

# EVALUATION OF THE EXPERIENCE OF LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS THE CASE OF RESTOCKING SUB-PROJECT IN BLUE NILE AND SENNAR STATES, SUDAN

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**Abstract:** This study was conducted to evaluate the experience of livestock production for rural development subproject in Blue Nile and Sennar States, Sudan. The subproject was implemented by the Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rangelands (MLFR) through Multi Donor Trust Fund (MDTF). A questionnaire was designed to collect data from all the beneficiaries participated in the project. The study revealed that the restocking sub-project had great impacts on economic situation and exerted considerable changes in the social status of the beneficiaries. The subproject helped them in increasing their incomes and herd size the matter that acted to improve their livelihood, reducing poverty and contributing to food security. The study concluded that the program implemented by the MLFR through (MDTF) for the development of rural areas in Sennar and Blue Nile states are commendable and worthwhile for the economic development. So study recommended the extension of such programs to involve more rural and the poorest communities in the country.

**Keywords:** Livestock production; Rural Development; Blue Nile; Sennar; Food security

## I. INTRODUCTION

### A. Rural Development

Rural development generally refers to the process of improving the quality of life and economic well-being of people living in relatively isolated and sparsely populated areas [23]. Srinivas [25] conceived that the need for rural communities to approach development from a wider perspective has other development goals rather than merely creating incentive for agricultural or resource based businesses. Education, entrepreneurship, physical infrastructure, and social infrastructure all play an important role in developing rural regions. For [6] rural development actions are mainly and mostly to development aim for the social and economic development of the rural areas. So rural development implies both the economic betterment of people as well as greater social transformation. Accordingly the basic objective of all rural development endeavors/programs has been the welfare of the millions. In order to achieve this, planned attempts have been made to eliminate poverty, ignorance and inequality of opportunities.

Poor people of the worlds were estimated at 1.3 billion, the majority of them live in developing countries where they depend directly or indirectly on livestock for their livelihoods [30]. Livestock play multiple roles in the livelihoods of people in developing communities, especially the poor. They provide food and nutrition, work, economic

and social status, and ensure environmental sustainability [32]. Small ruminants have a great potential to affect the socio-economic development of the majority of African rural communities [9]. [28] Mentioned that small ruminant's production is a very significant component of livestock production throughout the world and more especially in the developing countries. [27] Pointed that small ruminant animals (sheep and goats) are an important source of income in western Asia and North Africa, semi-arid areas with less than 300 mm average annual rainfall. According to [2] small ruminants in Southern Nigeria are integral component of the household, where they contribute to the cultural, food and socio-economic life of the people. Traditionally, sheep and goats have served as means of ready cash and a reserve against economic and agricultural production hardship [12]. For [22] sheep and goats play a significant role in the food chain and overall livelihoods of rural households. Most poor farmers in Mali keep small ruminants as a main source of livelihoods. Hence, sheep and goats assets are key opportunities for smallholder small ruminant producers to not only engage in income generating activities, enabling them to escape the poverty trap but also to consume animal source food they could not afford to buy [21]. According to [10] Livestock are important in supporting the livelihoods of poor livestock keepers, traders and labourers throughout the developing world.

### B. Rural Development Projects based on livestock

Many Rural Development Projects based on livestock had achieved their objectives. In Madagascar Livestock and Rural Development Project resulted in improved of animal-health protection, roads and water supply [17], the Nigeria Second Livestock Development project largely achieved its objectives mainly by increasing livestock products and raising farmers incomes [16]. In 2007 Aga Khan Foundation (AKF) acted to develop rural area in Afghanistan by improving farming systems by introducing participatory training for beneficiaries through farmer field schools and Participatory Technology Development (PTD). The result was increase in animal populations by 25% and animal mortality from preventable diseases has decreased by 50%.

The outcomes Nepal Community Livestock Development Project were improved livestock production. The project also developed processing, and marketing enterprises [5].

The Namibia Northern Regions Livestock Development Project focused on poverty reduction through staff training in

interactive skills for dealing with rural communities, which improved the targeting of activities to resource-poor communities and households. [18].

Based on [19] Ethiopia Fourth Livestock Development Project interested in improving the livelihoods and food security of small-scale agro-pastoralists in the highlands, the most important achievements was the successful introduction of several exotic herbaceous and tree legumes. The project established two animal health and veterinary centres and strengthened vaccine production at the national level.

