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### **Land Tenure and Pastoral Productive Systems: Sustaining Livelihoods through Maintenance of Collective Land Access**

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#### **Abstract**

Pastoral communities are facing increasing pressure on their livelihoods due to depletion and degradation of their productive resources. Land tenure plays a decisive role in sustaining pastoral productive systems. However, these communities are also facing pressures on their land as a result of misconceptions about pastoralism, changing demographics, urbanisation, climate change, and environmental degradation. In addition, public policy has not always favoured the development of pastoralism. Instead, public policies have promoted individualisation of land tenure. Individual land tenure is inconsistent with the sustainability of pastoral productive systems as it does not support sustainable practices such as mobility. On the other hand, these practices are supported under collective land tenure. Given that pastoral communities reside in areas characterised by arid and semi-arid conditions, and where alternative uses of land such as crop farming may not be possible, we argue for the maintenance of collective land tenure as it enhances the sustainability of pastoral productive systems.

*For further assistance, more information or if you would like to conduct interviews with the Lead Principal Investigator, you can do so through: Judy Kimani, 0720 96 33 48, ([jkimani@tegemeo.org](mailto:jkimani@tegemeo.org)).*