

Improving Market Access for Dryland Commodities in East Africa

Synthesis Report

Acknowledgements

This publication is a synthesis of several baseline assessment reports prepared during the inception of the Market Access Project. The separate assessment reports included natural resources, participatory technology development, institutional capacity and gender, conflict management, and market research. The key contributors were Isabella Masinde, Anthony Njogu, Jecinta Abenyo, Dominic Ruto, Mohamud Adan, and Francis Muchiri, all of ITDG East Africa, and Michael Mbaka and Mumbi Macharia of Family Concern International. The activity was supervised and facilitated by a UNDP DDC team that included Albert Mwangi, Verity Nyagah, Sarah Anyoti, and Ruth Mwathi.

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Abbreviations and acronyms

AMREF African Medical and Research Foundation

ALRMP Arid Lands Resource Management Project

AWF African Wildlife Foundation

CLOUT Centre for Livelihood Opportunities Unlimited and Technologies

DDC Drylands Development Centre

EAC East African Community

KAKUTE Kampuni ya Kusambasa Teknolojia Rahisi

MVIWABU Mtandao wa Vikundi vya Wakulima na Wafugaji Bonde la Ufa

SNV Netherlands Development Organisation

UNDP United Nations Development Programme

VSF Vétérinaires sans Frontières (Belgium)

Executive summary

A. Background to baseline survey

1. This report is based on the findings of a baseline survey carried out in four cross-border sites of global biodiversity significance in East Africa: to the north, the Loima hills of Kenya and the Moroto hills of Uganda, inhabited by peoples of the Karamojong cluster; and to the south, the Namanga hills of Kenya and the Monduli hills of the United Republic of Tanzania,¹ inhabited by Maasai peoples (box 1). Inhabitants are typically pastoralists and agropastoralists. The dryland montane forests of each area provide water and dry season grazing for both livestock and wildlife.
2. The aim of the survey was to establish which dryland commodities might have sufficient market potential to lead to an improvement in livelihoods, while enabling sustainable natural resource development; and to identify processes by which this might be achieved.
3. The themes investigated included:
 - (a) Natural resources policy landscape;
 - (b) Study of existing technologies;

¹ The United Republic of Tanzania will henceforth be referred to as Tanzania in this report.



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