



Booklet 3: Enabling Community Benefits from Sustainably Managed Drylands



ESARO Regional Drylands Programme



BUILDING FLOURISHING COMMUNITIES



Garba Tula district in Isiolo County of Northern Kenya, is a region covering approximately 10,000km and home to around 40,000 predominantly Boran Pastoralists. The region is characterised by arid and semi-arid conditions and is rich in biodiversity and wildlife resources. Despite being surrounded by protected areas such as Meru National Park and Bisan Adi Game Reserve the full potential for conservation is not being met, and instead communities are often threatened and restricted by wildlife populations. The majority of land in Garba Tula district is held in trust by the country councils, who exercise strict control over the allocation of land. Decisions on the use and management of land are taken out of the hands of local communities and their traditional authorities, weakening them and leading to increased land fragmentation and degradation.

IUCN's dryland programme based at the IUCN Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office (ESARO) has been working in Garba Tula District, of Isiolo County since 2009 implementing the Improving Governance of Natural Resources for Rural Poverty Reduction project with funding from the Department for International Development Governance and Transparency Fund, (DFID-GTF), and complementary resources from Catholic Aid for Relief and Development (CORDAID). This project seeks to strengthen natural resource governance in Garba Tula, by supporting the underlying institutions and regulatory systems, enabling more participatory decision-making practices and positioning communities to benefit from more sustainable resource management. The project has 4 key result areas:

1. Decision makers and stakeholders have increased awareness and policy guidance for dryland management based on identified best practices.
2. More effective participatory decision-making in natural resource use and management, based on strengthened institutional arrangements
3. Local communities are better able to capture viable economic and biodiversity-related benefits from identified dryland ecosystem opportunities
4. Lessons and best practices are effectively captured and disseminated to promote learning and enable scaling up of project impacts

These handbooks are the products of this project and are a means to share the learning from the approaches used with a wider audience of practitioners and policy makers. There are 3 handbooks in this series: 1) Strengthening Natural Resource Governance, 2) Participatory Rangeland Planning - A Practitioners Guide and 3) Enabling Community Benefits from Sustainably Managed Drylands.

About IUCN

IUCN, International Union for the Conservation of Nature, helps the world find pragmatic solutions to our most pressing environment and development challenges.

IUCN works on biodiversity, climate change, food security, governance and greening the world's economy by supporting scientific research, managing field projects and bringing governments, NGOs, the UN, communities and the private sector together to develop policy, laws and best practice.

IUCN is the world's oldest and largest global environmental organisation, with more than 1,000 government and NGO members and almost 11,000 volunteer experts in some 160 countries.

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Acronyms

ASARECA	Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa
ALRMP	Arid Lands Resource Management Program
AWF	African Wildlife Foundation
DFID-GTF	Department for International Development Global Transparency Fund
ESARO	East and Southern Africa Regional Office
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature
NRM	Natural Resource Management
PVA	Participatory Value Chain Analysis
RAP	Resource Advocacy Program
TEV	Total Economic Valuation

Purpose of the Handbook

This handbook provides an overview of the tools and approaches that can be used to fully understand the values and opportunities available from sustainably managed drylands. It describes a process of analysis undertaken in Garba Tula district of Northern Kenya to support communities in realising the full potential of the rangelands that they collectively and sustainably manage.

Why Value Dryland landscapes?

What are Drylands?

Drylands occupy more than 41% of the earth's land surface and are home to 35% of the global population. They are found on every continent and in Kenya they account for 89%¹ of the land coverage. These extensive ecosystems are characterized by low levels of precipitation, and high temperatures, resulting in mean annual potential evapotranspiration rates at least 1.5 times greater than mean annual precipitation. This aridity and uncertainty over when and where rain falls poses the most significant challenges in drylands, and gives them their most unique characteristics.

Why Value Drylands?

Drylands are frequently considered to be empty wastelands of low productivity and little value. In reality, if well managed, drylands provide a host of ecosystem goods and services, and are home to significant areas of biodiversity. Seven out of eight of the biodiversity hotspots found in East and Southern Africa are in the drylands, as well as numerous endemic species.

These misconceptions often result in misguided development and investment decisions. Attempts have been made to measure the full value of drylands, in order to support more effective decision making on land use and management. Valuation studies highlight the enormous contribution that these vast dryland landscapes make directly to local and national economies. They also indicate the wealth of other less tangible benefits that well-managed drylands can provide. Understanding the full range of values to nature, the economy, and culture ensures that policies recognise and enable beneficial land use systems, and make resources available to the communities who adopt them.

