



FEED THE FUTURE

The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative



Kenya Livestock Market Systems Activity

Creating resilient, competitive and inclusive market systems



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE





Who We Are

The Feed the Future Kenya Livestock Market Systems Activity (LMS) is funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and works in six counties in northern Kenya – Garissa, Isiolo, Marsabit, Samburu, Turkana, and Wajir.

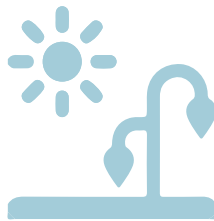
From October 2022 to June 2024, LMS is assisting communities in northern Kenya to cope with the devastating effects of five consecutive failed rainy seasons, the coronavirus pandemic, food shortages resulting from the war in Ukraine, and any market disruptions that resulted from the national elections in August 2022. The interventions are contributing to saving on communities' development gains and protecting their livelihoods.



Our Goal

Our goal is to create more inclusive and competitive market systems to strengthen people's resilience to shocks and stresses and reduce the prevalence and depth of poverty, hunger, and malnutrition in northern Kenya. We are achieving our goal by;

- Expanding and diversifying viable economic opportunities
- Strengthening institutions, systems, and governance
- Improving human capital to help individuals become more resilient and prepared for economic engagement
- Fostering collaborative action and learning for market systems



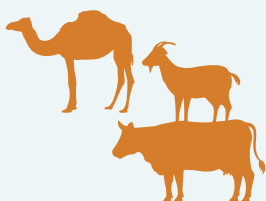
Our Activities

Strengthening Livestock Markets

USAID in collaboration with county governments built 20 livestock markets in northern Kenya to boost trade and income for pastoral families. To improve market management, LMS trains Livestock Marketing Associations (LMAs) on important aspects like record keeping, leadership, marketing, and inclusivity. Moreover, LMS helps to reactivate dormant markets

and establish specific market days to enhance trade efficiency. More importantly, LMS actively advocates for the enactment of market-friendly laws to create a supportive environment that encourages trade.

As a result of USAID's initiatives, household incomes for 78,617 pastoralists in Isiolo, Garissa, Wajir, Marsabit, and Turkana counties increased significantly by 40 percent between 2017 and 2022. This positive impact extended to approximately 471,702 individuals, making up 20 percent of the pastoral population in these areas. The households recorded remarkable income growth, with annual livestock sales rising from \$1,000 to \$1,400



40%

Percentage increase in household income for **78,617 pastoralists** in northern Kenya





Strengthening Key Business Institutions

LMS plays a key role in the growth of key institutions like Chambers of Commerce, Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs) cooperatives, and Savings and Credit Cooperatives (SACCOs). By enhancing their access to resources and networks, these institutions can deliver better services and drive economic growth.



2,600

Businesses strengthened to deliver better services and drive economic growth

LMS also assists entrepreneurs, particularly those in the livestock sector, with innovative ideas to establish or expand their businesses. This includes investments in

milk processing, value addition of camel/goat milk, modernized feedlots, and distribution/cold chain services. LMS also prioritizes the diversification of economic opportunities, such as poultry, fish, and beekeeping, to improve livelihoods and reduce pressure on rangelands. Through partnerships with county governments, LMS has successfully strengthened over 2,600 diversified businesses.

In addition to supporting business growth, LMS helps entrepreneurs access financial services and products that enable them to participate in viable economic activities within the market systems. These efforts create job opportunities, increase household income, and boost the local economy.

With the Chamber of Commerce in various counties, LMS provides training in corporate governance, leadership, policy advocacy, strategic planning, and membership drives. This partnership enhances the capacities of these enterprises to contribute effectively to local economic development, fostering a thriving business environment.

Boosting Food Availability for Vulnerable Households

LMS provided economic stimulus support to 3,373 out of a target of 5,755 small-scale food and livestock traders with cash transfers, to boost access to food commodities and keep businesses afloat. This was especially crucial during times of economic challenges, such as the drought and the war in Ukraine, which impacted the livelihoods of smallholder traders.



The traders who benefited from the support

3,373 traders

received \$519,360, boosting businesses, and enhancing food availability for vulnerable communities

included livestock buyers, transporters, and food and vegetable suppliers. These traders play vital roles including providing essential food commodities like cereals, vegetables, and pulses, for vulnerable communities. The support varied depending on the value of the stock and the operational level of the trader, ranging from \$80 to \$400 per trader.

Supporting County Governments Legislative Processes

LMS governance and policy work aims to create sustainable, inclusive development in northern Kenya. We work towards equitable allocation of resources that promotes peace and food security. LMS collaborates with other partners to create an enabling environment for communities to access environmental, social, and economic opportunities within the market systems, to reduce poverty and enhance community resilience. We support counties in developing social protection, gender, and youth policies. These aim to reduce gender disparities in access to, control over, and benefit from resources, wealth, opportunities, and services - economic, social, political, and cultural.

Promoting Access to Water Sanitation and Hygiene

USAID LMS is working closely with county governments and ward planning committees in the six activity counties to rehabilitate 47 community water projects and provide sustainable access to clean drinking water to 69,108 people (11,518 households) and their livestock out of a target of 121,020 people (20,170 households). The interventions include the repair of damaged borehole components, installing new pipelines and solar-power systems, as well as refurbishing or constructing water kiosks. To sustain water management, USAID LMS trained water users' associations (WUAs) on critical topics such as water resource management, community engagement, environmental considerations, gender and social inclusion, and financial management.