The objective Philippines Smallholder Livestock Development Project was to increase the number, productivity and quality of cattle and goats, the project motivated the formation of farmer cooperative groups, and a number of smallholder farmers joined larger medium-scale producers with the capacity to provide management, operating capital and marketing support to form small commercial operations [20].

### *C. Improving Livestock Production Project (ILPP) in Sudan Background*

Sudan is one of the least developing countries, for Sudan's economy to be strong; the rural economy needs to grow. Rural areas are still weighed down by problems of hunger, illiteracy, and lack of basic infrastructure like water services, schools, hospitals, etc. This has led to low income, poor surrounding environment and livelihood. Our villages need to grow as per with cities and standard of life has to improve, therefore inclusive growth to happen for Sudan development. Basically, there is a need to empower the villagers, and not just supporting them by food subsidies, loan waivers which end up crippling them.

In Sudan sheep are raised by nomads, transhumant, and sedentary farmers to produce meat and milk, and to a lesser extent skins [1]. Sudan exports live sheep and meat mainly to Saudi Arabia as well as small amounts to other Arab countries such as: Libya, United Arab Emirates and Jordan. Goats production is a promising business in the Sudan, which has wide ecosystem diversity and different social-economical zones. Dairy goat systems have an important social impact and they can optionally utilize marginal areas[8].

Accordingly the Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rangelands (MLFR) through ILPP places importance now on animal production, animal health and, water services, so that the quality of life in rural areas improves and the fruit of economic reform are shared by communities. Based on [31] Improving Livestock Production Project (ILPP) was a Multi Donor Trust Fund (MDTF) funded project. It was implemented in two phases: in the first phase which extended for two years, a total of US\$ 7.7 million was allocated followed by a midterm review, for; the second phase was US\$ 12.3 million. The project was effective on 08/29/2007 and closed on 06/30/2013.

The project's objective was to improve livestock production in selected rain-fed areas of Central and Eastern Sudan. The project was designed and structured around pilot activities that address priority needs in support of livestock production and marketing. This project will demonstrate different ways to deliver services and improve pastoralists' livelihoods, and rural communities' development, the project embraced four components, livestock development investment fund (LDIF), privatization of animal health and livestock markets, management and studies and rehabilitation of livestock routes, [15].

The implementation of restocking and fattening of sheep was started by signing Grant Agreements (GA) with Village Development Committees (VDCs). These VDCs are Al Buga'a and Ummaml at Abuhugar Locality- Sennar State. Wad Elfaki & Wad Balola at Damazin Locality – Blue Nile State. First of all the project organized beneficiary communities into VDCs. VDCs had disbursed these funds to the beneficiaries on Murabaha finance (Deferred Payment) with nominal earnings for duration of six months. Each participator had received 5 ewes and 10 lambs. Murabaha contract had been prepared and signed by all recipients of loans, [13]. The total number of direct beneficiaries was 90 families. The primary objective is to enhance livelihood in rural areas and increase herd size and income of the beneficiaries.

### *D. Statement Of The Problem*

Although the proposed duration of (ILPP) ended, yet the outcomes of the project were not evaluated. The current study aims to evaluate the outcomes of (ILPP) project and its role in empowering the communities to achieve the rural development.

## **II. MATERIALS AND METHODS**

### *A. Study area*

This survey was conducted from April to September 2014 in Blue Nile State (Damazin Locality) and Sennar State (Abuhugar Locality). Sennar State is part of the Blue Nile region located in south-east Sudan. The state borders Blue Nile State, Al-Jazira State, White Nile State, and Gedaref State and the international border with Ethiopia and South Sudan. It has an area of 37,844 km<sup>2</sup> (14,612 sq miles) and population of approximately 1,532,085 (2006 census). The main economic activity is agriculture. The state encompassing the irrigated scheme of Suki, (Sudan tribuan, 2015).

The Blue Nile State is found in the south-east of Sudan, bordering Sennar State, and shares an international border with Ethiopia and South Sudan. It has an area of 45,844 km<sup>2</sup> (17,700 sq miles) and population of 832,112 according to 2006 census. Its economic activity is based upon agriculture and livestock and increasing mineral exploitation, (Sudan tribuan, 2015).