In a world of change it is becoming increasingly important to shift attention to how communities in dryland ecosystems take advantage of dryland opportunities in a rapidly globalizing environment. Consumption must be sustainable. The exploitation of dryland products and services must happen within a premise of sustained restraint and balance. Consumption should not only be seen to promote sustained commercial profits, but advance long term livelihoods and conservation objectives². Valuation studies can help make these choices, and assist communities to identify livelihood strategies that support and benefit from sustainable management, and which overcome increasing vulnerabilities.

1 Government of Kenya, 2012, Vision 2030: Development Strategy for Northern Kenya and other Arid Lands.

2 Mortimore et al, 2009. Dryland Opportunities, A new paradigm for people, ecosystems and development, IUCN, Nairobi

What is Valuation?

Ecosystems provide a range of resources and processes upon which humans rely that have been collectively termed Ecosystem Services. These have been traditionally divided into four categories: supporting, regulating, provisioning and cultural services. The choices made on land use and management can have significant impacts on the availability and functioning of these services and thereby on the well-being of human populations who rely upon them.

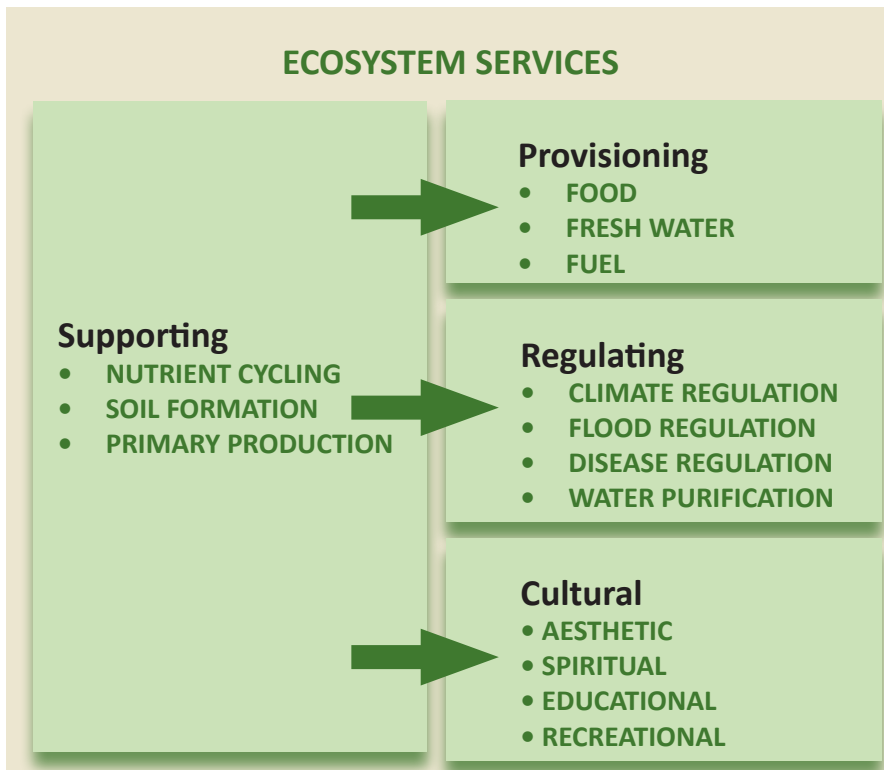


Figure 1: Ecosystem Services (source: Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Synthesis Report, <http://www.maweb.org/en/Products.Synthesis.aspx>).

The term 'value' traditionally relates to the relative desirability of something and is therefore used in making choices. These choices are not always individual and not always aligned to maximising economic profit. They are often based on ethical but many are overlooked when considering the value of a particular land use system. The value of extensive livestock keeping, by pastoralists, for example, is often considered to be the sum of direct livestock and meat sales through the market only, with little recognition of the huge contribution that this production system makes through many other ecosystem services. To ensure that the most productive use is made of such rangeland resources therefore, it is necessary to understand the full range of values they provide through a much more comprehensive lens.