To reduce the spread of germs and diseases among communities and improve school attendance, LMS constructed latrines complete with water tanks in different schools. LMS is also reinforcing hygiene messaging through training sessions in different schools on hand hygiene, menstrual and personal hygiene, and environmental cleanliness.



121,020

The number of people targeted with access to basic and improved water services

Community-led Development

Through a localization approach, USAID LMS strengthens the roles, functions, and interactions of various actors within local systems, such as ward planning committees (WPCs), water users associations, livestock market associations, and Girls Improving Resilience through Livelihoods (GIRL). This approach aims to empower





marginalized and underrepresented groups by developing their local capacities and providing them with the necessary skills and opportunities to lead their development. LMS increased funding flows by providing in-kind grants to county governments, small and medium enterprises, and chambers of commerce.

Through collaboration with local implementing partners, LMS supports the development of ward plans through WPCs. This ensures that the priorities identified in these plans are considered during the counties' Integrated Development Plan (CIDP). Additionally, LMS works closely with local civil society organizations to effectively deliver onward development planning and the GIRL model. The ultimate goal is to ensure that the solutions implemented are owned by the local community and can be sustained even after the activity's completion.

Promoting Gender Inclusivity

LMS empowers women and youth to break free from social norms and stereotypes that hinder their engagement in businesses. We do this by building their capacity to participate in small businesses that offer higher returns and diversified livelihood opportunities. This enables women to actively utilize available resources and make decisions that give them control over household income allocation, leading to improved family well-being.

Moreover, LMS plays a crucial role in advocating for an enabling environment for smallholder farmers,

predominantly women, and youth, to trade in livestock and non-livestock products and services.

19,982



The number of women participating in various activities within 19 livestock markets

To date, LMS has facilitated the participation of 19,982 women and 8,971 youth in various activities within 19 livestock markets supported by USAID funding. Additionally, LMS has provided grants to 216 women and 118 youths to enhance their engagement in market development, business expansion, job creation, livelihood opportunities, and access to markets.

Empowering Girls into Sustainable Livelihoods

USAID's Girls Improving Resilience through Livelihoods (GIRL) model targets vulnerable adolescent girls aged between ten and 19 years who face numerous challenges in their communities including child marriages, child pregnancy, gender-based violence, school dropout, and limited access to economic opportunities, assets, and financial services.

Through the GIRL model, USAID has provided support to over 17,000 girls in northern Kenya, facilitating their

transition out of poverty and into sustainable and resilient livelihoods. Among these 1,000 girls have transitioned back into school, breaking barriers that once hindered their education. This transformative process has not only reduced poverty and vulnerability in households but has also empowered these young girls to lead more promising futures.

The program achieves these outcomes through a comprehensive nine-month training and mentoring program. During this period, the girls acquire essential life skills, numeracy, financial literacy, and business skills.

17,000 girls



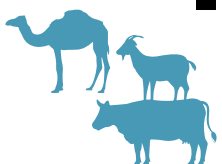
reached through the Girls Improving Resilience through Livelihood (GIRL) approach

Improving Livestock Productivity

USAID provided 6,712 households out of a target of 10,350 affected by drought in the worst-hit areas of Garissa, Isiolo, Marsabit, Turkana, Samburu, and Wajir counties with nutrient-dense livestock feeds, saving 152,860 livestock valued at \$4.7 million from drought-related deaths. LMS linked the households to local animal feed stockists to buy the animal feeds at a subsidized rate of \$5 per 50-kilo bag. This subsidy guaranteed a consistent supply of animal feeds for pastoralists and established formal ties between the pastoralists and the feed stockists. This resulted in improved animal body conditions and better nutrition, particularly for children aged under five years, as LMS prioritized lactating animals to enhance their milk production.

USAID also made a significant impact on the community by equipping them with valuable knowledge and access to quality animal health inputs and services to improve their health and increase the number of their animals.

152,860 livestock



survived drought with nutrient-rich supplementary feed to 6,712 households

This knowledge led to a remarkable average increase of 53 percent in animal yields between 2017 and 2022. Moreover, USAID LMS shared crucial market trends with the community, enabling them to sell their animals before their body conditions deteriorated.

Improving Nutrition

Recurrent drought in northern Kenya increases cases of malnutrition among pregnant and lactating women as well as children. In Kenya, the drought affected 23 counties leading to 970,000 children under the age of five years acutely malnourished. Our work supports communities as they scale up improved nutrition practices. We do this by inducing behavior change that improves nutrition uptake at the household level and by using market systems approaches that increase the demand for nutritious and diversified foods at the community level.

Collaborative Action

Our approach involves working closely with diverse partners, including state and county governments, the private sector, non-state actors like the Partnership for Resilience and Economic Growth (PREG), and formal as well as informal community institutions. Through this collaborative initiative, partners combine their efforts and integrate activities to create a layered approach toward enhancing market systems. The emphasis is on sharing knowledge and actively collaborating to bring about meaningful improvements in these systems. By leveraging the strengths and expertise of each partner, we strive to drive positive and sustainable change in the region's markets and foster economic growth and resilience.

To learn more about our work or to partner with us, please visit our website: <https://www.acdivoca.org/projects/feed-the-future-kenya-livestock-market-systems-activity/> or contact a member of our team using the information provided below.

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