Political Economy Analysis of the Livestock Sector

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### Acronyms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASAL</td>
<td>Arid and Semi-Arid Land</td>
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<tr>
<td>CITEE</td>
<td>Centre for International Trade, Economics and Environment</td>
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<tr>
<td>CUTS</td>
<td>Consumer Unity Trust Society</td>
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<td>EMCA</td>
<td>Environmental Management and Coordination Act</td>
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<td>EPZA</td>
<td>Export Processing Zones Authority</td>
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<td>EU</td>
<td>European Union</td>
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<tr>
<td>FAO</td>
<td>Food and Agricultural Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>GDP</td>
<td>Gross Domestic Product</td>
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<tr>
<td>GoA</td>
<td>Government of Australia</td>
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<tr>
<td>GoK</td>
<td>Government of Kenya</td>
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<tr>
<td>KLDC</td>
<td>Kenya Leather Development Council</td>
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<td>KLMC</td>
<td>Kenya Leather Marketing Council</td>
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<td>KMT</td>
<td>Kenya Markets Trust</td>
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<td>KNBS</td>
<td>Kenya National Bureau of Statistics</td>
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<tr>
<td>LIP</td>
<td>Leather Industrial Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>MAL &amp; F</td>
<td>Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries</td>
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<tr>
<td>NGOs</td>
<td>Non-Governmental Organisations</td>
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<tr>
<td>ODI</td>
<td>Overseas Development Institute</td>
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<tr>
<td>OECD</td>
<td>Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>SGACA</td>
<td>Strategic Governance and Corruption Assessment</td>
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<td>WB</td>
<td>World Bank</td>
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The broad objective of the study was to examine the political context in which livestock is produced and livestock products, namely beef, hides and skins, are marketed in Kenya.

The specific objectives included:

1. Examining the political and economic system of the livestock sector
2. Identifying the main actors, institutions and decision-making processes in livestock production, livestock marketing and in the beef, hides and skins value chains
3. Investigating the economic relevance of the livestock sector, specifically the beef and hides and skins to Kenya and its latent potential
4. Identifying entry points, champions and institutions that KMT could collaborate with to realise sustainable, inclusive and competitive livestock/beef production sector growth

SCOPE AND COVERAGE: WHERE AND HOW THE STUDY WAS CONDUCTED

The study identified five counties where livestock production and marketing are predominant economic activities.

The study analysed the existing political and decision-making processes and power play amongst various actors and identified key constraints and challenges across the livestock value chain.

Graphic 1: Scope of coverage

- Turkana County as a migration route and as an entry point from Uganda, South Sudan and Ethiopia.
- Isiolo County because of its livestock route and market.
- Nairobi County due to its vast market for livestock products.
- Garissa County as a holding ground, market and production of cattle, camel and goats.
- Taita-Taveta County for its entry point from Tanzania and as holding ground.
Majority of the respondents (52%), had experience spanning between 1-10 years, while those with 31-40 years were a paltry 4% (Graphic 2).

Majority of those interviewed were illiterate; 38% of the respondents did not have even primary school education and only 3% had university level education (Graphic 3).

Majority of the interviewed population were male who comprised 98 percent of the population. This further implies that males dominate participation in livestock related economic activities (Graphic 4).
Why the Livestock Sector?

Livestock Sector contributes 12% to Kenya’s GDP, and employs 10 million Kenyans

Kenya’s livestock sector has potential to support sustainable national development through food production, employment and general economic growth.

The sector currently contributes an estimated 40% to the agricultural GDP and employs 50% of agricultural labour force in the country, with an estimated 10 million Kenyans largely deriving their livelihoods from the sector. (Economic Survey, 2018).

Graphic 5: The contribution of the livestock sector to Kenya’s economy

Kenya is the third largest holder of livestock in Africa, behind Ethiopia and Botswana

Graphic 6: Kenya’s livestock resource base
At the household level, animals are a source of food while livestock also serve as a store of wealth, act as a means of transport, are a source of manure for crop production and serve as a vital component of social functions and exchange.

However, there are systematic constraints that hinder development of the sector to produce sufficient beef to meet domestic demand and develop hides and skins.

Hence, Kenya remains a net importer of livestock products, further disempowering local smallholder producers and traders.

