Background

Livestock trade in the region is plagued by various challenges including, but not limited to, inadequate producer/trader and terminal market linkages, ambiguous policies and administrative actions, occasional border closures, restrictive trade practices, and a range of informal taxes that amount to a major percentage of marketing transaction costs. It is also dominated by a long chain of middlemen, each of whom takes a share of the producers’ potential earnings.

The USAID East Africa Trade and Investment Hub (USAID Hub) is partnering with the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) and collaborating with Partnership for Resilience and Economic Growth (PREG) partners to hold livestock trade facilitation (business-to-business) forums in five Kenyan counties aimed at promoting more efficient trade between livestock buyers and sellers. The forums provide an accessible platform for producers and traders who source livestock from various counties and regional countries, such as Ethiopia, Somalia and Uganda, to exchange market information and make business connections that will facilitate trade.

Objectives

- To promote the efficient trading of livestock in eastern Africa region focusing on the livestock trade routes;
- To create a platform for knowledge sharing and networking among livestock actors to increase trade in livestock and livestock product;
- To understand and improve the policy, investment and market conditions for livestock production and trading by creating a platform to discuss the major issues affecting the sector.

Expected Outcomes

- Livestock producers and traders secure viable markets through B2B linkages/signed livestock trade deals.
- Governments and stakeholders gain a deeper understanding of livestock trade constraints and initiatives that will inform their actions.

Livestock Trade Facilitation B2B Forum Dates

- May 9, 2018 - Marsabit, Kenya
- September 20, 2018 - Wajir, Kenya
- October 31, 2018 - Isiolo, Kenya
- November 29, 2018 - Garissa, Kenya

Outcomes to Date

Marsabit, Isiolo, Garissa and Wajir B2B Forums

- Number of livestock traded during the B2B forums: 27,957
- Value of commitments in livestock trade: $7,182,023
LIVESTOCK SECTOR'S ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE

In Kenya, over 70% of the national livestock herd, including camels and donkeys, is kept in the arid and semi-arid lands (ASALs). The livestock sector employs about 90% of the 7 million people in ASALs and contributes to 95% of the family income.

Overall, the sector contributes to 42% of Kenya's agricultural gross domestic product (GDP). With such a great impact on the economy, the livestock sector has a high potential to contribute to economic growth if ASAL traders continue to improve their practices and reach more traders within Kenya and neighboring countries.

LIVESTOCK B2B

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>NO. OF ANIMALS</th>
<th>VALUE ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MARSABIT</td>
<td>5,373</td>
<td>406,773</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WAJIR</td>
<td>3,948</td>
<td>783,368</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISIOLO</td>
<td>3,821</td>
<td>891,058</td>
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<tr>
<td>GARISSA</td>
<td>14,815</td>
<td>5,100,824</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

27,957 Animals

$7,182,023 value of commitments

I buy livestock from Wajir and Garissa regions and sell in Nazaret market in Ethiopia and I later export some of the meat outside the country. This forum has helped a lot. Sitting down with these traders has enabled me to learn from the experiences of my fellow traders. I have learned a lot and made several beneficial trading agreements,” said Abduba Halake, livestock trader from Ethiopia.

Over 50% of Africa's livestock is located in the east African region. The region is home to approximately 107.2 million herd of cattle, 178.8 million herd of small ruminants, 11.3 million herd of camels and 4.4 million herd of pigs. The livestock sector is one of the key agricultural sub-sectors accounting for approximately 40% of the agricultural GDP in Ethiopia and Kenya and nearly 20% in Uganda. Rural households depend this sector with about 60-80% keeping livestock to supplement their food needs as well as their household income.