

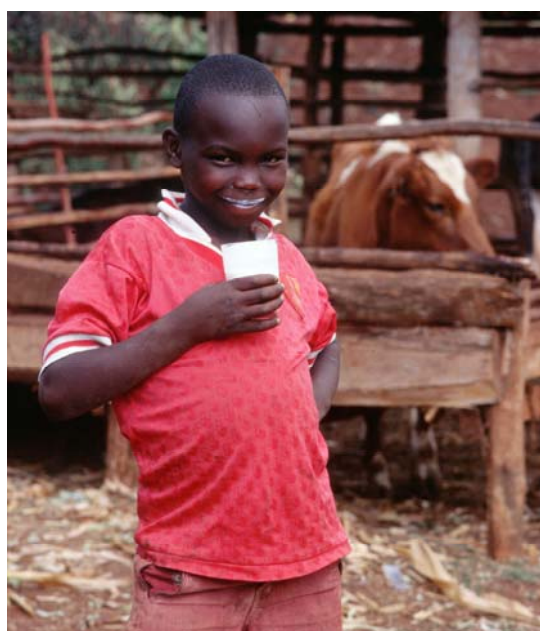
# Feed the Future Kenya

## Accelerated Value Chain Development program

### Livestock value chain component

Arid areas constitute about 60% of the land mass and are home to circa 30% of the population in Kenya. Land in arid areas is predominantly used for extensive grazing, and poverty levels at more than 60% are the highest in Kenya, exacerbated by poor accessibility and frequent droughts. The livestock sector in Kenya contributes accounts for about 8% of GDP, hence is key not only to the economy but also to the livelihoods of a large proportion of the population. Livestock production offers pastoralist communities the most promising pathway out of poverty and towards sustainable economic development and improved household nutrition.

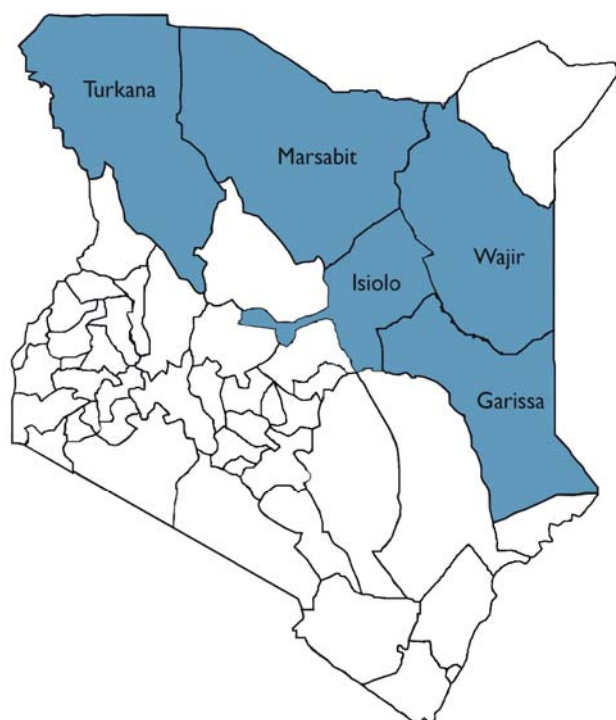
Extensive livestock production in Kenya's arid counties is constrained by several challenges. It is estimated that the drought period spanning 2008–2011, resulted in a loss of USD8 billion in the livestock sector. The impact of frequent drought is severe hunger, malnutrition and extensive loss of livelihood, with diminished resilience. Other challenges facing pastoralist communities include a lack of access to financial services and markets, limited availability of animal-health care outreach services, low levels of literacy and technical capacity, and a lack of integrated policies on management of natural resources, all of which have created policy challenges that limit market access and livestock mobility.



The urgency to address the needs of pastoral communities in Kenya has risen dramatically in the past few years, prompting the need to explore high impact interventions due to frequent cyclic droughts that increase the vulnerability of these communities. Reversing trends of increasing poverty levels, maintaining the trends in reducing food insecurity and malnutrition, and adapting to climate change, calls for sustained support to reforms and development in the pastoral and agricultural sector. Given the high dependency of pastoralist livelihoods on livestock and livestock products, addressing production and marketing challenges offers the potential of reducing vulnerability, increasing resilience and reducing poverty among these communities.

Targeting poor households in these arid counties is difficult for reasons intrinsic to pastoral production systems. These factors include: wealth inequities among pastoralists leading to different cash needs and herding strategies; unequal access to local versus national or cross-border markets; livestock sales methodologies that benefit traders more than pastoral producers; and the fact that pastoralists need cash during the food-insecure period (dry season) when prices are low. Additionally, one of the few available studies indicates milk production and herd growth remain more important to pastoralists than income from livestock sales.

Improving the quality of livestock is an important strategy to increase income from sales. Given pastoralists' need to move their animals to distant grazing and water points far from markets, some relevant commercial services must be incorporated into their mobile herding and rangeland management strategies.



## USAID support

The USAID Kenya mission has established Partnership for Resilience and Economic Growth to foster a learning-based approach to coordinating and enhancing the impact of its investment portfolio in the Feed the Future Resilience Zone of Influence—Garissa, Isiolo, Marsabit, Turkana and Wajir. The partnership views economic growth as a pathway to greater resilience for pastoral communities, but acknowledges the need for evidence to strengthen this hypothesis. Given its direct experience in gathering evidence on enhancing resilience through the hosting of the Technical Consortium for Resilience in the Horn of Africa, ILRI is well placed develop and transfer this evidence.

