
**Linkages and the Performance of Livestock
Farming:
A Survey of Small Scale Livestock Farmers in
Kerio Valley-Baringo County**

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- The World Bank estimates that Kenya's poverty level stands at 44 to 46 per cent
- Rift Valley province where Baringo County is located had a poverty index of 50%, (Government, 2007).
- Research also shows that three out of five small scale businesses fail within the first few months of operation (KNBS, 2007).
- The incidence of poverty is higher in rural areas at 49.1 per cent compared with 33.7 per cent in urban areas (KIPPRA, 2009)

PROBLEM STATEMENT

- Baringo County is ranked as an Arid and Semi Arid Lands of Kenya (ASAL)
- Most of the residents live in the rural areas and practice mixed farming.
- However, FAO notes that livestock plays a multiple role in mixed livestock systems
- Livestock rearing is a major source of income and livelihood for the rural people/lowlands in the county with few of them practicing subsistence crop farming (PricewaterhouseCoopers, 2005).

PROBLEM STATEMENT CONT...

- According to (Mutava Musyimi, 2001), although there has been improved livestock health in the region, this has not been in tandem with development of livestock marketing and alternative non-livestock investment in arid and semi-arid areas such as Baringo County.
- Livestock farmers have not exploited fully the presence of stakeholders in the sector (Situma, 2008).

OBJECTIVES

- The first objective of the study was to determine the types of linkages that are accessible to small scale livestock farmers.
- The second objective was to establish whether there was a relationship between linkages and livestock farming performance.