**SO, WHY DOES KENYA REMAIN A NET IMPORTER OF BEEF AND LEATHER PRODUCTS DESPITE SECTOR REFORMS?**

Since independence, the Government of Kenya has traditionally intervened in agricultural markets through either trade policy reforms or fiscal policies such as subsidies and taxes on inputs and outputs.

The reforms undertaken so far have been fundamental in opening up trade in agricultural commodities, specifically in livestock and livestock products markets.

The epic of these reforms was the adoption of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010, which devolved agricultural development services to county governments while the national government retained the broader policy making role.

Under the livestock sub-sector, county governments are responsible for animal husbandry, livestock sale yards, abattoirs and disease control and management. Despite these reforms, the performance of the livestock sub-sector remains dismal with the country being a net importer of beef and leather products.

This study investigates the political context in which livestock is produced in Kenya and the entry points of decision-making that are truly feasible given the political realities.

The report identifies key actors, institutions and processes that surround formal and informal policy-making relevant to livestock production and marketing of meat, hides and skins.

It also examines the institutional bases of existing policies. It is widely recognised that the nature and effectiveness of existing regulatory and institutional framework influence price transmission to producers of livestock and final consumers.

The conflicting interests of producers, traders, consumers and the politicians trigger adjustments in production costs and the costs of doing business, thereby creating winners and losers among the actors.
Why the Study Matters

THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS STUDY IS TWO-FOLD:

1. Demand for meat, hides and skins is anticipated to increase in the long-term. This is due to population growth, rapid urbanisation and improvements in economic well-being of a significant number of population. This calls for the need to address existing institutional and regulatory constrains hindering the sustainable growth and development of the sector.

2. The livestock industry has a high degree of vertical linkages with upstream and downstream industries. It is a significant user of products from feed, drugs, vaccines and equipment manufacturing industries and is a major provider of raw materials for agro-processing industries thereby creating opportunities for employment and improving household incomes. Besides, livestock is a significant source of foreign exchange and has strong linkages with the other activities of the economy.

Consequently, the livestock sub-sector remains a key sector in the realisation of the long-term objectives of the Vision 2030 and specifically the government’s Big Four Agenda in which value addition and food and nutritional security are top priorities.

This study has been conducted at a time when the demand for livestock products (meat and leather) are projected to increase amidst rising population, urbanisation and improving quality of life associated with economic growth.

Indeed, the Vision 2030 and specifically the Big Four Agenda identify the sub-sector as having potential to enhance manufacturing through value addition of both meat and leather, as well as ensuring food and nutritional security.

Yet, the productivity in domestic livestock production continues to be low owing to institutional, social, economic and political economy factors.

Ideally, animals are a source of protein for human diets and can serve to provide income, employment and foreign exchange within a country. Besides, for poor rural households, livestock also serves as a store of wealth, provides draught power and organic fertiliser for crop production, acts as a means of transport, and serves as a vital component of social functions and exchange.

Thus, revitalisation of the sector could provide opportunities for the livestock dependent poor to improve their livelihood through increased household incomes.

Furthermore, the livestock industry has a high degree of vertical linkages with upstream and downstream industries.

It is a significant user of products from feed, drugs, vaccines and equipment manufacturing industries and is a major provider of raw materials for agro-processing industries thereby creating opportunities for employment and improving household incomes.

Besides, livestock is a significant source of foreign exchange and has strong linkages with other activities of the economy.

Finally, this study provides more information on the policy-making processes and political interactions amongst various stakeholders who affect the production and trade of livestock products in Kenya.
Findings and Discussions

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK SECTOR IS GROSSLY UNDERFUNDED IN COUNTIES

Existing reports indicate that the agriculture sector in general is grossly underfunded.

For instance, during the financial years 2017/18 ad 2018/19, allocations to the sector hardly reached 10%. This is not sufficient for sustainable development of the sector as a whole. Isiolo County had the highest allocation to livestock, veterinary and fisheries sector being 7% of total allocations during the 2018/19. The situation for the livestock sub-sector is worsened by the fact that the allocations are pooled together with other agricultural subsectors.
In terms of allocations between recurrent and development expenditures, majority of the counties sampled had bigger allocations to development as opposed to recurrent expenditures, which is a positive signal. It is notable that Taita Taveta and Turkana counties had the biggest allocations to development i.e. 86% and 79% respectively, during the present 2018/19 financial year (Figure 1). However, the allocations as still minimal to deliver sustainable development of the livestock sub-sector considering the fact that these go towards development of the broader agricultural sector.
Livestock Production

**BEEF PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION**

The population is concentrated in the ASAL areas which cover about 75% of the total land mass.

