Sustainable Livestock Management for Poverty Alleviation and Food Security

Katrien van’t Hooft, Terry S. Wollen and Dilip P. Bhandari
Sustainable Livestock Management
for Poverty Alleviation and Food Security
This page intentionally left blank
Sustainable Livestock Management for Poverty Alleviation and Food Security

Katrien E. van’t Hooft, DVM

Endogenous Livestock Development Network, TradiNova Livestock

Terry S. Wollen, DVM

Heifer International

Dilip P. Bhandari, BVSc & AH, MVM

Heifer International

www.cabi.org
Contents

Acknowledgements vii
Introduction ix

1 Trends in the Livestock Sector 1
2 Livestock Development Approaches 7
3 Methodologies, Organizations and Networks in Endogenous Livestock Development 23
4 Differentiating Four Livestock Production Systems 36
5 Livestock-keeping Systems and Poverty 43
6 Characteristics of Smallholder Low-input and Diversified Livestock Keeping 53
7 Characteristics of Smallholder More Specialized Livestock Keeping 60
8 Changing from Smallholder Low-input and Diversified to More Specialized Livestock Keeping 66
9 Recommendations for Optimizing Smallholder Low-input and Diversified Livestock Keeping 76
10 Recommendations for Optimizing Smallholder More Specialized Systems 101
11 Finding Pathways to Markets 130
12 Challenges and Best Practices in Livestock Development Support 143
   Case Study 1: A Story of Rubbish and Pigs in Cairo – The Effects of Swine Flu Control in Egypt. Ellen Geerlings 143
   Case Study 2: The Shepherds and their Black Sheep of the Deccan, India. Nitya Ghotge and Sagari Ramdas, ANTHRA, India 147
   Case Study 3: Bio-cultural Community Protocols to Support the Samburu Red Maasai Sheep and their Shepherds. Jacob Wanyama, LIFE Network – Africa Region 151
Case Study 4: The Heifer Methodology of Supporting Sustainable Livelihood in Kenya – The Story of Mr Laban Kipkernoi Talam. 
*Reuben Koech, Heifer International Kenya* 159

Case Study 5: Ethno-veterinary Medicine in a Master’s Degree Programme on Tropical Agricultural Production. *Raúl Perezgrovas and Guadalupe Rodríguez, Instituto de Estudios Indígenas-UNACH, México* 164

Case Study 6: The Dairy Development Trap: How Developing Countries can Learn from the Experiences of Dutch Dairy Farming. 
*Katrien van’t Hooft, Dutch Farm Experience, The Netherlands (www.Dutchfarmexperience.com)* 166

Appendix  Overview of Recommendations for Optimizing Smallholder Livestock Keeping 181

Index 187
Acknowledgements

The initial idea for this book was generated during the June 2005 International Workshop on Endogenous Livestock Development, held in Yaoundé, Cameroon. This workshop, hosted by Heifer International Cameroon, was an initiative of ETC-Compas, Heifer Netherlands and Agromisa – with the aim to understand better the practical implications of the Endogenous Livestock Development (ELD) concept.

This workshop was attended by 19 farmers from the north-west region of Cameroon – Fulani pastoralists, ethno-veterinary healers, dairy farmers and goat farmers – as well as staff members of Heifer Cameroon and government. International participation from India, Ghana, USA and the Netherlands contributed to the inter-cultural exchange and facilitation. Nine months later, two participants of the workshop made a tour to all involved participants and were surprised to find the positive effect of the ELD concept in their daily lives. This was documented in a book with a DVD in four languages, entitled Endogenous Livestock Development in Cameroon – Exploring the Potential of Local Initiatives for Livestock Development, published in 2008 by the Agromisa Foundation.

In 2008, the three authors of this book came together during a Central and Eastern Europe Area Program staff meeting of Heifer International in Vilnius, Lithuania. At this meeting, Drs Bhandari and Wollen presented the ‘Heifer’s Animal Well-Being Recommendations and Indicators’ as part of the organization’s Cornerstone on Improved Animal Management. This led to encouragement to put the guidelines into clear practice. This was the moment when the experiences of ETC-Compas, the ELD concept developed in Cameroon, and the Heifer International Recommendations and Indicators came together.

From there, and strengthened by the commitment from CAB International, the authors van’t Hooft, Bhandari and Wollen started working on pulling these experiences together into this practical guide. This would not have been possible without the effective input from the participants of the various workshops, as well as others engaged in supporting ELD. Special thanks go to the authors of the case studies that are presented in Chapter 12.

Moreover, the manuscript would not have come together without the generous allowance of nights and weekends from our families, as well as the keen eye and diligent editing of Gayla Sybert from Heifer’s administrative staff. The artwork for the two circle drawings are from the hand of Pooi Yin Chong, Senior Graphic Designer with Heifer. Finally, we are especially grateful to all farming families whose realities and experiences have one way or other contributed to the content of this book.