The Feed the Future Kenya initiative is assisting at least 93,000 households in becoming resilient to climatic shocks and accelerating development in their zone of influence. In Marsabit and Isiolo counties, the USAID-funded program, Resilience and Economic Growth in the Arid Lands—Accelerated Growth (REGAL-AG), has been implementing livestock value chain targeted activities, seeking to increase the value of livestock sales from USD23–35 million in the two

counties by 2017. In addition, the Resilience and Economic Growth in the Arid Lands—Improving Resilience (REGAL-IR) program is providing infrastructure support in 12 livestock markets in Garissa, Wajir and Turkana and promoting the co-management model in these livestock markets. This approach gives producers, through the livestock marketing associations, a greater role in the governance of their markets.

Focusing on semi- and arid counties, of Isiolo, Garissa, Marsabit, Turkana and Wajir, the AVCD livestock value chain component seeks to accelerate the development of livestock marketing to improve the incomes and nutritional status of 60,000 households by: increasing fodder production and access to improved grazing areas; creating additional local market associations and private sector enterprises; and applying improved livestock management practices, including livestock fattening.

The proposed work seeks to integrate the design and delivery of interventions throughout the livestock value chain, specifically improving the productivity and quality of livestock. Working in collaboration with the natural resource management component of REGAL-IR, the AVCD program fosters the integration of pasture management into the value chain approach. Given the importance of nutrition building resilience among pastoral communities, the livestock value chain component also works closely with the USAID-support Nutrition Health Program Plus program, which is undertaking interventions to improve nutrition-related behaviours in Marsabit county.

## Interventions being implemented to accelerate development of livestock value chains

The challenges in commercializing livestock production and improving links along the value chain in the Resilience Zone of Influence are compounded by the comparative lack of well-documented knowledge and experience. ILRI is bringing to bear its experience in supporting livestock value chains across Africa. Livestock value chain component interventions include improvement of fodder production and grazing management, improvement of animal productivity, use of value chain analysis and innovation platforms to strengthen livestock markets and commercial activity, and creation of an enabling environment for livestock markets. Under this program, ILRI technical expertise will complement the work of the two USAID-funded REGAL programs, through joint work planning exercises and regular meetings.

## Program objectives

The overall purpose of the livestock value chain component is to increase income from sales of livestock by 50% by 2018, lifting an additional 60,000 households out of poverty and improving their nutritional status. To achieve this goal, the following four objectives with key outputs have been identified:

**Objective 1:** Enhance market access for 50,000 pastoralists, ex-pastoralists, and smaller traders;

**Objective 2:** Increase livestock productivity for 30,000 producers;

**Objective 3:** Enhance the enabling environment for 20 markets and 30 communities;

**Objective 4:** Contribute to improved nutrition of women and children among 50,000 households.



## Activities and expected outputs/results

### Activities

- Provide assistance to existing and new livestock marketing associations and market participants, identifying key constraints hindering market access and improved interventions to address production constraints.
- Train market participants in business development.
- Stimulate demand for fodder by promoting a value chain-based livestock development approach, making use of innovation platforms to support five well-defined fodder value chains linked to 10 markets.
- Support women and young entrepreneurs in other economic activities.
- Strengthen and expand the existing market information system to more producer networks, and create sustained demand for information.
- Train producers in proper livestock fattening.
- Train feedlot managers in business enterprise development.
- Establish improved animal grading schemes in livestock markets through support to innovative price discovery mechanisms e.g. use of weighing scales.
- Support community-managed fattening schemes.
- Support the Kenya Livestock Management Council in its advocacy efforts in resolving trade barriers across counties and enhance the efforts of the Agile Harmonized Assistance for Devolved Institutions project.
- Enhance community-managed grazing and land-use planning.
- Support the establishment and use of functional public-private sector networks for provision of drugs and vaccines.
- Train producers in disease recognition and monitoring.
- Develop systems to support targeted deployment of rapid responses, across the counties in the livestock value chain component.
- Establish long-term herd productivity monitoring and recording.
- Support development of county policies for market management.
- Support design and implementation of appropriate land- and water-management policies, including forums for dialogue.
- Train women in improved feeding practices to increase milk yields.
- As incomes increase through the commercialization of livestock production and growth of markets, and as more meat and milk are made available through productivity increases and greater sales of livestock products, the project will support behavioural change interventions to promote the increased consumption of animal-sourced foods by women of childbearing age and children under five.





## Outputs

- Improved market management through co-management models.
- Increased market participation through provision of other services.
- Increased prevalence and use of market information systems.
- Increased value of animals through support to fattening schemes.
- Improved trade flows between local counties and Nairobi.
- Increased availability of and access to fodder.
- Improved animal health through market interventions.
- Improved surveillance of disease outbreaks.
- Improved productivity through better community-based herd management.
- Enhanced enabling environment for livestock market management, establishing revenue-sharing agreements.
- Enhanced enabling environment for grazing management
- Increased home consumption of milk, with a 10% increase in the number of children regularly consuming milk throughout the year.
- Improved consumption of nutrient-rich foods by women of reproductive age

**Project budget:** USD 7.7 million  
**Project duration:** October 2015–2018  
**Intermediate results:**

- Improved agricultural enabling environment;
- Expanded markets and trade;
- Improved productivity of selected value chains;
- Improved nutrition related behaviours.

## Partners

ILRI is implementing activities in conjunction with the Kenya Livestock Marketing Council, the Northern Rangelands Trust, and the University of Nairobi's African Drylands Institute for Sustainability. In addition to specific technical expertise, ILRI is also contributing to knowledge management and synthesis of evidence to prioritize interventions and successfully scale them out to new locations and greater numbers of beneficiaries. Other partners include county livestock marketing councils and the livestock marketing associations, as well as the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries and the Kenya National Drought Management Authority at both national and county levels.

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**KENYA LIVESTOCK  
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The voice of pastoralists



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ILRI is a member of the CGIAR Consortium

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