- **3.3m** Exotic cattle
- **14m** Indigenous cattle
- **17m** Sheep
- **28m** Goats
- **2.9m** Camels

![Graphic 9: Livestock Production: Beef production & consumption](image)

- **334,689** Pigs
- **26m** Indigenous chicken
- **6m** Commercial chicken
- **1.8m** Beehives
- **1.8m** Donkeys

**Source:** KNBS, 2013

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**Dairy Industry**

- **3.5m** Country’s estimated dairy cattle. They are mainly kept in medium to high rainfall areas of the country.

**Key dairy breeds**
- Ayrshire
- Friesians
- Guernsey
- Jersey
- and the cross breeds.

**5.1bn litres**
- Milk production in 2008 valued at KES 100 billion.

**Source:** KNBS, 2013

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**Sheep and goats**

- **84,000 MT**
- Annual meat production of mutton and chevon worth **KES 14 billion.** However, the sub-sector has not received commensurate support from both the state and the development partners.

**Source:** KNBS, 2013
Kenya’s livestock resource base comprises of 3.3 million exotic cattle, 14 million indigenous cattle, 17 million sheep, 28 million goats, 2.9 million camels, 334,689 pigs, 26 million indigenous chicken, six million commercial chicken, 1.8 million beehives and 1.8 million donkeys (KNBS, 2013). The population is concentrated in the ASAL areas with which cover about 75% of total land mass.

However, sustainable livestock production is a challenge in the ASALs owing to inadequate institutional framework and unsupportive policies, conflicts and poor governance.

Climate variability with increasing frequency of drought over the past 10 years has affected livestock production in Kenya.

At least 75% of pastoral cattle were lost during the 2009-2010 drought, leading to acute vulnerability of pastoralists livelihoods.

This coupled with overstocking and degraded environment has had a negative effect on pasture regeneration and livelihood of pastoral communities.

Kenya produced 2.62 million and 20.33 million pieces of Hides and Skins respectively equivalent to 112,000 tons of leather in 2015, (EPZ 2016).

Figure 1: Trend of Export value of Hides, Skins, Leather and Footwear

Source: FAO, 2017
There is potential to grow at 2.1% and 1.3% annually for bovine and shoat material respectively. Availability of hides and skins is currently constrained by smuggling to external markets and high non-recovery rates for cattle hides, sheep and goatskins estimated at 14%, 34% and 29% respectively.

The installed tanning capacity in Kenya stands at 3.1 million and 31.2 million pieces of Hides and Skins respectively implying a capacity utilization of 85 and 65% for bovine and shoat material respectively (EPZ 2016).

Through Kenya Gazette Supplement number 221, Act number 57 of Finance Act 2012, the duty on exports of hides and skins was increased from 40 per cent to 80 per cent ostensibly to encourage more value addition in the industry. Available statistics indicate that the imposition of 80% export tax on raw hides and skins led to a drop in exports whereas the quantity and value of leather exports increasing substantially.

**LIVESTOCK VALUE CHAIN: MARKETING INTERMEDIATE AND END PRODUCTS IS THE MISSING LINK**

After conservation treatment, hides and skins are transformed into leather in tanneries. The manufacture of leather products, which is often carried out in small, labour-intensive factories and/or shoe industries follow the tanning stage. The marketing of intermediate and end products at different stages in the chain is the key to success in the modern livestock products industry.

**Table 2: Livestock Value Chain**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stages</th>
<th>Critical inputs</th>
<th>Outputs</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Livestock production</td>
<td>• Human resources</td>
<td>• Milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Live animals</td>
<td>• Pulling power</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Breeding techniques</td>
<td>• Mature animal for slaughter</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>• Animal health services</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Animal feed</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Milk</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Pulling power</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Mature animal for slaughter</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slaughtering – Hides and skins Recovery</td>
<td>• Human resource – technical and managerial skills</td>
<td>• Heavy bovine hides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Equipment and spare parts</td>
<td>• Light bovine hides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Slaughter facilities</td>
<td>• Goat and sheep skins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanning</td>
<td>• Raw hides and skins</td>
<td>• Heavy and light bovine leather</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Human resource – technical and managerial skills</td>
<td>• Light (sheep &amp; goat) leather</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Chemicals</td>
<td>• (pickled, wet blue, crust, finished) leather</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>• Human resource – technical and managerial skills</td>
<td>• Leather products</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Machines</td>
<td>• Footwear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Accessories</td>
<td>• Leather garments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Components</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Design</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• R &amp; D</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing</td>
<td>• Human resource – technical and managerial skills</td>
<td>• Domestic, regional and international trade</td>
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<td>• Information and IT</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Technical administrative support</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Institutions</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Promotion</td>
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*Source: Authors*
The demand for food in Kenya is proportional to population growth and urbanisation. It is estimated that an average of 10 kilogrammes of red meat (meat and offal from cattle, sheep, goats and camels) per capita is consumed annually in Kenya.

