

## **ISIOLO LIVESTOCK WORKSHOP MEDIA BRIEF**

**THEME: Enabling Livestock Markets to Thrive: Constraints & Opportunities**

**12<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> July 2016**

**Sarova Shaba Game Lodge, Isiolo**

---

### **BACKGROUND**

Kenya Markets Trust (KMT) works in partnership with the private sector; county & national governments; Associations; Local and International Partners to unleash large scale, sustainable market growth by changing the underlying incentives, capacities and rules that shape how market systems work in a bid to make them more inclusive, competitive and sustainable. KMT works in 5 key areas: Livestock, Seed, Agricultural inputs, Dairy and Water.

In the Livestock sector, KMT works to influence systemic changes to help realize the huge potential of this sector in the country. This will be achieved through strategic partnerships with the national government, county governments and pastoralist communities in the 14 ASAL counties, and other private sector players along the value chain.

### **THE WORKSHOP**

It is within this objective that a 2-day workshop themed '***Enabling Livestock Markets to Thrive - Constraints and Opportunities***', will be convened at Sarova Shaba Hotel in Isiolo on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of July 2016. The workshop seeks to bring together the public (counties and National) and key private sector firms that work along the livestock value chain. Eight Northern ASAL counties - Mandera, Wajir, Garissa, Tana River, Isiolo, Marsabit, Samburu and Laikipia will be represented by their Executive members in charge of livestock, their chief officers, County Veterinary directors and County livestock production directors. At National Government level, the ministry of Agriculture, livestock and Fisheries will be represented by the Director of Veterinary Services (DVS), and the Director of Livestock Production (DLP). A number of private sector firms drawn from the financial sector, livestock producers, animal health service providers, insurance companies, processors, exporters and ranchers will also be part of the two days discussion.

The aim of this engagement is to deliberate on the constraints facing the livestock value chain, to discuss available opportunities and to promote collaboration between the public and private sectors in an effort to stimulate sustainable development in the livestock sector.

The workshop will provide an open platform for thought stimulating and solution seeking presentations and discussions on selected topics such as financing for livestock trade, livestock insurance, private-sector-led delivery of animal health services, Sustainable Rangeland Management (SRM), holistic contributions of a vibrant livestock sector, areas of collaboration between the public and private sectors, among others. The key deliverables from this event are;

- a) Improved understanding and convergence around the constraints and opportunities around production, route to market and end markets of the livestock sector.
- b) Key policy areas identified, prioritized and action plan pointers developed.
- c) Improved working relationships and linkages between the private and the public sectors at the county levels in enabling livestock markets to thrive
- d) To influence the development of joint strategies for the key livestock sector

This workshop follows the Pastoralist Leadership Summit (PLS) which KMT also facilitated in the same venue on 11<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> March this year during which H.E. The President announced the establishment of a Livestock Development Authority and launched the Kshs. 6 billion Equalization Fund to uplift poor regions as stipulated by the constitution.

The PLS summit deliberated on issues that affect Arid and Semi Arid Lands (ASALS) in Kenya. Governors in the ASAL counties were present. It took place two weeks after a high level forum convened by KMT, that brought together for the first time government, regulators, meat producers, processors, exporters and financial institutions at a Round Table to explore barriers that prevent Kenya from competing with the likes of Somalia and Ethiopia in the livestock export market.

There have been recent concerted efforts by the national and county governments in the ASAL regions to address constraints to enable them maximize the potential of the livestock sector. This will improve the livelihoods of the pastoralist community and transform the sector as a key economic player in the country.