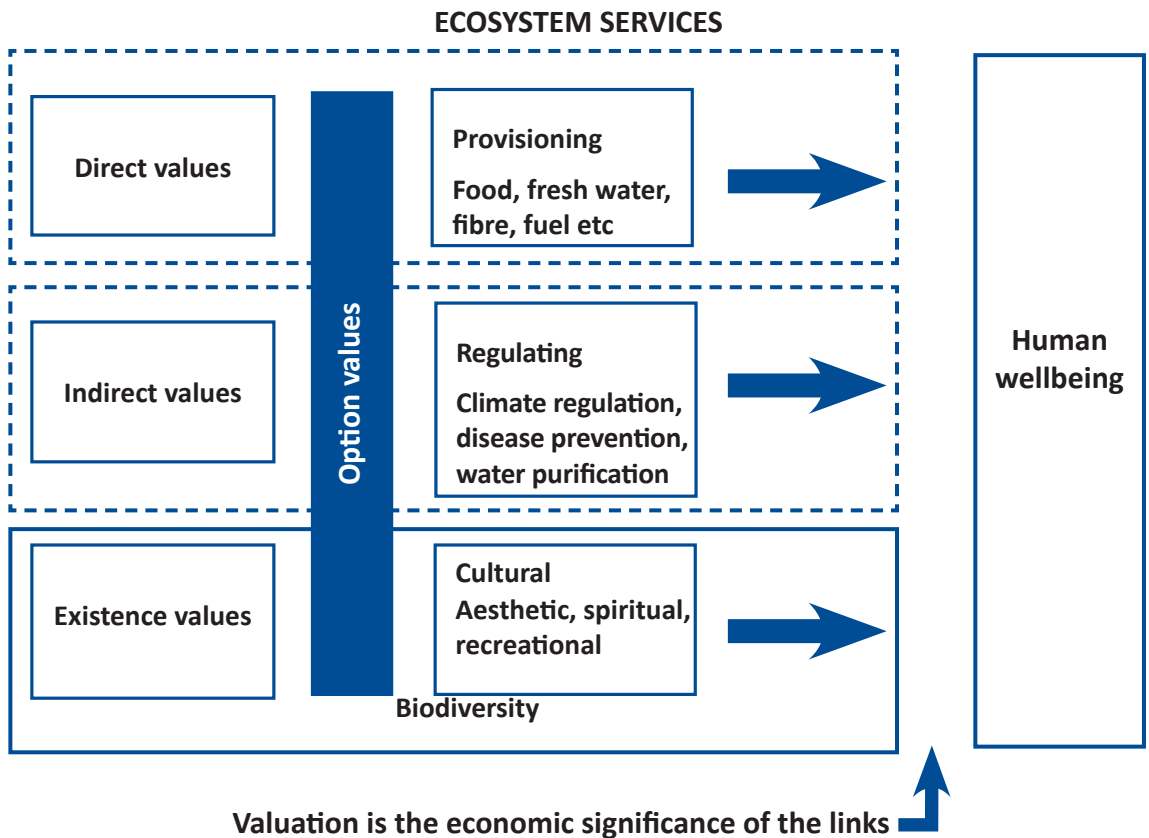


Figure 2: Valuing ecosystem goods and services.

Total economic Valuation

Values are categorised in different ways by different authors, but are often narrowed down to four: direct, indirect, option and existence values, as shown in Figure 2, above. Total economic value (TEV) is a cost benefit analysis methodology that measures these diverse values that are derived by people from a natural resource, or ecosystem. It is an aggregation of the main function-based values and can be used to compare the values of different land use practices on a given landscape. TEV attempts to develop a coherent system of measuring value, so that objective judgements can be made over the trade-offs between different land use options.

TEV methodology is particularly relevant for rangelands as it enables a more comprehensive analysis of these vast landscapes that attempts to capture multifunctional and seasonal benefits, and the values available to wider users of resources outside of a local area. TEV suffers methodological limitations around measurement and data availability, but is a useful tool for measuring diverse values in order to support decision making, and influence policymaking and for highlighting the importance of the array of good or services that are traditionally unrecognised.

