## Objectives of the project

To enhance livelihoods of agro-pastoralist communities through improved forage production and livestock husbandry, building on market driven climate smart innovations and sustainable landscape management in Taita Taveta, Kajiado and Narok counties.

*Pastoralists at a livestock market*

## Background

Agriculture contributes 26% to Kenya's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) In Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs), livestock is the main contributor to the agricultural sector. About 90% of family income and employment in these areas comes from livestock, but the sector faces multiple challenges. The land is often overgrazed and overstocked, human population growth causes competition for land use between agriculture activities and livestock (settlements), soil fertility is declining, and climate change - including prolonged droughts and flooding - pose threats to both the vulnerable population and the herds. Farmers use extensive farming systems and the inadequate supply of certified forage seeds and vegetative planting materials and low uptake of commercial forage production, leave much potential for improvement.

The main constraints the project will address are: low adoption and upscaling of innovative and climate smart technologies; lack of knowledge on and application of sustainable market-based models for forage production that fit prevailing local conditions and landscapes; weakly developed capacities of county governments and other stakeholders and weak coordination on resource planning and management at landscape level; weak policy environment and implementation of policies at the county level; and limited involvement and investment of the private sector.

## The theory of change

The overall goal of ICSIAPL is to enhance the livelihoods of agro-pastoralists communities through improved forage production and livestock husbandry, building on market led climate smart innovations and sustainable landscape management in Taita Taveta, Kajiado and Narok counties. To achieve this goal, ICSIAPL takes a holistic approach focusing on three interlinked outcome pathways to ensure long-term change, as outlined below.

**Outcome 1 : Increased Resilience of agro-pastoralists and SMEs against climate shocks by the adoption of technology and upscaling of appropriate grazing and feeding innovations.**

For this outcome a participative approach to learning and adoption by farmers is taken. Peer-to-peer learning through demonstration plots and farmer field schools will be central. Building on existing social structures, such as cooperatives and farmer groups, as well as making trainings needs-based, increase the likelihood that farmers will choose to be part of trials organised by KALRO on fodder production and livestock feeding innovations [output]. Special attention will be provided to women and youth farmers, to ensure they are not only included in trainings, but are also able to benefit and

possibly take leadership positions in trainings. Peer-to-peer learning will increase farmers knowledge on innovations [output] and in combination with increased access to affordable inputs and services provided by SMEs as described below, farmers will increasingly adopt grazing and feeding innovations [outcome]. This approach has worked well in other SNV projects : TIDE in Uganda and KMDP in Kenya. Successful adoption of innovations by farmers is then expected to increase household and farmland resilience against climate shocks [outcome].

Market led fodder production and livestock feeding innovations is needed to scale adoption by farmers, in which the private sector is an important partner. ICSIAPL will proactively link local private sector actors to farmers with affordable inputs and/or services [output], opening opportunities for increased demand. The assumption is that this demand from farmers will materialise due to activities and outputs described above. To support private sector actors to invest in operations and affordability of services, the project works with them to develop bankable business plans [output]. Moreover, ICSIAPL can contribute (small) co-investments (through its Innovation Fund) to lower risks for financial institutions and make initial investments more attractive [output]. Increased demand from farmers in combination with increased investment opportunities will support businesses to grow [outcome] and to continue to service farmers.

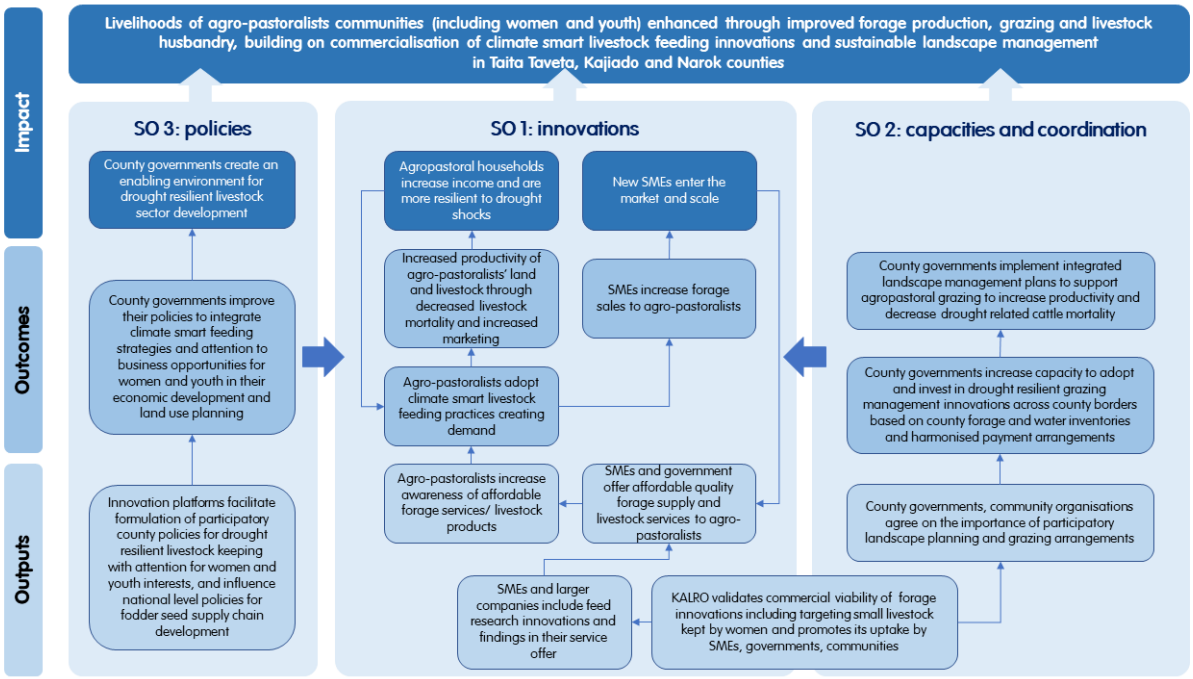
**Outcome 2 : Increased capacity of county governments to implement climate resilient integrated landscape management strategies and plans to support agro-pastoralist communities.**

