



Livelihoods and Resilience Webinar, 19th January 2021 – Outstanding Questions

1. **Questions:** Thanks for the nice presentation. I understand livestock could play a vital role to food security and creating resilient economy, but not much is being done on livestock. What do you think should be done in this regard/way forward?

Answer: I think a lot is being done on livestock in the ASALs (Arid and Semi-Arid Lands) of the Horn of Africa; Kenya, Ethiopia and Somalia have some of the best outcomes when it comes to management of pastoralist livestock. Obviously as always, more could be done but it is not fair to say not much is being done. The governments, development partners and pastoralists in these countries are doing whatever is possible to reduce losses and emergencies that lead to losses in livestock.

2. **Question:** Thank you very much Suji for this presentation. As it is mentioned in the TANGO model food security and nutrition is part of the livelihood outcome when we work at strengthening resilience. According to you does the relief (food distribution) in that sense strengthen the resilience of communities (helping them to bounce back)? The resilience does include an absorption (beside adaptation and transformation) capacity of the shock which is not always sustainable. so why is resilience always associated with sustainability (which is an expected outcome but does not necessarily defines the resilience)?

Answer: I see 2 questions in your question. First of all, yes I would say relief food distribution, if done well is a means to strengthen resilience of communities especially in cases of sudden onset disasters such as earthquakes, or floods that wipe everything in their wake in an instant - meaning that communities that had food an hour ago, suddenly have nothing to eat. To survive to the next meal, they will need relief supplies to help them bounce back and aid in the recovery. The second question; why is resilience always associated with sustainability? In my view, resilience must be seen in the context of disturbance (hazards). Being able to withstand or bounce back after a hazard (resilient) does not necessarily mean being sustainable. If you read our second case study on Avian Flu in Nigeria you find that some of the farmers affected by the flu actually left poultry rearing as a livelihood strategy - meaning it was not sustainable to them, but they were resilient in that they bounced back and diversified from poultry to something else.