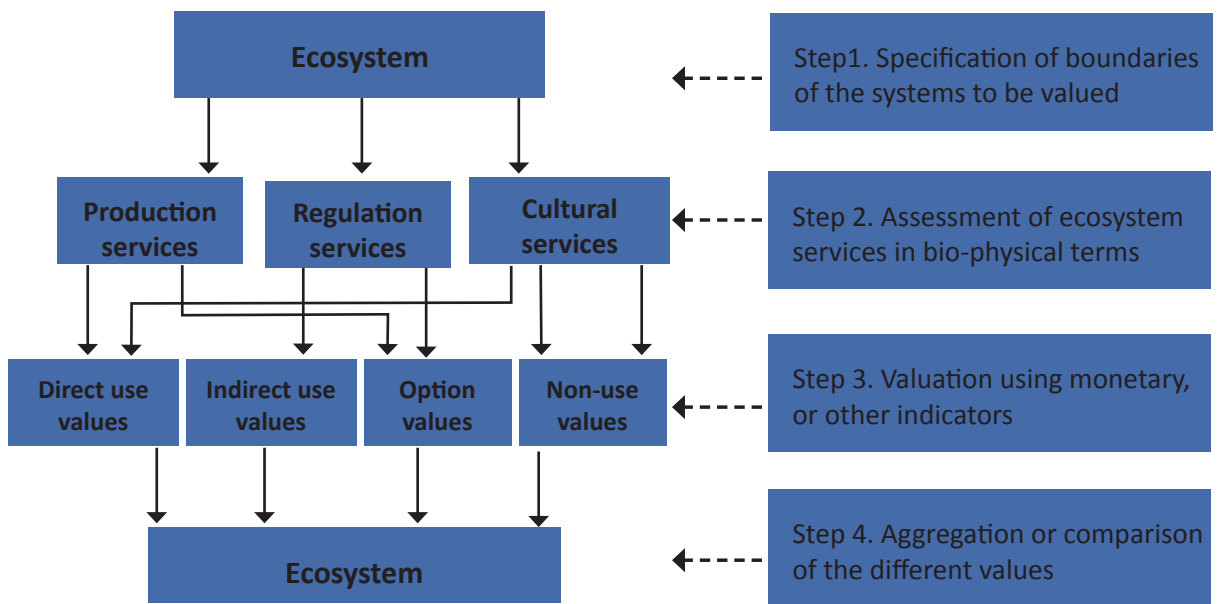


Figure 3: TEV methodology.

TEV In Garba Tula district

In 2012 IUCN conducted a TEV in the Ewaso N’giro rangelands in Isiolo County under a research project commissioned by ASARECA³. Figure 3 indicates the methodology followed during the analysis.

The TEV sought to increase the understanding and appreciation of the pastoral rangeland system. Healthy rangelands are of value to many more stakeholders than pastoralists and the welfare and livelihoods of many non-rangeland residents is influenced by the way that rangelands are managed. The TEV used a range of different methods to attempt to quantify the indirect and direct values emanating from the range of goods and services in the area. It categorised benefits into direct commercial values and included subsistence and non-market values, ecological functions and non-use benefits associated with pastoralism.

The TEV approach enables the comparison of favoured land uses such as crop agriculture, and those that are traditionally devalued, such as pastoralism; providing an analysis of their benefits, and the costs that may be associated with the loss of certain values as the result of land use changes.

Table 1 below details the top values prioritised by communities.

³ Full report available at https://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/asareca_wisp_full_report.pdf. Aboud, A.A, et al, 2012, Natural Resource Management and biodiversity conservation in the drylands of east and central Africa, ASARECA

Table 1: Priority Values identified by communities in Garba Tula

Provisioning Services	What?	Who?
Food	Crops, livestock, fish, wild fruits, tubers, honey	Local, regional and national consumers
Fibre	Produced & harvested plant fibre, thatching materials, poles, fodder	Local
Energy	Produced & harvested firewood, charcoal etc.	Local and Urban
Water Quantity	Basin is an important reservoir of fresh water	Local, regional and global
Cultural and Social Services		
Ecotourism	Important recreational activities (e.g. game watching/ photographing, camping, nature walks, canoeing)	Local traders and land owners Local authorities National companies Tourists
Cultural Values	Cultural heritage, education & research. The basin provides environmental research and educational activities	Local National researchers Global researchers and tourists
Regulating Services		
Pollination	Maintenance of natural pollinators and seed dispersal agents (insects, birds and mammals)	Local and national consumers
Genetic Species	The is important for maintenance of biodiversity (diversity of flora and fauna)	Local, National and global researchers and traders Tourists
Supporting Services		
Various	Primary production, nutrient cycling, soil formation, ecological interaction	Local, national, regional and global

These values are prioritised based on a mixture of economic, environmental, and socio-cultural reasons. During the baseline study⁴ and market analysis commissioned under the DFID-GTF project these priorities were reiterated by the communities as the most important natural resources and services in Garba Tula from both a conservation and community livelihood perspective.

As indicated TEV provides a broad analysis of both direct and indirect values that are derived from the management and use of ecosystem services. Unsurprisingly TEVs conducted in areas such as the drylands of Garba Tula put significant value on pastoralism and the importance of livestock to the local and national economy. Both milk and meat production are traditionally undervalued as they are heavily consumed locally, yet still make significant contributions to the national economy. The TEV is most significant however in providing information on less tangible values such as water provision, carbon sequestration and cultural and spiritual values that emanate from the same ecosystem.

4 https://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/final_garba_tula_governance_assessment_report_1.pdf,



BOX 1: Pastoralism and Conservation

One of the most significant findings of valuation studies on pastoral systems is the multi-functional nature of rangeland systems. Not only do these systems provide significant good and services for communities outside of the drylands, they also provide a range of livelihood options for local communities living within them.

