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Sustainable Agricultural Livelihood Restoration, Rehabilitation and Resilience in Kenya

Guidelines on Sustainable Ruminant Feeds and Nutrition Security for Kenya

CHAPTER 3 KEY Pillars AND ISSUES ON RUMINANT FEED AND NUTRITION SECURITY

3.4.5 Strategic Issue 5. Unfavourable policy, legal and regulatory environment

This section contains the factors contributing to the unfavourable policy, legal and regulatory environment.

- i. Poor compliance with feed quality standards and safety reduces farmers' trust in feed products, limiting the growth of the feed industry.
- ii. Unfavorable terms of trade for the import and export of ruminant feeds and feed ingredients increase the feed production cost, reducing the livestock industry's competitiveness.
- iii. Poor implementation of regulations governing the use of new/non-conventional feed resources limits their exploitation, reducing the potential for developing alternative feed resources
- iv. Unfavourable policies on land use, rangeland conservation, and idle land limit access to land for feed production, thus reducing the potential for expanding feed production. The current land subdivision in the country that does not limit land fragmentation has resulted in parcels that are uneconomical for agricultural production.
- v. The impact of climate change on ruminant production, including degradation of ecosystems, invasive/ alien plant and grass species, intensification of floods and droughts, increased pests and disease incidences, and depletion of natural resources, leading to increasing uncertainty about forage yields and quality and water scarcity
- vi. Inadequate attention to sustainable rangeland management and conservation as a factor in preserving their contribution to the ruminant feed and nutrition security in ASAL areas.
- vii. Continuing insecurity of land tenure and access to land, water and other natural resources, particularly for women and youth farmers
- viii. Insufficient investment in the feed sub-sector and rural infrastructure for both the small-scale feed producers, agropastoralists and pastoralists
- ix. War, conflict and lack of security play a significant role in deepening feed and nutrition insecurity. In fragile Counties, conflict, political instability and weak institutions intensifies and feed insecurity
- x. Lack of political commitment and prioritisation of feed and nutrition security, including failure to fully implement past pledges and promises and insufficient accountability
- xi. Inadequate policies and regulations on disaster preparedness