

# MONTHLY DIGEST (Livestock Sub-sector in the EAC)



## RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE LIVESTOCK SUB-SECTOR IN THE EAC (June, 2015)



**Information in this Document is  
Proprietary Property of the Registered  
Trustees of Kilimo Trust. Don't Copy  
and/or Use without Written Permission**

**KILIMO TRUST:** *regional solutions to local problems*



Prepared by



*regional solutions to local problems*

[www.kilimotrust.org](http://www.kilimotrust.org)

## Table of Contents

1. NEWS IN THE LIVESTOCK SUB-SECTOR IN THE EAC: JUNE 2015 .....	2
1.1 What do we know about the impact of climate change on Livestock Systems in Africa?.....	2
1.2 Rwanda Livestock Industry Receives a Major Boost through establishment of a 4,500Ha Cattle and Goats Estate in Bugesera District, Eastern Province .....	2
1.3 Pilot Index based Insurance leverages Livestock Insurance Program from the Government of Kenya ...	3

## 1. NEWS IN THE LIVESTOCK SUB-SECTOR IN THE EAC: JUNE 2015

### 1.1 What do we know about the impact of climate change on Livestock Systems in Africa?

A 2015 report by the Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security Research Program (CCAFS) of CGIAR has alarmingly revealed that despite evidence that climate change is already causing substantial reduction in forage availability and quality in some regions, thus on livestock productivity, there is still very little known about the actual impact of climate change to livestock systems. This is especially disturbing because over 600 million small-scale farmers in Africa and South East Asia depend on livestock for income and calories. Besides, it is projected that in the next 20 years, demand for livestock products in Sub-Saharan Africa will double owing to increasing population and incomes. To aggravate matters, known climate change adaptation strategies present difficulties in adoption to small-scale livestock keepers.

Indeed, animal diseases cause losses amounting to US\$300 billion lost income and veterinary bills to livestock farmers in Africa. This is expected to accelerate in the face climate change which is expected to cause diseases hitherto non-existent to new areas and inadequate breeding strategies that are inefficient in responding to disease outbreaks. It is against this awakening that scientist at the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) are developing a preemptive breeding strategy meant to proactively breed animals that are resistant and don't require direct treatment.

Thornton P.K., Boone R.B. and Ramirez-Villegas J. 2015. Climate Change Impacts on Livestock. CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS) Working Paper No. 120. <https://cgspace.cgiar.org/rest/bitstreams/54910/retrieve>

### 1.2 Rwanda Livestock Industry Receives a Major Boost through establishment of a 4,500Ha Cattle and Goats Estate in Bugesera District, Eastern Province

The Government of Rwanda (GoR) has forged a public-private partnership to put up a livestock estate on a 4,500 ha of land in Eastern province. The project which aims at increasing beef production by integrating forage production, cattle and goat rearing - on a sustainable commercial basis-represents a hallmark of the government's deliberate efforts to promote livestock as a source of livelihood for poor households.

It is envisioned that the project will result in production of quality meat for local consumption and export of both live cattle and goats and value added products such as processed meat, hides and skins and leather goods targeted at both domestic and export market. The project which has attracted both local and international investors is expected to reduce the import bill of meat products in Rwanda majorly from Kenya and South Africa to feed a burgeoning local middle class and expatriate community.

<http://www.busiweek.com/index1.php?Ctp=2&pI=3402&pLv=3&spI=26&srI=51>

### 1.3 Pilot Index based Insurance leverages Livestock Insurance Program from the Government of Kenya

Fortunes for especially pastoralists in Kenya (and Ethiopia) are slowly changing with implementation of the Index Based Livestock Insurance (IBLI) through a partnership of Cornell University and ILRI. The project relies on satellite data that is beyond manipulation by insured to pay-out farmers who have been adversely affected by drought.

In its sixth year, the project has shown some positive impact amidst challenges such as whether the vegetation seen via satellite was palatable for animals or not. Payouts have occurred five times in different areas in response to drought periods and out of the 7,454 IBLI policies sold, 3011 policy holders have benefited from US\$118,170 in payout compensation in Kenya. IBLI is currently provided in the Kenyan market by three commercial insurance companies and is offered in five counties. Although there have been other small-scale livestock insurance project in Kenya, IBLI is unique in that its success has leveraged an upcoming launch of Kenya Livestock Insurance Program (KLIP) by the Government of Kenya toward the end of 2015 that will offer limited IBLI contracts to targeted individuals in Northern Kenya with possible subsidies to the general public in later years.

<https://livestockinsurance.wordpress.com/2015/06/08/kenya-an-insurance-scheme-based-on-satellite-data-for-vulnerable-pastoralists/> and <http://www.eurisy.org/good-practice-kenya-an-insurance-scheme-based-on-satellite-data-for-vulnerable-pastoralists> 168