With the threats of climate change, and increasing population, communities are being encouraged to diversify their livelihoods. However, diversification per se is not a guarantee of sustainable development in the drylands and there are potential costs and risks involved. When considering diversification it is important to differentiate between alternative and complementary livelihoods. Alternative livelihoods such as wage employment, can compete with pastoralism over resources such as land and labour. Some alternative livelihoods impose a cost on pastoralists over which they have no decision, for example when former pastoralists cultivate rangelands and thereby remove grazing lands from the pastoral system (Davies, 2009). Complementary livelihoods however do not directly compete with pastoralism but augment pastoral production. For example, pastoralists may engage in the processing of livestock products in order to improve the value and marketability of their primary produce, or they may market the natural products that they traditionally use, such as medicines, gums and resins.

Ecotourism is an example of an alternative yet complementary livelihood, where communities set aside land for tourist investment, within the larger rangeland system. The returns to communities can be significant and the costs to livestock production kept to a minimum, if well planned. In Northern Kenya in particular “Big Game” tourism is a lucrative industry. Pastoral land management plays an important role in maintaining wildlife corridors and connectivity between protected areas but is generally ignored and rarely compensated (Homewood et al., 2001, ILRI 2006): instead wildlife populations often become a burden for pastoralists and are a source of human-wildlife conflict. Understanding the important role that well managed rangelands play in the maintenance of wildlife populations and the sustainability of protected areas is another important piece of evidence to resist the continual push for conversion to crop agriculture systems, and keeps these multifunctional land use opportunities open to pastoralists to enable them to add to the productivity and value they are getting from the land.

Of key importance in Garba Tula, like many dryland areas, is the value of dryland water sources in sustaining households, livestock, and wildlife populations. Water comprises direct uses such as domestic consumption or livestock uses, and indirect uses of the environment for sustaining plant life and maintaining a dynamic equilibrium in natural processes.

It's clear that pastoralism provides dryland goods and services which are economically important to pastoralists, urban dwellers and international beneficiaries. These values would be lost with increased conversion to crop agriculture. The TEV conducted in Garba Tula, as well as the subsequent Market Study under DFID-GTF suggested potential high values from a combined landscape that enable pastoralism, tourism and the marketing of dryland products.

Benefiting from diverse values

Based on this previous research on the multifunctional potential of rangelands, and possibilities they present in offering complementary economic opportunities, the DFID-GTF project in Garba Tula has been working with communities to enable them to identify and analyse the other values they can get from the same well managed landscape. Some values feed back into their pastoral livelihood, supporting resilience, and growth. Others are currently under exploited and can be converted into economic benefit, thus reinforcing the effective utilization of the natural resource base, mitigating the effects of climate change and providing further incentives for the conservation of biodiversity.

If successfully and sustainably developed, the commercial exploitation of these products could reduce some of the pressure on the livestock sector, and provide opportunities for those who traditionally play a secondary role in the livestock sector, such as women

Table 2: Community Priority Ranking in Garba Tula District

	Kinna	Garba Tula
1	Livestock	Livestock
2	Tourism	Gums and Resins
3	Agriculture in riverine areas	Sand Production
4	Mineral Extraction	

In order to identify the most important values and products in Garba Tula, a participatory local community consultation and priority setting process was undertaken which built upon the foundations of the Total Economic Valuation work to ensure ownership, and map and prioritize natural resource products. This ranking considered the environmental sustainability of a product, the economic viability, cultural appropriateness and levels of interest in the communities.



Conducting Market Studies of natural dryland products (Purpose and methodology)

Upon selecting the most important values, a study⁵ was undertaken to determine the marketability of these natural products and the capacities, skills and resources required for communities to effectively engage in the market.

A Market Development Framework was used to:

- a) Identify the opportunities for commercial exploitation at primary and value addition levels;
- b) Isolate the challenges that hinder sustainable utilization of the resources;
- c) Analyse the commercial viability of the products in the market including supply chain dynamics and value addition;
- d) Take stock of the capacity gaps of target community beneficiaries from an entrepreneurial and business management standpoint; and recommend strategic market interventions.

A number of methodologies were used within the framework:

Participatory Value Chain Analysis and Mapping: This involved the mapping of the entire value chain of selected products and product lines, and services to determine the various actors and opportunities, up grading strategies and technologies. It identified the possibilities for value addition, and enabling policy and market systems environment to support sustainable exploitation.

Due Diligence: Due diligence tools were developed for use in generating adequate enterprise knowledge for sustainable commercial production and trade; and enhanced community participation through commercial hubs and entities along the value chain.

Participatory Capacity Assessment: Building on the due diligence findings and recommended actions, the community entities (producer groups, bulkers, livestock committees and others) identified capacity strengths and weaknesses in sustainable harvesting, utilization and marketing of natural resource goods and services.

Proposed strategies for market development: Strategies proposed for the products that have the potential of delivering higher economic value at livelihood and conservation levels.