Achieving coordination and an integrated landscape management approach between the three counties will be important to support scaling of innovations. This allows private sector actors and farmers to operate and move across county lines within similar frameworks. ICSIAPL will work with county government officials in the three counties to identify gaps in capacity, coordination and joint implementation. This will lead to tailored capacity building, aimed at resolving these gaps [output]. Simultaneously, county governments will need to work together with local communities, Water Resource Users Associations (WRUA), conservancies and cooperatives to understand what appropriate grazing management and herd mobility strategies are [output]. ICSIAPL will support the development of a Multi-stakeholder Platform (MSP) to provide a forum where these stakeholders can come together to discuss and agree on the implementation of these strategies [output]. As capacities are grown and a routine for meaningful multi-stakeholder discussions is developed, these will jointly lead to increased coordination among the three counties to implement an integrated landscape management approach [outcome].

**Outcome 3: Improved capacity of county governments to develop local strategies/frameworks for drought resilient sector development compliant with national policies.**

County strategies and frameworks need to support private sector actors and farmers to promote and adopt innovations on fodder production and livestock feeding at scale. To this end, county government officials need to have a good understanding of the livestock sector and the difficulties it is facing. First, through training, so they are able to translate this knowledge into supporting policies [output]. Second, to bring innovations to scale, a collective vision and collective action is needed that moves beyond county government officials. Therefore, county governments need regular engagement with other stakeholders to stay in tuned to evolving needs and to stimulate the uptake of innovations. ICSIAPL will support county governments to effectively engage in Multi-stakeholder

Platforms (MSP) [output]. These MSPs will involve private sector, research institutes and civil society. The effective running of MSPs and increased coordination among stakeholders is expected to lead to more inclusive policy development processes [outcome], and the ability of county governments to adapt relevant national bills to the county context [outcome].




## Main activities

KALRO will carry out fodder production and livestock feeding trials including a cost benefit analysis. The project will develop a dissemination strategy on new technologies and innovations, ensuring accessibility by model farmers, extension agents and agribusinesses. A feed and forage value chain analysis to identify opportunities and constraints will be undertaken to inform support for ranches, conservancies, cooperatives and SMEs in developing and implementing business plans. An innovation fund will be established to provide small matching grants to stimulate innovations by investors in the forage value chain, combined with a feed voucher system. Jointly with the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) the project will define a strategy to disseminate drought information to farmers.

A gap analysis for the county governments will inform a roadmap for strengthening coordination, planning and implementing landscape and grazing management and drought resilient feeding strategies. This will be realised through trainings, workshops, intercounty study tours and coaching. The project will support implementation of the National Animal Feed and Forage Inventory and Strategy at county level paying attention to gender and youth.

Capacity development for county technical teams in drought resilient livestock policy formulation will be provided. The establishment of County Innovation Platforms will stimulate uptake of improved forage crops, business models and enhance grazing management and herd mobility plans across counties.

## Organization

The project is managed through a delegated cooperation between the European Union and the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs (DGIS), represented by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands (EKN) in Nairobi, implemented by SNV and KALRO. SNV is the project manager, KALRO will lead Work package 2: Technology upscaling for improved resilience, supported by SNV on the market-based approach. SNV will also steer Work package 3: Capacity building and coordination of integrated landscape management and Work package 4: Creating an enabling environment.

## Implementing organizations

SNV Netherlands Development Organization (SNV): a not-for-profit international development organization that makes a lasting difference in the lives of people living in poverty by helping them raise incomes and access basic services.

## Main partner

Kenya Agriculture Livestock Research Organization (KALRO) is the national agricultural and livestock research organization in Kenya.

## Other main stakeholders

Agro-pastoralists, youth, women, private sector, SMEs, self-help groups, CBOs, ranches, conservancies, cooperatives, and County Governments of Narok, Kajiado, Taita Taveta.

## Region

The project is implemented in Kenya's three counties of Narok, Kajiado and Taita Taveta: considered Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs).

## Funding and co-funding

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|---|---|
| EU | € 2,500,000 |
| The Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs (DGIS) | € 2,500,000 |
| Total budget | € 4,998,157.56 |

## Duration

Three (3) years from 1 January 2021–31 December 2023.