



For immediate release

18 September

FARM-Africa's staff to present a ground-breaking paper at the Development Studies Association conference

Ali Hassan, FARM-Africa Kenya's Programmes Manager, will be addressing an audience of development specialists from around the world this week when he presents a paper discussing how mobile phones are revolutionising animal health in rural Kenya at the 2007 Development Studies Association Conference connecting Science, Society and Development, 18-20 September 2007.

The paper is based on the experiences of animal health workers regarding the introduction of mobile phones to support a decentralised animal health system as part of FARM-Africa's Kenya Dairy Goat and Capacity Building Project.

The document is entitled "Keeping Up With Technology: The use of mobile telephony in delivering community-based decentralised animal health services in Mwingi and Kitui Districts, Kenya" and is authored by James Kithuka, Jacob Mutemi and Ali Hassan Mohamed, members of FARM-Africa's expert staff in Kenya

Ali Hassan Mohammed will be presenting the paper at a panel discussion around the role of mobile phones in development reflecting the immense growth in the ownership of mobile phones in developing countries, particularly among African rural communities. This has led to mobile phone technology increasingly being used as a tool to overcome barriers to rural development.

Notes to editors

For further information on FARM-Africa please contact Ngaio Bowthorpe on 020 7067 1252 or go to www.farmafrica.org.uk

FARM-Africa

FARM-Africa (Food and Agricultural Research Management) is an international non-governmental organisation that aims to reduce poverty through developing innovative approaches to natural resource management in Africa. Through our projects in Ethiopia, Kenya, South Africa, Tanzania Southern Sudan and Uganda we work in partnership with marginal small-scale farmers and herders to improve the ways in which they farm their land. Working with a wide range of rural communities, we concentrate on four priority areas – Pastoral Development, Community Forest Management, Smallholder Development and Land Reform. With the international headquarters based in London, UK, we have country offices in Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, South Africa, Tanzania and Sudan.

Author and Editor contact details

James Kithuka, Animal Health Officer, FARM-Africa Kenya Dairy Goat and Capacity Building Project, P O Box 233, Mwingi, Kenya
T. +254 | 44 822425 / 560, F. +254 | 44 822 560
E. james@farm-africa.org

Jacob Mutemi, Project Co-ordinator, FARM-Africa Kenya Dairy Goat and Capacity Building Project, P O Box 233, Mwingi, Kenya
T. +254 | 44 822425 / 560, F. +254 | 44 822 560
E. jacob@farm-africa.org

Ali Hassan Mohamed, Programme Manager, FARM-Africa Kenya Country Office, P O Box 49502, 00100 Nairobi, Kenya
T. 00 254 20 273 1664, F. 00 254 20 273 2086
E. alihassan@farm-africa.org