

# **Livestock Cafés; experimental research and co-learning hubs in Dryland Transform.**

## **Authors**

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## **Abstract**

In the project Drylands Transform based in Kenya and Uganda, livestock cafés (LC's) will be the experimental ground to study forage productivity and quality in relation to references (controls) in the surrounding communal grazing grounds. These experimental plots will be managed for forage production and growth of grasses, legumes and local tree species. They will be utilized for controlled grazing or hay making by the local communities at defined times and intensities (hence the "Café" term). Restricted timing and intensity of grazing is key to management, as opposed to the open grazing. LC will be located within the Landscape Degradation Surveillance Framework (LDSF) sites and function as co-learning hubs, where researchers, local herders/farmers, extension workers, and local policy makers will discuss, exchange ideas and experiences and learn from each other in formal and informal way. As part of this, LC will pilot value-chain improvement activities and orient the communities towards value addition and local community representatives and groups will be trained on possible income generation activities and products such as grass seed, hay, honey, and other livestock products like milk. In addition to demonstrating rangeland restoration, agricultural practices supporting household nutrition, e.g. kitchen gardens will be show-cased. After the research project the LC's will be taken over by local communities, to potentially be managed as local enterprises by communities, groups or individuals.

## **Biography - Gert Nyberg**

Gert Nyberg is as researcher and research coordinator at SLU. He is a soil and agroforestry scientist working with land and landscape restoration in Eastern Africa and with research capacity development programs in the same region.

## **Topic Areas**

## Agroecology