

## SUMMARY

### **Understanding and characterising collective tenure and tenure security in pastoral systems**

The study background emphasises the significance of land tenure insecurity in farmer–herder conflicts, focusing on pastoral collective tenure systems in Burkina Faso, Sudan and Kenya. Two levels of tenure (group and individual) were examined to understand the dynamics within pastoralist communities. The research addressed questions related to access to grazing land, important tenure aspects and the main drivers of tenure insecurity.

The findings reveal the existence of robust, legitimate, informal systems of collective pastoral tenure that operate based on community-driven management and dispute resolution. These systems contribute to feelings of tenure security through factors intrinsic to the pastoralist system, including local recognition, strong relationships, community cohesion, long-term habitation, local control over resources and respected leadership. External factors such as the absence of conflicts and large-scale land acquisitions also play a role.

Factors contributing to tenure insecurity vary across regions. In Burkina Faso, concerns stem from previous land loss and ongoing land conversion, while, in Kenya and Sudan, worries are based on observations of land dispossession in neighbouring areas. Individual responses mirror group perspectives, with minor variations. In Sudan, wealthier men enjoy better access to grazing lands, and there is a trend toward individualism among youth. Women in Burkina Faso emphasise collective care but feel less secure regarding collective grazing land.

The study highlights the need to consider individual perspectives alongside group responses, particularly regarding gender-specific variations. While collective interests are prioritised, tensions exist between collective and individual rights, especially in Kenya. The role of women in decision-making varies across regions, with Kenya standing out for active female participation.

The findings suggest a need to enhance the legitimacy of informal tenure systems, possibly through national recognition, to address emerging challenges. Options for formalising collective pastoral land are presented for Burkina Faso and Kenya, with considerations for understanding local contexts before policy interventions. The study provides valuable insights into the complexities of pastoral tenure systems and the factors influencing feelings of tenure security.

### **Characterising collective tenure security in pastoral systems in Burkina Faso**

Pressures on traditional grazing lands and conflicts have increased due to climate change, including shifting rainfall patterns, shorter rainy seasons and more dry areas. The expansion of agriculture, especially cash crops like cotton, has also reduced available resources such as pasture and water for pastoral communities.

In this report, the authors review land tenure systems for pastoralism, both formal land tenure systems and their governance, before presenting a case study on land ownership and management in Zoundweogo Province. They found that the Wakilé Allah pastoral group's land tenure system, particularly in the wet-season grazing areas, aligns with the Land and Rural Orientation Plan (LORP), designating these lands as reserved for grazing. These areas are a vital part of the pastoral lifestyle, traditionally dedicated to livestock activities. These lands are privately owned but managed under collective customary rights. While the customary system for managing pastoral land is widely accepted, concerns linger regarding its security. Protective actions must be taken to address threats to tenure security, such as loss of cohesion, unmarked pastoral spaces, encroachments by agriculture and inadequate law enforcement. Registration of the pastoral area in the name of the pastoral group or the commune is a crucial step.

Addressing the current threats to the pastoral group's land tenure system requires a balanced approach that safeguards their traditional practices while providing legal protections through proper land management and registration. Responding to these challenges, the pastoral group calls for remedial actions to safeguard their land and resources. Securing the land tenure system entails two main aspects: (1) development of rules and local land charter; and (2) registration and community benefit.

## Perceptions of land tenure security in pastoral areas in Marsabit, Kenya

The study aims to deepen the understanding of land tenure in pastoral areas characterised by collective ownership. It is part of a broader initiative to comprehend the root causes of conflicts in these regions, acknowledging the mounting pressures on pastoral land and resources over the past two decades.

Acknowledging the complexity of collective tenure in pastoral areas, the study analyses two layers of tenure security (community and individual). It delves into the role of pastoral mobility within a functional pastoral system, emphasising that measuring tenure security in pastoral contexts is more challenging than among settled households with clear individual land titles.

The study provides valuable insights into the dynamics of land tenure in pastoral regions, shedding light on contrasting perspectives, customary practices and the challenges in measuring tenure security. It contributes to a comprehensive understanding of the complexities involved in managing pastoral land and resources, with implications for policy interventions and sustainable development goals.

## Characterising collective tenure security in pastoral systems in Sudan

Pastoralism in Sudan confronts significant challenges, primarily driven by pastoral land tenure insecurity. Land acquisition has historically been a consistent trigger for regional conflict and injustice. In addition to tenure insecurity, pastoralist areas grapple with pervasive insecurity manifested through various levels and types of conflicts. Challenges include the blockage or disappearance of livestock routes, limited mobility due to inadequate water access, poorly designed routes and degradation of resting places. These constraints severely restrict the spatial and temporal mobility of livestock in pastoral regions, further complicating the livelihood activity.

In this report, the authors review the significance of pastoralism in Sudan, formal tenure systems and their governance, and tribal systems. Following an overview of pastoral systems, the authors present a case study on tenure systems and governance in Jabrat Elsheikh locality, North Kordofan State. They found that the existing tenure system for dry-season grazing land is a collective pastoral tenure system governed by tribal administration and based on unwritten customary rules and regulations. The formal state tenure system is not present or enforced in the area and pastoralists are generally unaware of the country's formal tenure systems.

The tenure system in place offers a number of advantages and benefits. It offers open access on an equal basis to all group members and even allows individuals from outside the group to access and use the grazing land. However, management, exclusion and transfer rights are exclusive to the group and its members. This management system is part of their historical tribal heritage and allows them to maintain and prevent overexploitation of their resources actively. It includes traditional dispute-resolution mechanisms.

Pastoralists, both as a group and as individuals, feel highly secure in their rights to benefit from the collective grazing land for their entire lives and future generations. However, women in the community are marginalised when it comes to accessing, using and managing the dry-season grazing land and participating in decision-making.

Pastoralists foresee challenges due to increasing human and livestock populations, which may lead to heightened competition for resources. They also expect a trend towards individual interests taking precedence over group interests. Additionally, with the growing interest in farming and a rising human population, cultivated land may be expanded at the expense of dry-season grazing areas in the future.

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