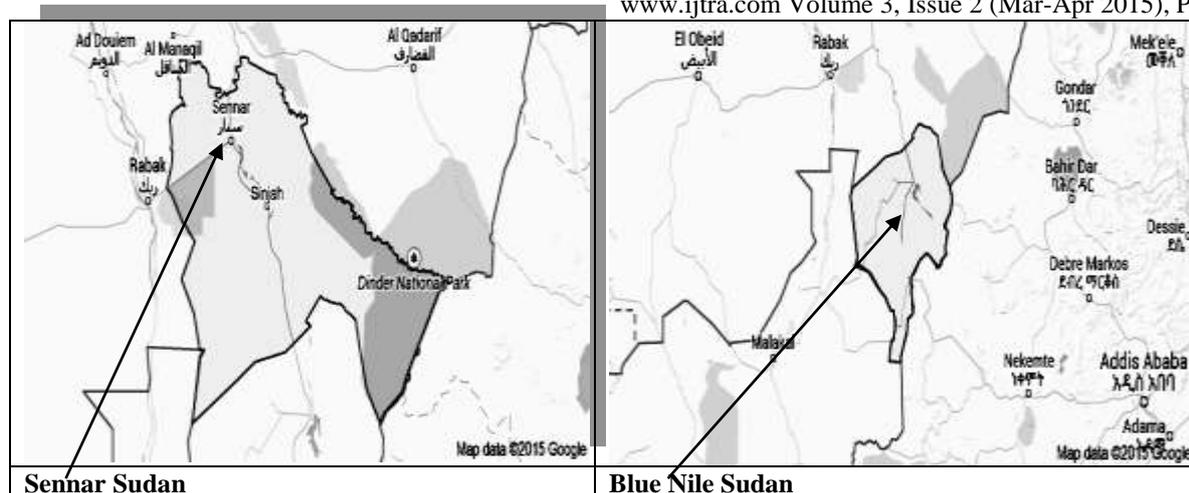


Figure1. Sennar and Blue Nile Maps. Source: <https://www.google.com/?gwsrd=ssl#q=st+ates+sudan+map>

### B. Data Collection

Data was gathered from various secondary sources like Improving livestock Production and Marketing Project (ILPMP) reports, World Bank (WB) reports, research papers, articles etc.

Questionnaire was used to collect data from primary sources at Damazin and Abuhugar localities namely the 90 beneficiaries who directly involved in the restocking subproject. Each questionnaire comprised three distinct parts; Beneficiaries characteristics, tenure information and the impact of the project. In the Beneficiaries characteristics part, there were close-ended questions about gender, age, education level and main occupation. Each question was provided by possible answers.

Second part of the questionnaire was regarding the tenure information about type of ownership, source of funding, type of activity, breeding system, duration of activity, herd type, herd size, sources of drink and feed for animals, veterinary care, and basic services in the village. Each question was provided by possible answers.

The impact of the project was assessed based on the beneficiaries' opinions in the last part of the questionnaire where different questions were provided to evaluate the impact of the project. The questionnaire was intended to cooperate-administered, some illiterate beneficiaries needed to explain some questions and help in answering the questions.

Personal interviews with LIUs group's leaders were also used in data collection.

### C. Tools of analysis

Statistical analysis was conducted using statistical package for social analysis (SPSS) version 20 software for windows. Descriptive and analytical statistics were used to in the analysis. P-value less than 0.05 were considered as statistically significant.

## III. RESULTS

### A. The Characteristics of the Beneficiaries

Survey result indicates that more than 50% of the beneficiaries are illiterates, and primary level is the leading educational level where 20.0% of the beneficiaries in both areas attended this level. The majority of respondents are young men who have age range from 31-40 years. About 52.5%, 25.0% and 22.5 of the beneficiaries are herders, farmers and households respectively in Blue Nile SBNS. While 36.0% of beneficiaries are farmers and herders, and 34.0% are households and 26.0% are herders in SS (table1).

The qui square test revealed that there's no significant differences ( $P < 0.05$ ). in sex and education level between SS and BNS, while there's significant differences ( $P < 0.05$ ).in age and main occupation.

Table1. The Characteristics of the Beneficiaries

PARAMETER		Sennar State		Blue Nile State	
		Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Gender	Male	32	64.0	31	77.5
	Female	18	36.0	9	22.5
	Total	50	100.0	40	100.0
Education Background	Illiterates	35	70.0	25	62.5
	Primary Level	10	20.0	8	20.0
	Secondary Level	3	6.0	7	17.5
	College/university	2	4.0	0	0
	Total	50	100.0	40	100.0
Age Groups	<20 years	1	2.0	0	0
	20-30 years	3	6.0	5	12.5
	31-40 years	15	30.0	22	55.0

