and Purchase of Sprayers and Personal Protective Equipment.**

# **About SNV and ISDAP**

SNV is a not-for-profit international development organisation that makes a lasting difference in the lives of people living in poverty by helping them improve their livelihoods, increase income, and access essential services. SNV focuses on three sectors of agri-food, renewable energy (RE), and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), with long term local presence in over 20 countries. SNV implements development approaches tailored to local needs of the communities with appropriate knowledge and resources. SNV implements and maintains sustainable solutions to restore or improve livelihoods.

In December 2021, SNV and the Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands (EKN) signed a grant agreement to implement the Integrated smallholder Dairy programme (ISDAP) in Tooro, Kigezi and Ankole sub regions for 3 years, starting in January 2022. ISDAP is an outcome under The Inclusive Dairy Enterprise (TIDE) II with specific focus on smallholder farmers keeping dairy cows alongside crop and other enterprises.

The overall goal of ISDAP is to improve the livelihood of 15,000 smallholder farmers through small-scale integrated farming, focusing on dairy and selected crops to increase farm-level incomes, employment, and food/ nutrition security. ISDAP will also provide support in improved raw milk quality and marketing as well as strengthening the existing cooperatives and SACCOs.

**Background:**

To achieve the above goal, ISDAP’s mandate includes ably identifying specific issues affecting smallholder farmers and together with the SHF finding solutions to address the identified issues.

And as such, it has been identified during field visits by the ISDAP team members, that most, if not all the village learning groups (VLGs) have substandard cattle crushes, mostly owned individually, used by smallholder dairy farmers where there is a need for cattle restraint like during spraying, deworming or AI.

Secondly, the way SHF’s are addressing tick control is lacking either because of the equipment they use, not following the acaricide dilution rates or spraying intervals as recommended.

To address the above issues, there is need for

1. a strong, effective, and affordable cattle crush to safely restrain the cattle during spraying, AI, treatment or during any other situation where cattle restraint is required
2. an effective tick control strategy based on a viable business model.

It is against this backdrop, that ISDAP is not only proposing to elevate the standard of cattle crushes at the smallholder farms, but also to create and equip SPEN spraying teams to provide spraying services through a viable business model

**Objective of the activity**

* To identify and recruit a service provider or contractor that is credible and qualified in the construction of standard cattle crushes

**Activity Scope**

The activity will transpire in the ISDAP areas of implementation. These have been described as clusters that is the Kigezi region - Southern Cluster 3, The Greater Bushenyi – Central cluster and Northern cluster - Tooro region. Refer to the table below:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **#** | **Cluster 1 (North)** | **Cluster 2 (Central)** | **Cluster 3 (South)** |
| 1 | Kabarole | Rubirizi | Kisoro |
| 2 | Kyenjojo | Buhweju | Kabale |
| 3 | Bunyangabu | Bushenyi | Rubanda |
| 4 | Fort Portal City |  | Rukiga |
| 5 |  |  | Rukungiri |

**Methodology/Approach**

ISDAP will focus on the elevation of existing substandard communal cattle crushes to a standard version. To achieve this the following is the proposed approach.

**Cattle Crush**

1. ISDAP will provide standard dimensions of a good crush with the capacity to restrain 2, 3 and 5 cows respectively. See annex below
2. Issue a call for contractors who will construct the initial pilot community crush (1 per district) for a 2, 3 and 5 cow crush model. Contractors will preferably come from each of the clusters
3. After selection of the contractor from submitted bids, VLGs will be consulted on what materials they can avail as a way of co-funding, and this will determine the total amount ISDAP will spend to pilot the crush in that district
4. The pilot crushes will be communally owned rather than individual crushes.
5. The pilot crush will be established in a VLG which has not been engaged in any other ISDAP intervention besides the forage demo plots. The project will identify VLG who have a poorly designed communal crush
6. During the construction of the initial pilot crushes, local artisans from within the districts will be trained by contractors, and the trained local artisans will later construct other crushes for the selected farmers in the communities.
7. The selection of local artisans will be done with help of the village facilitators.