This amounts to approximately 600,000 MT of red meat per year. Cattle are the most important source of red meat, accounting for 77 percent of Kenya’s ruminant off-take for slaughter.

While Kenyan pastoralists account for most of Kenya’s meat supply (approximately 60% to 65% of the total), a significant portion (20% to 25%) comes from livestock raised in neighboring countries with significant livestock populations (Ethiopia, Somalia, Tanzania and Uganda), making Kenya a meat-deficit country.
KENYANS EAT MORE GOATS AND SHEEP

Graphic 12: No. of animals slaughtered and average fee for slaughter

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Animal Type</th>
<th>Average Number Slaughtered (2017)</th>
<th>Average Slaughter Price per Animal</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cattle</td>
<td>1,334</td>
<td>KES 600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camels</td>
<td>2,482</td>
<td>KES 185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goats/Sheep</td>
<td>45,160</td>
<td>KES 500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Authors’ compilation

The survey carried out in the five counties, showed that the highest number of animals slaughtered are the goats and sheep, followed by camels, and lastly cattle. Besides, the fees charged by the slaughter facilities vary by the type of animal.

COUNTY GOVERNMENTS, NGOs PLAY KEY DECISION-MAKING ROLE IN THE LIVESTOCK VALUE CHAIN

National and County Governments:

The country had a number of on-going programs which included:

- **Agricultural Sector Development Support Programme** that aims to contribute to transformation of crop, livestock and fishery production into commercially oriented enterprises that ensure sustainable food and nutrition security.

- **Climate-smart agriculture (CSA) is a program** that offers cultural practices to farmers and how farmers can conform to climate matters on livestock production.

- **Subsidized Artificial Insemination Project.** The county is sponsoring artificial insemination at a subsidized rate for farmers to improve breeds for cattle.

- **Field days programme on technology transfers.** The county office plans on frequent and timely field days for every ward in the county.
NGOs and development partners, which include keepers, traders, transporters, abattoirs, butcheries, aggregators, tanneries and manufacturers:

- **Livestock keeping**: About 60% of total households (about seven million households) keep livestock, most of them keeping few livestock. The majority (75%) of these live in the rural areas and among the less well-off in the population.

- **Livestock marketing**: Through individual or marketing associations; traders play a central role as the principal link between livestock keepers and consumers.

- **Transporters** play an important role in ensuring livestock and their products reach intended markets.

- **Slaughter houses/Abattoirs**: The slaughter facilities interviewed were mostly privately owned, except for Isiolo slab, which is owned by the county government.

- **Aggregators/collectors**: These collect and aggregate live animals as well as skins and hides from the slaughterhouses, slaughter slabs, homestead slaughters and sell them to tanneries.

- **Tanneries**: There are about 15 tanneries of diverse capacities in Kenya, 13 of which were operational.

- **Leather Products Manufacturers** purchase processed leather from tanneries and use it to manufacture leather products.

Apart from county and national governments, NGOs and development partners, the other main actors in the livestock value chain include keepers, traders, transporters, abattoirs, butcheries, aggregators, tanneries and manufacturers.
Summary of Key Findings

THE KEY FINDINGS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. Despite the efforts, there still exist weak coordination between county governments and national government as well as within national government institutions. Besides, conflict of interest undermines implementation of livestock development policies and regulations. In addition, some of the regulations in the sector are out-dated and do not reflect technological advancements and changes in governance systems in the country.