5 Mwangela, B, 2012. Market Study on Biodiversity opportunities in Garba Tula district of Northern Kenya, IUCN.



Photo credit: Andrew Heavens/ UN OCHA-PCI

Conducting a Participatory Value Chain Analysis (PVA)

Value Chains were mapped out for various products in Garba Tula, in line with the priority ranking of the communities.

Livestock Value Chain: A typical and functional livestock and meat value chain includes input suppliers, producers, traders (at feeder, primary and secondary markets), processors (slaughter houses, abattoirs etc.) meat and related products (hides, offal, bones, horns etc.) and final end users of the products such as supermarkets, institutions, individuals and exporters; with ancillary chain actors including those who provide services like business development.

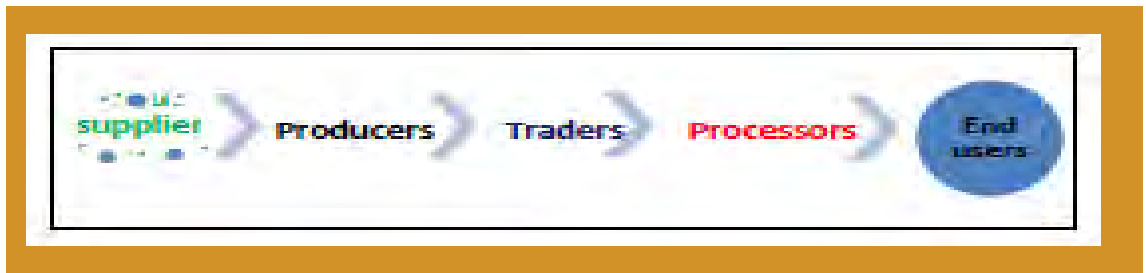


Figure 4 : Simplified Livestock-Meat Value Chain.

Livestock Market Challenges faced in Garba Tula

During the PVA a number of challenges were highlighted that reduce the efficiency of the livestock market chain in Garba Tula:

- Producers lack information and skills to be able to produce for the market and as such they sell only when in need of cash to meet household needs;
- Market Committees that should regulate the market and ensure trading integrity lack capacities and are in need of upgrading;
- There is a shortage of processing facilities, with only one privately owned slaughter slab, and therefore a lack of value addition opportunities;
- There is no pooled transport to reach market;
- Only Kinna market has facilities such as loading ground, crashes, office, gate and fences;
- Price determination is by way of negotiation. There are no weighing scales, or other scientific means used to determine price per unit of weight;
- There is no access to market information due to the lack of functional producer organizations and as such middlemen determine prices to the detriment of local producers
- There is little diversification of the livestock products such as leather, milk or technologies like the cold meat chain. Absence of business development service providers in the district makes the application of these technologies challenging.

Strategies for improving the livestock market chain

The livestock asset base has provided for local livelihoods of the Boran people for generations. In addition to exploring the integration of other biodiversity opportunities with livestock, the development of the livestock economy itself should be founded on sound conservation and enterprise principles that enable its continued production and the harvesting of other opportunities.

The following strategies were outlined for achieving the ideal value chain as shown in figure 5 below.

Strengthen producer organisations: 1) Provision of market information, facilitation of price discovery and enhancement of collective bargaining 2) Organised local producers can organize their pasture and water resources for value addition and survival of breeder herds during droughts, and organize sustained commercial market off-takes throughout the year.

Enhancing a producer based livestock enterprise: 1) Developing commercial hubs for linkages with the private sector that will provide value addition and marketing facilities. 2) Building capacity of the producer enterprise to provide a market intelligence platform that is accessible to the rural pastoralists and market actors. 3) Support producer enterprises to source for large buyers through their livestock market network. 4) Strengthen the producer enterprise at olla, artha and dheeda levels to provide quality control mechanisms in line with the demands of the market. 5) Link with private sector to provide pooled transport services at cost to the pastoralists.

Improving Livestock and Natural Resource Management: 1) Develop commercially viable models for hay production and cattle fattening. 2) Support the use of available early warning/price information to support decision making. This information can be disseminated through local radio stations and information boards placed at strategic convergence zones.

