

Sustainable Livestock Management for Poverty Alleviation and Food Security

Katrien van't Hooft , Terry S. Wollen and Dilip P. Bhandari



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Livestock



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CABI is a trading name of CAB International

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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.

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