



THE IMPORTANCE OF PASTORALISM AS A LIVELIHOOD AND ITS CHALLENGES UNDER THE NEW CONSTITUTION

By Mr. Qalicha Wario

OUTLINE

- Introduction / Background information
- Key features of pastoralism – why pastoralism?
- Importance of pastoralism
- Challenges facing pastoralists/pastoralism
- The future of pastoralism under new constitution

KLMC BACKGROUND



Kenya Livestock Marketing Council was established in 2000 as a Private Sector, non profit making service organization dedicated to the improvement and development of Kenya.

KLMC MISSION



KLMC envisions a sustainable, dynamic and enriching livestock sector

MISSION

To generate greater economic impact by supporting the growth of livestock production and trading in Kenya through skillful lobbying and creation of proper marketing systems.

Key features of pastoralism

- Ways of life mainly based on extensive raising of livestock
- Occupies African Arid and Semi Arid Regions
- High degree of mobility
- Practiced in 80% of Kenyan landmass

IMPORTANCE OF PASTORALISM

- Rational use of semi arid lands
 - These lands cannot support sustained arable agriculture due to weather patterns variability.
- Pastoralism directly supports up to 10 million people (nearly 25% of Kenyan entire population)
- Contributes indirectly to the livelihoods of countless millions people (along livestock value chain ,traders, butchers, processors etc.)
- Contribution to economic development :
 - Contribution of agriculture to GDP – 25%
 - Contribution of livestock to the agriculture GDP – 47%
 - Percentage of indigenous cattle (indicator of pastoralism contribution nation growth – 75%)

MAJOR CONSTRAINTS FACING PASTORAL COMMUNITIES IN KENYA

- **Low and declining livestock productivity**
 - **Limited access to markets**
 - **Limited value addition**
 - **Low inputs and investments**
 - **Poor rural infrastructure**
 - **Inappropriate policy environment**
 - **Degraded environment and natural resources**
 - **Negative effect of climate change**
 - **Increased population both human and livestock**
 - Reduced mobility
 - Permanent settlement
 - Conflict and food insecurity
 - High level of poverty, diseases, famine and civil strife

CHALLENGES

- **Building pastoralists' resilience**
- **Market access**
- **Natural resource management**

Pastoralism under the new governance structure

- Schedule Four of the constitution gives the functions of the county and national government
- Agriculture which includes livestock is a function of the county government
- Livestock sales-yards and taxation will also be effected by county government

Pastoralism under the new governance structure

- There are 18 counties whose residents are majorly pastoralists
- These counties have the opportunity to put right the past mistakes of not targeting pastoralism in resource allocation
- At the same time there is fear that, because of limited alternative sources of revenue for some of these counties, they could overburden livestock producers by increasing taxes
- Therefore a balancing act is required on the levies paid by the pastoralists

Pastoralism under the new governance structure

- Pastoralists operate beyond administrative boundaries- local and international
- Council of governors need to put mobility of pastoralists, management of contiguous natural resources (grazing and water) as important cooperation agenda
- They also need to cooperate when developing their respective counties to facilitate market access for the pastoralists

WAY FORWARD

- The county government should conduct livestock census for planning purposes
- Cross-county dialogue and cooperation on mobility to be enhanced
- KLMC will continue with dialogue of county partnership



THANK YOU

FOR

**YOUR
ATTENTION**