	<b>41-50 years</b>	14	28.0	11	27.5
	<b>51-60 years</b>	14	28.0	2	5.0
	<b>&gt; 60 years</b>	3	6.0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	50	100.0	40	100.0
<b>Main Occupation</b>	<b>Household</b>	17	34.0	9	22.5
	<b>Farmer</b>	1	2.0	10	25.0
	<b>Herder</b>	13	26.0	21	52.5
	<b>Farmer and Herder</b>	18	36.0	0	0
	<b>Free job</b>	1	2.0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	50	100.0	40	100.0

The survey result indicated that all beneficiaries in Ss. have individual tenure, while 7.5% of them are partners in BNS and the rest have individual tenure. Beneficiaries' resources and loans were the sources for financing the project activities; most of the beneficiaries (62.5%) in BNS obtained their fund from loans whereas no single beneficiary in SS depends entirely on loans. In SS the main type of activity Of 92.2% of the beneficiaries was fattening of sheep, while in BNS about 65.0% of them practiced sheep fattening

and 35.0% of them their activities are breeding & fattening of sheep and goats. The survey showed that; in BNS 82.5% of beneficiaries are settlers. While in SS 60.0% and 24.0% are semi-nomads and nomads respectively (Table2). The qui square test shows the significant differences ( $P < 0.05$ ) in type of ownership and source of fund of the beneficiaries in the two States,

**Table 2 Tenure source of fund and information**

		Sennar State		Blue Nile State	
		Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
<b>Type of ownership</b>	<b>Individual</b>	50	100.0	37	92.5
	<b>partnership</b>	0	0	3	7.5
	<b>Total</b>	50	100.0	40	100.0
<b>Source of Funding</b>	<b>Loans</b>	0	0	25	62.5
	<b>Self + Loans</b>	50	100.0	15	37.5
	<b>Total</b>	50	100.0	40	100.0
<b>Percentage of share in the capital</b>	<b>5%</b>	0	0	32	80.0
	<b>15%</b>	0	0	8	20.0
	<b>20%</b>	50	100.0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	50	100.0	40	100.0
<b>Type of activity</b>	<b>Sheep fattening</b>	46	92.0	26	65.0
	<b>Breeding &amp; fattening of sheep and goats</b>	4	8.0	14	35.0
	<b>Total</b>	50	100.0	40	100.0
<b>Breeding system</b>	<b>Nomadic</b>	12	24.0	3	7.5
	<b>Semi-nomadic</b>	30	60.0	4	10.0
	<b>Settlers</b>	8	16.0	33	82.5
	<b>Total</b>	50	100.0	40	100.0

The result obtained from Blue Nile State survey expressed that, the majority of 98.0.7% and 65.0% of beneficiaries have sheep as their main type of herd in Sennare and Blue Nile States respectively, some of them in Blue Nile State (35.0%) have sheep & goats. The herd size in SS ranges between 21 to 100 head, 52.0% and 32.0% of beneficiaries have between 21-50 and 51-100 head of animals respectively. Whereas in BNS the herd size ranges between one to twenty, 77.5% and 20.0% of the have 1-20 and 21-50 head of animals, respectively (table3). The qui square reveled that there's significant differences ( $P < 0.05$ ).in hers size of the two States.

The beneficiaries pointed that they know about the project from the delegates of the project, and all of them shared in the capital of the business by 20% in SS. While in BNS. 80% of the beneficiaries shared by 5% in the capital, and the rest share by 15% (table2). and the rest of the fund obtained from the project. To join the project the beneficiaries were organized in village Development committees (VDCs). In turn, the VDCs disbursed the fund to the beneficiaries on Murabaha mode, with nominal earnings for duration of six months; each beneficiary had received 5 ewes and 10 lambs with slight variation due to differences in prices. Murabaha contract had been prepared and signed by all recipients of loans.

**Table 3. Herd Type and Size**

		Sennar State		Blue Nile State	
		Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
	<b>Total</b>	50	100.0	40	100.0
<b>Herd Type</b>	<b>Sheep</b>	49	98.0	26	65.0
	<b>Sheep and goat</b>	1	2.0	14	35.0
	<b>Total</b>	50	100.0	40	100.0
<b>Herd Size</b>	<b>1-20</b>	8	16.0	31	77.5
	<b>21-50</b>	26	52.0	8	20.0
	<b>51-100</b>	16	32.0	1	2.5
	<b>Total</b>	50	100.0	40	100.0

The result obtained from survey expressed that all (100.0%) the beneficiaries in BNS rely on the river as sources of drinking water for animals. While in SS. 60.0 % and 30.0%

of them depends on tankers and wells as a sources of drinking respectively, (table 4).