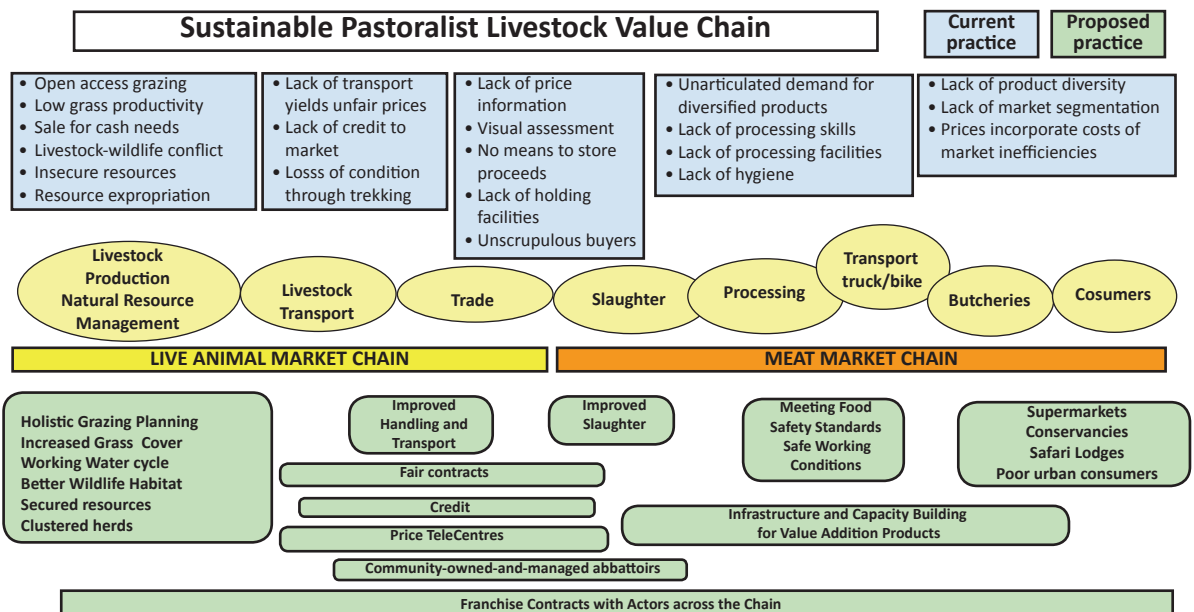


Figure 5: Ideal Livestock Market Chain – (taken from African Wildlife Foundation).

Other biodiversity benefits in Garba Tula

As well as the core livestock livelihood there is great potential to gain from other complementary values in Garba Tula, as long as the natural resource base remains well managed. Analyses were conducted on the potentials for tourism, gums and resins and other natural products such as sand.

Tourism

There is a significant potential for communities to benefit from tourism in the area. Isiolo county has three national game reserves namely: Bisanadi, Buffalo Springs and Shaba national reserve, and their eco systems provide habit for the “big 5”, as well as other important species such as the reticulated giraffe, Grevy’s zebra, oryx, Somali ostrich and gerenuk.

Threats to biodiversity from rapidly increasing human populations, land sub-division, changing land tenure systems, crop farming, poaching, and the blockage of wildlife migratory corridors, have an impact on tourism development. Many of these threats are related to a changing pastoral system. As such focus on bolstering the livestock economy through recognising extensive livestock herding and enabling pastoralists to engage in a more commercial livestock economy, will be beneficial to wildlife conservation and ultimately the tourism potential of the County.

Despite the key role that community lands play in maintaining wild life corridors and supporting dispersal patterns of large herbivores between seasons, there is very little community engagement or benefit from tourism at present in Garba Tula district. Meru National Park and Bisanadi National Reserve, are protected areas under the custody of the central government and Isiolo County Council, respectively, and local communities have no consumptive or non-consumptive rights over the resources therein. The local community can however take advantage of common natural resources like the Bisanadi River and the dispersal of wildlife from the protected areas for tourism-related commercial ventures.

Strategies for supporting Ecotourism in the district

Key strategies that were identified for the development of ecotourism include:

- Links to established tourism/safari companies;
- Detailed Tourism Mapping and Planning at the landscape level;
- Development of marketing and branding for the Isiolo County;
- Collective agreements amongst community members on benefit sharing. This can be done through the development of conservancies or zoning of land for tourism and livestock use;
- Provision of tourism and business development skills for local communities including: business planning and financial accounting, customer care, handicrafts and artefacts.

BOX 2: Community Ecotourism

The Malka Bisanadi campsite established in 2004 is perhaps the only example of Community-based tourism that is active in the Garba Tula district. It was started by a group of 30 women who were allocated a 5 acre piece of land by the Isiolo County Council on the banks of Bisanadi river, bordering Meru National Park. It has received support from government and NGO projects and has a current capacity of 150 guests a day. It has facilities for conferences and meetings. Guests accommodated in the camp use the Bisanadi gate into the reserve to carry out game drives. Guests residing in the reserve visit Malka for cultural experiences. The location of the campsite is excellent but the group currently lack skills and resources to be an efficient ecotourism centre. The main challenges are:

- Undeveloped tourism entrepreneurship
- Limited business and accounting skills/fund management
- No marketing strategy
- No training on quality infrastructure or services
- Overreliance on NGOs or middle men to bring customers
- Lack of capital (own or third party generated)

Gums and Resins

Many dryland tree species provide great potential for the harvesting of a variety of commercially exploitable gums and resins. *Acacia*, *Commiphora* and *Boswellia* are all abundant in the Garba Tula district and Myrrh from *Commiphora* is an important product used in pharmaceutical industries cosmetics and perfumery and in traditional medicines (Massoud et al., 2001). If these tree species are sustainably managed they will encourage biodiversity conservation, and maintain ecosystem integrity. The collection of gums and resins is compatible with livestock production, and as such the development of more improved markets for commercial sale will provide additional incomes to households particularly in the dry seasons.

