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|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| Altitude | >2800 |
| Habitat | Tepid, cool highland |
| Distance from Addis | 280km |
| Production system | Sheep-barley |
| Human population | 324,705 (as of 2013) |
| % of female headed households | 18.7% |
| Major products | Meat (live animals) |

Challenges in the value chain

- Farm and grazing land scarcity – limiting access to feed
- High incidence of infectious diseases and parasites (sheep pox, pasteurellosis, coenurosis, and liver fluke)
- Limited or no access to key rural services (e.g., financing, veterinary facilities and extension)
- Information asymmetry and limited horizontal and vertical integration along the value chain
- Limited selling options for farmers in the local markets – buyer's market
- Gap in knowledge and skills of producers and extension agents in improved husbandry, disease prevention and market-orientation including attaining export quality

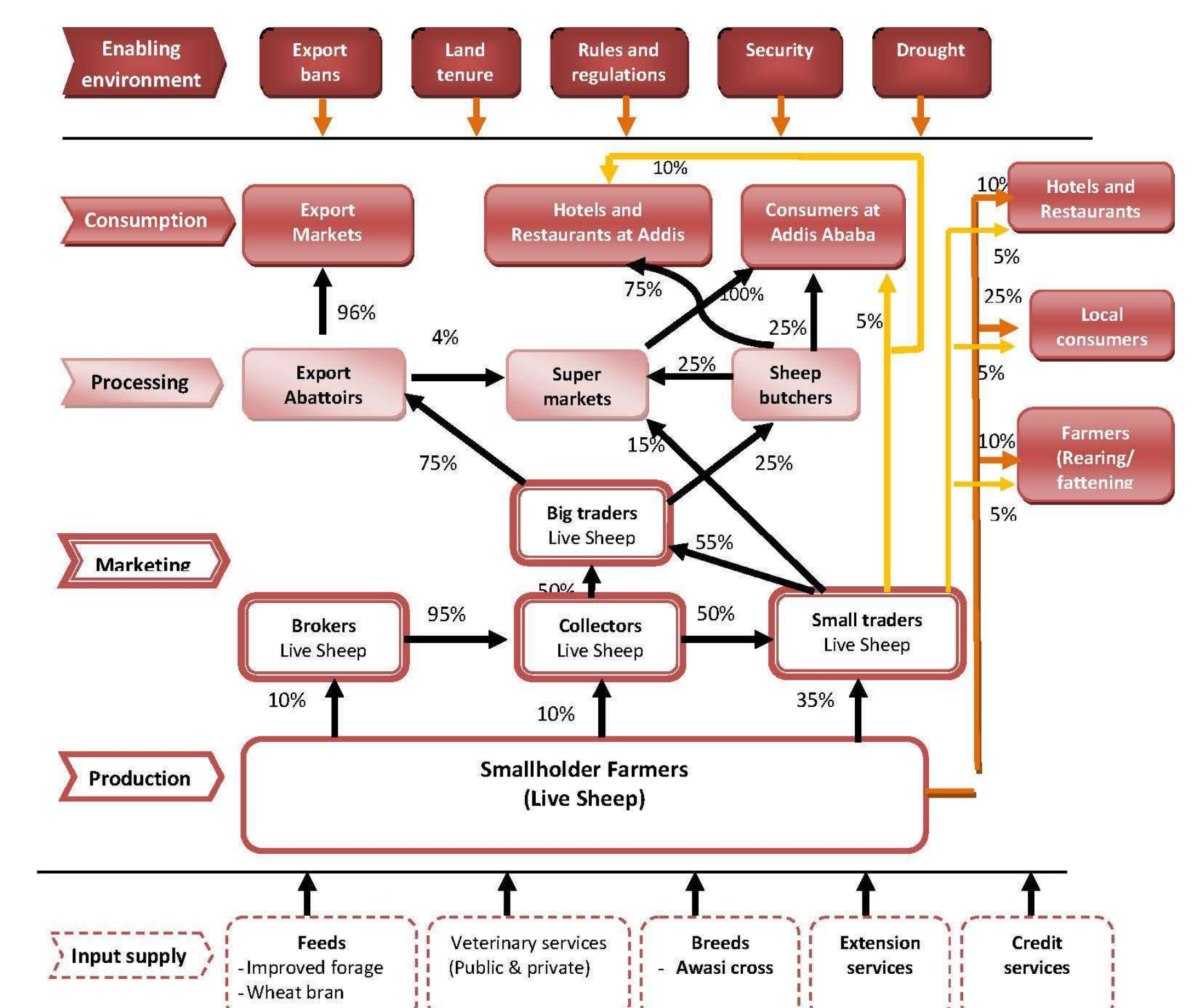


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Small ruminant value chain development in Menz (Gera and Mama), Ethiopia

Our vision: “By 2020, increased income and consumption of quality sheep meat of all VC actors through an effective and sustainable Menz sheep value chain”

Menz sheep value chain (March 2013)



Research and development ‘best bets’

- Enabling farmers access sustainable feed supply strategies
- Improving animal health services
- Establishing community-based breeding programs, including improved reproductive technologies
- Improving supply of and access to market information and developing the culture of collective action at farmers’ level
- Improving livestock market facilities
- Needs-based training on sheep management practices and other related issues (e.g., feed, health, breeding, fattening, marketing linkages)