**Minimum company requirements**

* Medium scale local construction company with the trackable experience of civil works in the area including but not limited to farm structures
* Must be a registered construction company with the relevant authorities
* More than 5 years’ experience in civil works or farm structure establishment
* Engineer/ Team Lead must possess at least a diploma in Civil Engineering, Agricultural Engineering, or related field and share at least 3 LPOs/Contracts for previous works done

**Activity plan and schedule**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SN** | **Description** | **Nov** | **Dec** | **Jan** | **Feb** |
| **Identification and construction of crushes** |
| 1 | ISDAP develop standard dimensions of a good crush with the capacity to restrain 2,3 and 5 cows respectively.  |   |   |   |   |
| 2 | Issue a call for contractors who will construct the initial pilot community 5 cow crush (1 per district)  |   |   |   |   |
| 3 | Selection of a contractor |   |   |   |   |
| 4 | After selection of the contractor and submitting a bid, VLGs will be consulted on what materials they can avail as a way of co-funding. |  |  |  |  |
| 5 | Selection of local artisans |   |   |   |   |
| 6 | Selection of communal crushes for construction |   |   |   |   |
| 7 | Construction of crushes |   |   |   |   |

**Administrative requirements**

* Company registration documents
* Valid trading licence
* C.V’s of sight engineer proposed
* Sample similar works/ sample contracts of similar works done
* Full financial proposal including material requirements.
* Technical proposal showing workplan, drawings.

**Submission details**

Interested companies should submit their proposals by the 19th of December 2022 at the following address ugandatenders@snv.org . Please indicate “proposals for cattle crush” in the subject line.

***Call* disclaimer.**

*SNV reserves the right to either accept or reject any or all proposals submitted. SNV can stop this procurement at any time without need to give explanation or can extend the deadline for submission once it sees it fit. In case you do not hear from SNV within 4 weeks of closure of the bid receipt date, consider yourself unsuccessful.**SNV also reserves the right to reject and cancel the call-in case any illegal, corrupt, coercive, or collusive practices are noticed. Late submissions will be rejected*. *Please note that viewing, downloading or otherwise using the TOR constitutes acceptance on your part of all the above noted statements and conditions.*

**ANNEX**

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#  **CATTLE CRUSH DESIGN [ISDAP consideration] Why a crush?**

* Physical cattle restraint to ease diagnosis, treatment, inspection, Artificial insemination and acaricide application
* Ensuring safety of the animal and the animal handler
* A requirement for animal welfare

**The site:**

* Well drained site that is not prone to water logging
* The soil type preferably that with marram soil texture
* Slightly slopping sight and the crush entry should be on the lower side i.e animals exit from the upper side.
* Enough space to create working space during its use
* Protected from running water

**Materials.**

* Materials used must ensure that safety of the animals and handler are preserved – both should not get injuries resulting from sharp points or surfaces on the crush structures.
* The materials should be durable to avoid costs of frequent repairs – for example, farmers have indigenous knowledge of tree species that provide lasting poles even without treatment – consult them.
* The major material used are the following:

**Poles:**

* The poles are used for standing posts and guarding rails. We can use metallic or wooden poles depending on the financial capacity – the former is more durable. For ISDAP case we are going to use wooden poles using indigenous hard wood tree species. Where possible treated wood can be used.
* The standing posts should be straight to construct a regular and smart looking structure.
* The length of the poles should be at least 7ft(213cm) and of this at least 2ft buried in the ground. Strong posts should have a diameter of not less than 20cm. The bigger the diameter the better for strength.
* Each pair of posts is installed inclining outwardly to leave a V- shaped space between them. The distance between poles on each side of the crush should be a maximum of 1meter (100cm).

**Guard rails:**

* These should be strong and smooth enough to be gentle on the skin of the animals inside. The rails are fixed in the inner side of the crush using long nails or bolts with washers. Bolts have an advantage that it is easier to replace rails when they deteriorate. The space between rails should be not more than 30cm. Use of timber rails (locally called *Buliti*) is appropriate since it is usually difficult to get uniform round poles.

 **Floor:**

* The floor should be made from well compacted good quality marram soil (you may mix some building lime) OR rugged concrete to preserve the hoof health of the cattle.
* No water and mud should get logged in the crush during the rainy season or during the use of the crush. When the cattle are standing on the floor, the hooves should be all visible but not buried in mud.
* If concrete floor is used, the stone aggregates must be of good quality (steel stones) preferably not more than 0.5” size with coarse sand and good mixing ratio.

**Animal Collection space:**

* This is where the animals rest before entering the crush. It makes the animals calm down for easy entrance. Usually, farmers prefer connecting the crush to livestock shed but it is not appropriate – the crush structure should be independent.

**Cross section of a Cattle crush.**



**Note:**

* The figures in the diagram are in mm. 1cm = 10mm, 1ft = 30cm.
* The rails at the lower side should be closer to each other compared to the upper rails.
* The width is measured from rail to rail NOT from the post.
* Crush construction requires technical supervision throughout –

including verifying materials before they are used.