

UPDATES ON PASTORAL VCA RESEARCH

Data analysis. All the data has finally been entered and a preliminary analysis is being conducted. We had some problems as some of the earlier data entry was wrong and had to be re-done. Also a few of the original data collection sheets had been lost. James does not think this is too critical to the overall analysis. If it is we might have to re-do some of the field work. We will keep you informed.

Secondary data. We are missing some secondary data (e.g. information from the abattoir, livestock prices, rainfall, etc.) necessary to complete the analysis of the pastoral VCA. We propose that this information be collected during the process of doing the ranching VCA as much of it as relevant to the analysis of this sector as pastoralism.

Next steps.

- IIED to complete data analysis and write draft report on findings to be ready end of October 2009.
- PLTF to organise a validation meeting to present and discuss the pastoral VCA research findings. Meeting to include an update on the ranching VCA (including preliminary results if available) and time to discuss emerging policy advocacy messages and how best to articulate them. PLTF might consider the participation of a few actors along the supply chain for part of the meeting - to be discussed further. Subject to confirmation by PLTF, the meeting to be held on the 23-25 November.
- Following the meeting the pastoral VCA analysis will be finalized and a final report produced.
- Stakeholders meeting. We initially planned to have a meeting with all the actors along the pastoral meat supply chain to discuss the findings and implications of the research. On further reflexion, it might make more sense to hold this meeting once we have completed the research on the ranching VCA in order to be able to discuss both forms of meat supply in Arusha region. To be discussed further with the PLTF.

Ranching VCA

This work is about to start. The TOR for this work has been circulated to all PLTF members for information and comment. In the absence of any comments, the TOR we circulated will be used to contract Andrew Williams to lead the research process starting October 2009. Andrew will be assisted by the PLTF policy officer and the Institute of Resource Assessment - see below.

Prior to starting the research proper we want to secure official support for the research from the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries. This will facilitate the research process (e.g. access to government docs, the ranches, etc.) and legitimise the research findings and facilitate their later discussion, dissemination and, we hope, adoption. The Chair of the PLTF has agreed with support from yourself, Alais and others to lead on this. We also want to involve a Tanzanian research organisation in the research and have opted to

approach the Institute of Resource Assessment. Andrew will make preliminary contact prior to establishing a more formal collaboration (e.g. MoU, contract as necessary).

We anticipate the 1st phase of the research to be completed by December when findings will be shared with the members of the PLTF. This will also be the moment when we agree the 2nd phase of the research.