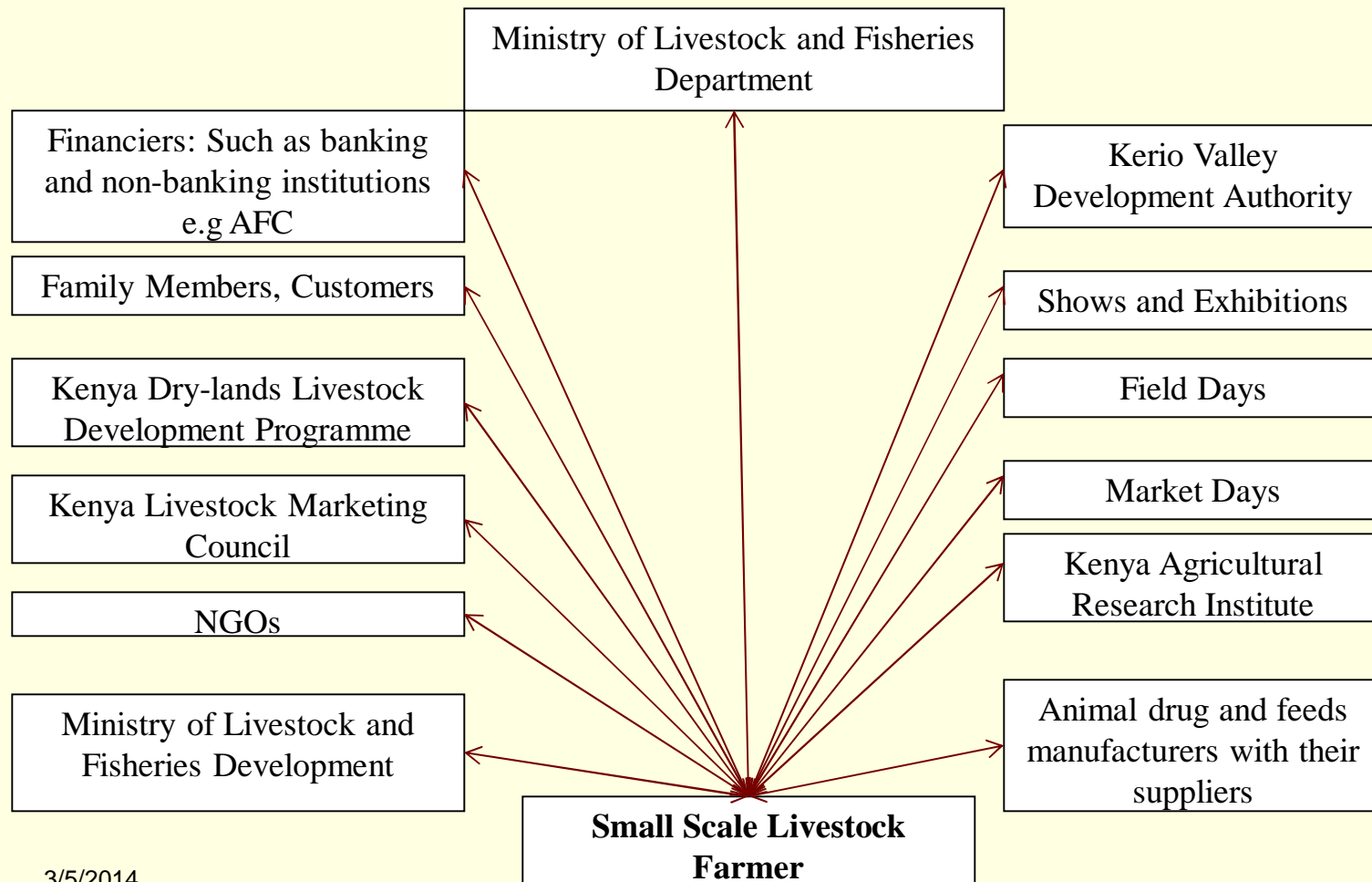
JUSTIFICATION OF THE STUDY

- Until specific factors that affect the growth of small scale livestock farming are identified and analyzed, their growth will remain an illusion to the policy makers & business community both in government and society.
- It is therefore important to identify the dominant factors that affect the growth of livestock enterprises so as to fully exploit the available resources effectively.
- Some of the dominant factors among livestock farmers in Baringo and other ASAL regions is lack of information on existing links

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

- The theoretical framework of the study was based on the stakeholder's theory by (Friedman, 1984)
- He posits that an organization itself should be thought of as grouping of stakeholders who manage their interests, needs and viewpoints

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK STAKEHOLDERS CONT...



RESEARCH DESIGN & METHODOLOGY

- A survey was conducted between April and May 2013 in Barwessa Division
- There are 603 households in the division, for which 11% (sample) was taken. One person from the household was interviewed. Those living in trading centres were not interviewed
- Methods of data analysis & presentation
 - Data was analyzed using SPSS version 17
 - The analyses involved descriptive statistics and Chi-square tests .Inferential statistics were tested at 0.05 level of significance.

DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS & INTERPRETATION

Owner-manager

- Most of the livestock owners were male (93.5%), with 6.5% being women.
- This was attributed largely to the community traditions which largely favoured the male gender as owners of livestock. This was limited to cows, goats and sheep.

DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS & INTERPRETATION

Link	% age involvement
Training	6%
Meetings	61%
Government agencies	2 %
Field days	64%
Market days	64%
Vernacular radio stations	36%
Attempt to Link	37%

DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS & PRESENTATION CONT...

Hypothesis 1:

There is no significant relationship between links types and small scale livestock management

Variable	χ^2	p value	Pearson	Remark
Training	16.432	p < 0.05	0.000	Rejected, +ve Rel.
Field Days	18.123	p < 0.05	0.000	Rejected, +ve Rel.
Meetings & Events	21.25	p < 0.05	0.000	Rejected, +ve Rel.

Hypothesis 1 was thus rejected at 0.05 level of significance and concluded that there is a Significant relationship between enterprise links and small scale livestock management

DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS & PRESENTATION CONT...

Hypothesis 2:

The is no significant relationship between link benefits and small scale livestock performance

Variable	χ^2	p value	Pearson	Remarks
Source of Information	18.47	<0.05	0.0298	Rejected +ve Rel.

Hypothesis 2 was rejected at 0.05 level of sign.

CONCLUSION

- KARI, KLMC, Animal drug, feeds manufacturers and suppliers, KVDA, MLFD and NGOs were identified as key links
- Their presence in the county remains as the greatest link agencies in advancing the farmers efforts of better livestock management and hence performance
- The study observes that if the links are utilized, it can assist small scale livestock farmers increase their productivity, management ,better livelihoods and reduction in poverty levels.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- The agencies in the livestock sector should link the farmers through information provision and training.
- Funding information on lending institutions should also be availed to the farmers so as to boost their capital base and manage the costs of animal feeds and disease management.
- The Central government should also subsidize on taxes on animal feeds and drugs being sold for farmers in ASAL areas as a motivator for growth

END

THANK YOU