

THE SOMALI ECONOMIC MONITOR

LAILMAAA – The Somali Economic Monitor

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English:

From Livestock Trade to Sustainable Agricultural Transformation

(Building Integrated Agricultural Ecosystems for Somalia's Future)



For generations, Somalia's livestock sector has been one of the country's greatest economic success stories. Long before international development agencies, investment programs or large agricultural projects became common across Africa, Somali pastoralists, traders and exporters had already established commercial networks that supplied livestock to regional and international markets.

Today, livestock remains Somalia's largest agricultural export and one of the most important sources of rural income. Millions of camels, cattle, sheep and goats are traded each year through a commercial system built largely on entrepreneurship, trust, family networks, market knowledge and private investment.

This important achievement deserves recognition.

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Successful agricultural development does not begin with donor funding or government programs alone. It begins with people who understand their markets, invest their own resources, accept commercial risks and continuously adapt to changing conditions. Somalia's livestock sector has demonstrated exactly that.

However, success should become the foundation upon which the next stage of agricultural development is built.

The question before Somalia today is how to create greater value before those animals leave the country.



Every exported animal creates opportunities for commercial feed production, fodder farming, veterinary services, breeding programs, feedlot operations, meat processing, dairy development, leather production, cold-chain logistics, transport services, financial products and export branding.

Many of these opportunities remain largely untapped, representing significant potential for private investment, employment and rural economic growth.

As a result, a significant share of the economic value generated by Somalia's livestock ultimately benefits industries located outside the country rather than creating employment and investment opportunities within Somalia itself.

The next chapter of Somalia's agricultural development should focus on strengthening the entire agricultural value chain rather than only increasing production.

This requires looking beyond livestock alone. Agriculture and livestock should no longer be viewed as separate sectors. They are components of the same production system.

- ✓ Crop production supplies feed and fodder.
- ✓ Livestock provides manure, income and market demand.
- ✓ Water management supports both.
- ✓ Renewable energy improves irrigation efficiency.
- ✓ Processing industries create additional value.
- ✓ Financial institutions provide capital.
- ✓ Research institutions introduce innovation.
- ✓ Universities develop future professionals.
- ✓ Export markets create commercial incentives for continuous improvement.

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When these components work together, they form an integrated agricultural ecosystem where each activity strengthens the others.

This integrated approach creates greater resilience than isolated projects because economic activity becomes interconnected rather than dependent upon a single commodity or program.

International experience increasingly demonstrates that countries achieving sustainable agricultural growth are those that gradually integrate production, processing, logistics, finance and markets into commercially viable value chains. Regional investment initiatives have likewise emphasized the importance of connecting feed production, livestock finishing, processing facilities and export logistics rather than treating each activity independently.

This transformation does not require replacing what already works. Instead, it requires building upon Somalia's existing strengths by gradually connecting agriculture, livestock, processing, finance, research and markets into one integrated ecosystem.

Unlike many countries, Somalia does not need to create a livestock industry from the beginning. It already possesses experienced livestock producers, established trading networks, strong entrepreneurial traditions and trusted commercial relationships across regional markets. These existing strengths provide an excellent foundation for broader agricultural transformation.

The challenge now is to build upon these strengths. Rather than attempting to transform entire sectors overnight, progress should begin with practical demonstration.

Well-designed demonstration projects allow new technologies, management systems and business models to be tested under local conditions before they are expanded commercially. They reduce investment risk, build confidence among investors and producers, and generate practical experience that supports future expansion. Most importantly, they encourage learning through evidence rather than theory.

This gradual approach allows successful models to expand naturally through private investment instead of depending upon continuous external support. At LAILMAAA Global Holdings, this principle forms the foundation of our long-term vision.

Sustainable agricultural transformation is achieved by building integrated ecosystems where farmers, pastoralists, researchers, investors, financial institutions and markets grow together.

LAILMAAA is committed to promoting this collaborative approach as one practical pathway toward long-term food security, agricultural investment and sustainable economic growth in Somalia.

Editorial Feature

The Somali Economic Monitor is intended to serve as a platform for informed discussion on sustainable agricultural development, investment and food security in Somalia. The publication seeks to encourage dialogue among government institutions, the private sector, universities, financial institutions and development partners in support of long-term economic growth.

