Gender success stories

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Gender and genetics strategy

Gender dynamics ↔ Genetics intervention

Institutional arrangements
Gender and genetics strategy: Q1

Gender dynamics => livestock genetics interventions

• How do gender dynamics affect the relevance of livestock genetics interventions?
  
a) What **roles** do women and men play in managing different species - particularly in breeding and accruing the benefits? And why?
  
b) What are the **species and then traits preferred** by women and men that increase the relevancy of improved breeds at household level?
  
c) What are the gendered opportunities and constraints affecting the **accessibility of improved livestock genetics**?
Gender and genetics strategy: Q2

Livestock genetics interventions => gender dynamics

• How are gender dynamics affected by the introduction of livestock genetics interventions?

  a) How do improved breeds/management affect intra-household **workload, benefit** sharing and **gender dynamics**?

  b) What are the **mechanisms/factors** that influence such changes and how can they be dealt with to support gender-equity? (strategic question)
Gender and genetics strategy: Q3

Institutional arrangements => gender equitable outcomes

- What institutional arrangements can ensure a gender-equitable outcome of genetics interventions?
  
  a) What **process/main steps** need to be put in place to guarantee a gender-responsive breeding programme?
  
  b) What **policy arrangements** can effectively facilitate women’s access to genetic material?
  
  c) How to balance between an **accommodation and a transformative** breeding approach when prioritizing research? (strategic question)
**Gender and genetics strategy: Implementation**

**Staffing:**
- Gender scientist assigned to flagship
- Gender post-doc and students assigned to projects and contribute to flagship
- Interested genetics scientists identified for collaboration

**Approach:**
- Strategic and integrated work in flagship undertaken
- Work closely across flagships
- Flagships supports % time gender staff
- Funding opportunities identified: CRP funds and beyond
- Co-supervision of students and post-docs across flagships
- Co-authorship of papers and presentations
Gender Sensitive Ruminant Breeding in Kenya: Problematise and expand

• Rural *women* represent majority of livestock ‘keepers’
  - More likely than men to own small ruminants (Kosgey et al, 2004; Peacock, 2005)

• Keepers = managers
  - In pastoral systems, *women* participate in every aspect of livestock management (Flintan, 2008)
  - What about men?

• Significant knowledge gaps
  - Specific gendered contribution to, preferences for, and benefits from livestock breeding (Benard et al, 2016; Marshall et al, 2016)
  - Crucial for achieving equitable outcomes from livestock productivity interventions (Bravo-Baumann 2000; Quisumbing, 2015)
Gender research under the AVCD Livestock component

- Overall objective seeks to improve the productivity of small ruminants in pastoral production systems through better herd management and innovative community-based breeding

- Specific objectives:
  - To equitably establish community innovation groups (CIGs) to pilot improved livestock productivity practices in pastoral systems
  - To develop the capacity of national and development partners, and key stakeholders in livestock productivity improvement practices under arid environments
  - To develop and implement a gender sensitive selective breeding and improvement program for small ruminants under pastoral production systems
Research Questions

1) What is the gendered participation in, and are the preferences for SR livestock breeding?

2) What are the gendered opportunities and constraints faced by livestock keepers in SR management and at the market-level?

3) Which norms and customs condition gendered access to and control over SR, and why?
## Preliminary results

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<tr>
<td><strong>Roles</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Trait preferences</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Opportunities</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Constraints</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Norms and customs</strong></td>
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- **Deciders** (castration, culling through sale)
- **Influencers** (castration, culling through sale)

- **Trait preferences**
  - Most likely to mention behavioural traits

- **Opportunities**
  - Knowledge on value addition of improved breeding management = stronger bargaining at the market
  - Knowledge and training on herd management to improve milk productivity = more home consumption and sale?

- **Constraints**
  - Poor market prices
  - Cannot sell livestock independently (exceptions)

- **Norms and customs**
  - Socially constructed 'rules' define acceptable behaviour and practices
  - Women should 'look after the homestead'; men should do the 'hard' work
  - First wives can exercise more agency
Looking forward

• How can we reconcile between trait preferences in contexts where rigid gender norms persist?
  – Whose preferences are prioritised?
  – Why?
  – What are the implications on gender relations and gender strategies?

• At which points in the breeding cycle do we integrate gender?
  – Which are the best methods?
References


More meat, milk and eggs by and for the poor
The CGIAR Research Program on Livestock aims to increase the productivity and profitability of livestock agri-food systems in sustainable ways, making meat, milk and eggs more available and affordable across the developing world.