

Technological innovation for family beef cattle production in the South American Chaco.

Uptake of technologies in management and infrastructure, forage and feeding, herd management and animal health are vital to improving the sustainability of family livestock systems in this region.



Technology innovations

The implemented initiative

This project seeks to improve the efficiency, stability and resilience of family beef production systems. Specifically:

- 1) Productive systems were surveyed in each of the agroecological zones and alternative improved practices were proposed.
- 2) A network of pilot sites in farmers' fields was assembled, to adapt, evaluate and demonstrate

proposed technologies to ranchers.

- 3) A technical assistance and training plan for family beef production innovation is being implemented.
- 4) A system for the registration and monitoring of cattle farms is being developed, with evaluation of technological uptake and the effects on the productive system.

Tools to address the problems

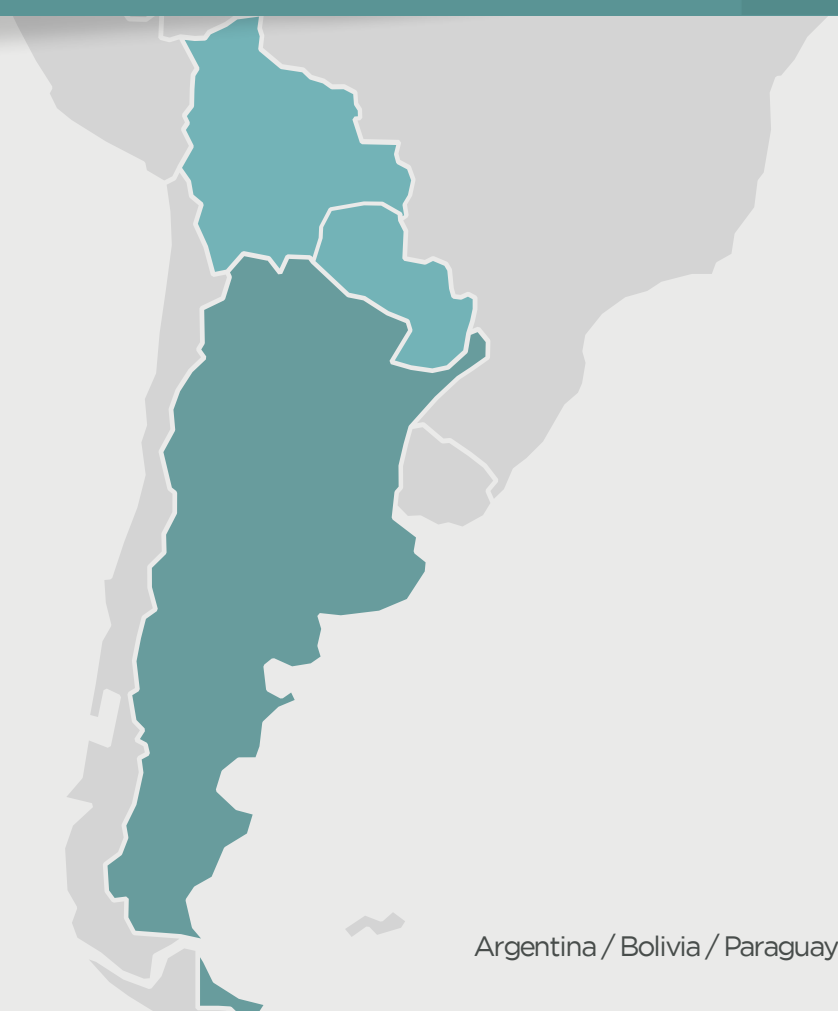
The technological solution

With a participatory approach, extension agents and producers agreed the critical technologies to be implemented in each pilot site, which were grouped into 4 types:

- a) fodder and food: pasture implantation, preparation of fodder reserves, stock adjustment according to fodder supply and animal requirements, and improvement of grazing systems;
- b) Infrastructure and business management: field divisions, water collection and distribution systems;

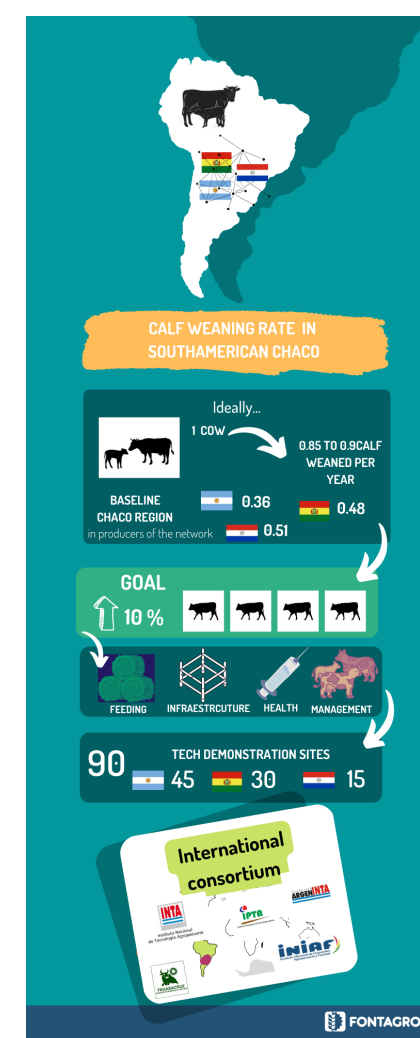
registration and monitoring of administrative performance indicators.

- c) Animal health: Adaptation of the health plan to the system and the area, control of parasitic and infectious diseases and bull evaluation.
- d) Herd management: monitoring of animal body condition, elimination of unproductive categories, supplementation of calves and heifers, seasonal breeding, pregnancy diagnosis and early weaning.



Argentina / Bolivia / Paraguay

HOW TO IMPROVE THE WEANING RATE IN SOUTHAMERICAN CHACO



- 3** Characterisation of livestock systems and possible technologies for incorporation
- 86** Livestock producer groups
- 2467** Trained producers
- 718** Trained women

Results

- An updated characterization of family cattle systems in the Chaco region and technological alternatives to be incorporated into intervention strategies.
- An installed network of 90 pilot sites across the 3 countries, which have applied technological improvements and serve as demonstrative and training units during the project and afterwards.
- Producers, extension agents and advisors trained in

- bovine production in the Chaco. A virtual livestock innovation course for the region that can be scaled up to other producers will be available.
- Information available on productivity indicators, level of uptake of the proposed technological alternatives and their effect on the productivity of family livestock systems.

MÁS INFO



Main donors



Participating Organizations

