

ASSESSING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERVENTION STRATEGIES FOR MITIGATING DROUGHT EFFECTS IN KENYA'S PASTORAL LIVELIHOOD: CASE OF GARISSA COUNTY.

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The purpose of this study is to assess the effectiveness of the intervention strategies for mitigating drought in Kenya's pastoral livelihood, case of Garissa County: so as to document the best mitigation practices which can be employed in other similar climatic livelihood zones. Five research objectives were formulated to guide the study. The study applied descriptive survey research and administered questioners to collect data from the sampled cluster comprising of 20 government officials, 20 NGOs officials and 10 community chairpersons. Data was then analyzed both qualitatively and quantitatively.

The research findings revealed that the drought effects mitigation intervention strategies assessed under this research are effective. Based on the findings of the study, it was concluded that destocking influenced drought mitigation in livestock among the pastoral communities. Destocking is carried out by both the government and NGOs in the area. The destocking carried out was rated as effective by most of the respondents in the study. The destocking benefited the community since it was able to salvage animals.

The study also concluded that veterinary interventions had influence the mitigation of drought on livestock in Garissa County. The community received drugs, vaccination and treatment of animals; they also received Para-Veterinary services to ensure the livestock did not die of diseases. The veterinary and provision of drugs services were rated as effective by the government and NGO officials who are the service providers.

This study also confirms that water provision influenced mitigation of drought on livestock based pastoral livelihood. However, from the research data water provision is inadequate. The community leaders reflected overcrowding in water sources as the major challenge during drought. Supplementary livestock feeding as well influenced mitigation of drought on livestock. From the data for example the government provided financial resources for supplementary feeding during drought. The communities also participate in complementing supplementary feeding through preservation of hay and other alternative feeding approaches.

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