Af-Soomaaliga (kooban):

Laga bilaabo Ganacsiga Xoolaha ilaa Horumarinta Beeraha oo Waara

(Dhisidda Nidaamyo Isku Xiran oo Horumariya Beeraha Soomaaliya)

Muddo qarniyo ah, xooluhu waxay ahaayeen laf-dhabarta dhaqaalaha Soomaaliya. Xoolo-dhaqatada, ganacsatada iyo dhoofiyeyaasha Soomaaliyeed waxay dhiseen suuqyo iyo xiriir ganacsi oo gaaray dalalka Khaliijka iyo meelo kale, xilli aysan jirin mashaariic waaweyn ama maalgelin dibadeed.

Maanta, xooluhu weli waa dhoofinta ugu weyn, waana isha ugu muhiimsan ee dakhliga reer miyiga. Guushan waa in la qaddariyaa. Laakiin guushaasi waa inay noqotaa bilow, ee ma aha dhammaad.

Su'aasha maanta taagan ma aha oo keliya sidii loo dhoofin lahaa xoolo badan. Ee waa sidee Soomaaliya uga faa'iidayaan kartaa xoolaha ka hor inta aan la dhoofin?

Xooluhu waxay abuuri karaan fursado badan sida:

- ✓ soo saarista calafka,
- ✓ beerista daaqa,
- ✓ adeegyada caafimaadka xoolaha,
- ✓ xarumaha naaxinta,
- ✓ warshadaha hilibka iyo caanaha,
- ✓ hargaha,
- ✓ gaadiidka,
- ✓ kaydinta qaboojiyaasha,
- ✓ iyo suuq-geynta.

Qaybo badan oo ka mid ah fursadahani weli si buuxda loogama faa'iidayaan.

Sidaas darteed, qayb weyn oo qiimaha dhaqaale ee xoolaha ayaa ka baxda dalka halkii ay shaqooyin iyo maalgashi uga abuuri lahayd Soomaaliya gudaheeda.

Horumarka mustaqbalka waa inuu isku xiraa beeraha, xoolaha, waraabka, tamarta, warshadaha, maalgelinta, cilmi-baarista iyo suuqyada. Marka qaybahan la isku xiro, waxaa la helayaa nidaam isku xiran oo beeraha iyo xoolaha ah, kaas oo qaybihiisu is taageeraan isla markaana sii jiri kara muddo dheer.

LAILMAAA waxay aaminsan tahay in isbeddel weyn aanu ka bilaaban mashaariic waaweyn oo hal mar la fuliyo. Wuxuu ka bilaabmaa tijaabooyin yaryar oo la qorsheeyey, lana xaqiijiyey inay shaqaynayaan. Tijaabo kasta oo lagu guulaysto waxay dhistaa kalsooni, waxay dhiirrigelisaa maalgashi, waxayna sahashaa in la ballaariyo.

Ujeeddada LAILMAAA ma aha oo keliya fulinta mashruucyo gaar-gaar ah.

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Ujeeddadeedu waa inay ka qayb qaadato dhismaha nidaamyo isku xiran oo beeraha iyo xoolaha ah, kuwaas oo abuura shaqooyin, maalgashi iyo horumar dhaqaale oo sii waara.

Fariinta Tifaftiraha

The Somali Economic Monitor waa madal loogu talagalay in lagu dhiirrigeliyo dood cilmi ku dhisan oo ku saabsan horumarinta beeraha, maalgashiga iyo sugnaanta cuntada ee Soomaaliya. Warsidahan wuxuu ujeedkiisu yahay inuu kobciyo wada-shaqeyn iyo is-weydaarsi fikradeed oo dhex mara hay'adaha dowladda, ganacsiga gaarka loo leeyahay, jaamacadaha, hay'adaha maaliyadda iyo saaxiibbada horumarinta, si wadajir loogu taageero koboc dhaqaale oo waara.

LOOKING AHEAD

The Somali Economic Monitor will continue to present practical ideas that encourage investment, strengthen institutions, and support sustainable agricultural transformation in Somalia.

The road ahead will be built through knowledge, partnership, innovation, and practical actions that lead to sustainable agricultural transformation.

TUBTA HORE

The Somali Economic Monitor wuxuu sii wadi doonaa soo bandhigidda fikrado wax-ku-ool ah oo dhiirrigeliya maalgashiga, xoojiya hay'adaha, isla markaana taageera horumarinta beeraha ee waarta ee Soomaaliya.

Tubta hore waxaa lagu gaari karaa aqoon, iskaashi, hal-abuur iyo tallaabooyin wax-ku-ool ah oo horseeda isbeddel waara oo beeraha Soomaaliya ah.