The study found that around 59% of the population of Garba Tula are already engaged in some form of collection of gums and resins. The current value chain for gums and resins is shown in figure 6 below.

The study in Garba Tula suggests that demand is currently exceeding supply but that the collection and marketing of gums and resins faces a number of challenges. As with other value chains the commercialisation of gums and resins must only be considered if environmental sustainability and economic viability can be assured.



Figure 6 : Value Chain for Gums and Resins.

Table 3: Challenges in the marketing of gums and resins

Production Stage	Challenge
Harvesting and bulking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insecurity • Prolonged droughts resulting in declines in yield • Inappropriate tapping methods that result to tree damage, • Lack of financial capital to employ modern tapping equipment • Lack of technical expertise to boost large volumes of production • Lack of infrastructural support to support fast harvesting • Lack of quality standards resulting in influx in lesser quality gum • Post – harvest losses occurring due to poor storage and other handling methods
Value Addition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absence of value addition or value chain upgrading technologies
Marketing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No formal policy on the commercial exploitation of gums and resins in Kenya, making permits for transportation of produce hard to obtain. • Lack of market information and intelligence. • Presence of cartels that fix prices of gums and resins

At present there are 5 privately owned collection centres in the town, and 1 producer association called Barambata, which was established with support from the Arid Lands Resource Management Program (ALRMP). This association, which consists of local producers, is among the remaining community groups but is not strong and lacks leadership and skills for enterprise development.

Strategies for supporting Gums and Resins Collection in the district

- **Establish and build the capacity of Producer Organizations:** building technical and entrepreneurial knowledge, including linkages with the public and private sectors
- **Market and Value Chain Development:**
 - Training collectors on efficient ways of tapping to boost production.
 - Explore value addition through training in quality assurance, handling, storage and moisture control. Establish collection centres at convergence zones.
 - Financing collectors to facilitate operational activities and buying of the necessary equipment and materials required during gums and resins collection.
 - Partnership development with Nairobi based and international buyers of gums.
- **Pooling transport arrangements:** To reach the desired volumes the producer, bulkers and traders need to “pool” resources around storage and transportation to Nairobi.



Recommendations for improving Natural Resource enterprises – What next?

Much has been learned on the possibilities for increasing communities' benefits from sustainably managed natural resources through the DFID-GTF funded project, in Garba Tula. It is clear that rangeland landscapes hold multiple opportunities for dryland users to improve their incomes and livelihoods by engaging in complementary activities. Sustainable extensive livestock production ensures the provision of ecosystem goods and services to communities both inside dryland areas and without, but also supports additional values such as wildlife, and natural products that can be turned into economic benefits.

In order for communities to be in a position to sustainably engage in these activities additional work is required in the areas of:

- **Business Capacity Building:** Supporting the development of community groups skills in business development, entrepreneurship, proposal development and finances and accounting.
- **Technical Capacity Building:** Support from experts in the relevant fields through training or exposure visits to successful enterprises that model approaches.
- **Financial support:** Links to private sector investors or microfinance organisations to provide start up funds for small businesses.

It is important to recognise that pastoralism provides an opportunity for multifunctional landscapes and that efforts to build communities' resilience and livelihoods should recognise this potential and ensure that development interventions support the sustainable growth of the livestock sector in ways which maintain this multifunctionality.



Final words

The work of the DFID-GTF project to support communities to benefit from sustainably managed drylands is couched in the wider efforts to improve the governance of natural resources and the rights of local people to engage in decisions on the use and management of these resources. This work builds on the assumption that the more communities can benefit from the natural resources they help to manage the more incentives there will be for their continued protection and sustainable management. In rangelands these benefits manifest through improved livestock based livelihoods, as well as through increased opportunities to diversify into complementary enterprises.

This assumption however relies on communities having the ability to make the decisions on how their landscapes are managed and the landuse systems that are in place. This requires fundamental changes to the rights of local people over communal land, improvements to the systems and institutions that are managing resources and enforcing regulations, and amendments to the policies that guide development and investments in the drylands. These are all areas which this project has also been working to address. The approaches used and lessons learnt from this wider work can be found in the other two handbooks in this series.







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