2. Whereas the national government is responsible for overall policies, county governments are responsible for advisory services, breeding, marketing yards and control & management of livestock diseases. The county governments have developed mechanisms of engaging the livestock stakeholders in issues to do with certifications, standards and safety compliance, setting of taxes and moment permits especially related to hides and skins and or leather have also been developed. However, the level of awareness amongst keepers and traders about the existence of the laws, rules and regulations guiding the livestock sector is extremely low.

3. The livestock sector is grossly under-funded and inadequately staffed with requisite technical personnel. By and large, the broad agricultural sector hardly gets 6% of total budgetary allocations in all the counties considered in the study. This undermines the budgeting, inspection, supervision, enforcement and ultimately effective implementation of various programmes and activities.

4. The private sector, NGOs and other non-state actors play pivotal roles in supporting the provision of extension services, artificial insemination services, insurance, capacity building training, among others. They also support construction of livestock markets, tanneries and provision of access to credit for investments in the sector. However, these efforts require to be scaled up to be able to have meaningful impacts among the pastoralist communities.

5. There generally exist poor infrastructure including dilapidated roads, lack of market facilities, storage facilities for beef and hides and skins are other hindrances to increased trade in livestock products. This leads to depressed or very low market prices.

6. The market structures of these products remain uncompetitive with low returns to livestock keepers. The conflicting interests and power plays between governments, producers, traders, consumers and undermine the prospects for sustained growth and development of the sector.

7. The pastoralism system makes it difficult to maintain animal health and standards, including establishment of disease-free zones. This is partly attributed to movements of livestock owing to harsh climatic conditions and susceptibility to rustling and banditry.

8. The government efforts in providing funds for the purchase and slaughter animals in the bid to minimise losses to farmers contradicts the farmers’ attempts to re-stock after severe droughts, hence reluctance to dispose of their animals in good time.

9. Whereas the meat production is relatively well developed, the hides and skins (leather products) are grossly under-developed with the bulk of the hides and skins neglected to waste or sold at throw away prices. Besides, there are limited if not no incentives to invest in tanneries and leather manufacturing plants, which have potentials to turnaround the economies of several counties and the entire nation.

10. Despite the liberalisation of the livestock sub-sector and the agriculture sector in general, the market structure remains uncompetitive with a few players participating in the livestock markets as well as the tanning segments of the livestock value chain.
1. **Institutional and regulatory issues:** There exists weak coordination between county governments and national government and amongst various national government agencies as well as conflicts of interests thereby undermining implementation of livestock development policies and regulations. Inadequate budgetary allocations and technical personnel also affect effective implementation of various programmes and activities. In addition, there is limited awareness about existing policies and regulations amongst livestock keepers and traders.

Key laws and regulations touching the livestock sector include:

- b. *The Vision 2030 and the Big Four Agenda*
- c. *Hides, Skins and Leather Act (Cap 359, Laws of Kenya)*
- d. *The Export Processing Zones Authority (EPZA) Act Cap 517*
- e. *The Environmental Management and Coordination Act (EMCA) 1999*
- f. *The County Government Act 2012*

2. **Poor production and technological issues:** Majority of livestock keepers lack knowledge and skills for improving productivity including veterinary services and prevention of tick infestation and other skins and hides diseases. This undermines attainment of market requirements like faster growth of animals and good quality of hides and skins are determined at the production level.

3. **Political and governance issues:** Weaknesses in regulatory frameworks have given room for intermediaries and brokers to control prices of live animals and livestock products in exploitation of farmers and consumers. In addition, many traders decry harassment and corruption by law enforcement officers even when the traders hold valid documentations.

Moreover, the Pastoralist Parliamentary Group is largely informal and therefore ineffective in raising the profile of the livestock for sustainable development.

4. **Poor planning and budgeting:**

The livestock sector is grossly under-funded in all the counties covered in the survey. This is despite this being the major economic activity in those regions and even hosting some Vision 2030 flagships, including the establishment of disease-free zones and development of tanneries. Thus, the allocation of resources to specific programmes is not guided by clear economic analysis on investment projects and other activities before the financial resources are deployed.
5. **Economic and financial constraints:**
There is relatively less demand for animal and meat consumption particularly in the rural areas due to relatively high consumer prices. In addition, over-supply of live animals during certain periods depress market prices. Besides, multiple taxation, especially when livestock are transported across counties and other operational charges and fees remain a major burden to livestock and livestock products businesses.

6. **Infrastructure and related issues:**
Poor road conditions lead to wastage of time, high petroleum consumption and enhance the risk of accidents thereby raising transport costs, raising producer and consumer prices and reducing profit margins. In addition, lack of appropriate and specious market facilities is yet another hindrance affecting trade in livestock. There are no adequate of appropriate holding grounds for livestock from far-flung places for traders awaiting subsequent market days or even better prices.

7. **Climate change and environmental issues:**
Changes in environmental conditions directly affect livestock production, including breeding, availability of fodder and disease episodes. Specifically, some genetic traits reduce disease resistance while others increase it. The seasonal changes also influence disease occurrences. Harsh climatic conditions especially droughts lead to severe loss of livestock and consequently poor productivity. Under such situations, pastoralists attempt to retain selected animals for re-stocking after severe droughts and become reluctant to dispose of their animals in time to avoid or minimize losses thereby exacerbate the effect of drought on these communities.
Conclusion: Key Observations

The demand for meat as well as hides and skins will increase with the growing population, urbanisation and improvements in economic performance in the long-term.

Whereas meat production is relatively well developed, the hides and skins (leather products) is grossly under-utilised with the bulk of hides and skins neglected to waste or sold at throw away prices. Besides, there are no incentives to invest in tanneries and leather manufacturing plants, which have potentials to turn-around the economies of several counties and the entire nation.

Despite the liberalisation of the livestock sub-sector and the agriculture sector in general, the market structure remains uncompetitive with a few players participating in the livestock markets as well as the tanning segments of the livestock value chain.

There is need for the government to shift from the traditional policy formulation to adoption of new roles to respond effectively to rapidly evolving market conditions.

This can done by promoting equitable livestock sector development through developing effective institutional and regulatory framework as well as providing incentives for private sector and encouraging autonomous farmers organizations. The latter serve not only to share resources and information but also to build capacity, and to defend and promote policy interests.
Key Recommendations

The report makes the following suggestions and possible areas for intervention by KMT:

1. Strengthening institutional and regulatory framework

KMT should focus on lobbying for harmonization of various policies, laws and regulations and strengthen co-ordination between national and county governments for sustainable development of the livestock sector. This will help streamline utilization of available resources for addressing farmers issues e.g. awareness & extension services, market and trade-related infrastructures and control and management of diseases. This may also include rationalization of levies and other related charges by county government to improve business environment and plough back own source revenues towards empowering livestock farmers.

2. Increasing resource allocations and strengthening strategic allocation of resources

Both the national and county governments need to increase budgetary allocations to livestock sector in order to raise productivity, generate incomes and create jobs, especially in the ASAL regions. Besides, the county planning units should be supported to build human capacities in the areas of project appraisals, planning and budgeting. This would facilitate strategic resource allocations and effective implementation of priorities livestock flagship projects identified in the Vision 2030.

3. Awareness creation and sensitization

KMT should intensify its sensitization activities together with other stakeholders including the national government, private sector, NGOs and development partners targeting livestock keepers and traders on appropriate animal husbandry practices (like record keeping), standards, management practices and commercialisation among others. Pastoralist communities should specifically be sensitized about the importance of keeping a few but good quality livestock as opposed to large heads which may not be properly fed, hence of poor quality, small sized with low weights due to poor feeding and herding for long distances. Mobilisation of farmers into groups or associations is necessary to help them take charge of marketing and avoid exploitative middlemen. In addition, county governments design fiscal incentives for private sector investments through the public-private-partnership models in modern tanneries to stimulate collection of hides and skins and processing as a means of creating employment opportunities to women and the youth in the leather sub-sector.

4. Quality improvements

Quality of livestock and livestock products can be enhanced through scaling up extension services amongst pastoralist communities. This would ensure reduction of animal diseases and pests that affect the quality of hides and skins thereby lowering market prices. In addition, KMT can work together with slaughterhouses to mobilize development partners in offering training and equipment for flaying to reduce damages on hides and skins for better quality and prices.

5. Provision of investment incentives and credit facilities

There is need for county and national governments to provide incentives to encourage private sector investments in the beef value chain, particularly in meat processing and cold storage facilities to preserve meet products and make them available throughout the year thereby stabilizing prices as well as tanneries and leather manufacturing plants. The incentives can also be extended to support livestock holding grounds with feeds and water near livestock markets. This will improve pastoralists’ market access and allow them to wait with their herds for another market day, especially when they are sourced.