**Table 4. Sources of Water and Feed**

		Sennar State		Blue Nile State	
		Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
<b>Sources of drink for animals</b>	<b>Wells</b>	15	30.0	0	0
	<b>Tankers</b>	30	60.0	0	0
	<b>River</b>	5	10.0	40	100.0
	<b>Total</b>	50	100.0	40	100.0
<b>Sources of feed for animals</b>	<b>Crop Residues</b>	50	100.0	12	30.0
	<b>Others</b>	0	0	28	70.0
	<b>Total</b>	50	100.0	40	100.0

In SS. all the beneficiaries used crop residues in feeding their animals, while 30.0% only used crop residues in BNS, the rest (70.0%) used others types (home residues, concentrates...etc.), (table 4).

veterinary care is practice by 98.0% of the respondents in SS, while 77.5% of beneficiaries in BNS provided veterinary services when there is emergency case. In BNS 22.5% of them provide no veterinary care.

Table5. Indicated that the beneficiaries in SS are more care about their animal health than those in BNS. Routine

**Table 5. Veterinary Care Provided to Animals**

		Sennar State		Blue Nile State	
		Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
<b>Veterinary Care</b>	<b>Continuous supervision + emergency</b>	36	72.0	0	0
	<b>Emergency</b>	13	26.0	31	77.5
	<b>None</b>	1	2.0	9	22.5
	<b>Total</b>	50	100.0	40	100.0

There was significant positive correlation ( $r=0.364$ ) between veterinary care and increase of number of herd,  $P=0.000$

In SS all of the beneficiaries shared in the capital by 20%. While in BNS. 80% of the beneficiaries shared by 5%, and the rest share by 15% (table 2.). Table 7 demonstrates the economic impacts of the project. While in BNS 40.0%, 20.0% of beneficiaries indicated that the project impacted their economic situation through increase income, increase income and number of herd respectively, in SS 32.0%, 28.0% and 20.0% of beneficiaries indicated that the project impacted their economic situation through home improvements & establishing, increase income and the number of herd, increase the number of herd and increase income & number of herd respectively in SS.

#### B. The Impact of the project

Personal communication with LIUs group's leaders revealed that the project have a great impacts on animal health by controlling the epidemic, zoonotic, contagious diseases through vaccination and extension messages, adoption of scientific animal feeding and trained many veterinary animal health workers (table 6).

In order to find out what are the basic services in the village, the respondents were asked to identify it. A majority of 98.0% of beneficiaries indicated School, awareness & extension, training & water services as the main basic services in the village in SS. While 100.0% of beneficiaries indicated awareness & extension and training are the main services in BNS (table 6).

**Table 6. Basic services provided by the project**

Basic services provided by the project	Sennar State		Blue Nile State	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
<b>Water services</b>	1	2.0	0	0
<b>School, Awareness &amp; Extension, Training &amp; Water services</b>	49	98.0	0	0
<b>Awareness &amp; Extension and training.</b>	0	0	40	100.0
<b>Total</b>	50	100.0	40	100.0

**Table 7. The economic impacts of the project**

The economic impacts of the project	Sennar State		Blue Nile State	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
<b>Increase income</b>	8	16.0	16	40.0
<b>Increase Herd size</b>	14	28.0	6	15.0
<b>Houses rehabilitations &amp; new establishing &amp; Increase income and Herd size</b>	16	32.0	7	17.5
<b>Increase income &amp; Herd size</b>	10	20.0	8	20.0
<b>Own an agricultural land, Own a residential land and Increase income and Herd size</b>	1	2.0	3	7.5
<b>Total</b>	50	100.0	40	100.0

In BNS the annual income of 27.5%, 22.5% and 15.0% of beneficiaries increased to greater than 100%, 50%- 60% and 80-90% respectively. While in SS the annual income of 20.0%, 18.0% and 16.0% of beneficiaries increased to 90%-100%, 80%-90% and 50%-60% respectively.

Also the results found that 50.0%, 47.5% of beneficiaries their herd size increased during the project period by 71% - 100%, respectively in SS and BNS. While 37.5%, of them

their herd size increased by more than 100%, in BNS (table 8). The qui square reveled that there were significant differences ( $P < 0.05$ ) in the impact of the project on the beneficiaries in the two States, 30.0% and 10.0% of the beneficiaries in BNs and SS respectively explained it as excellent. While 58.0% in SS and 22.5% of them in BNS mentioned the impact of the project as very good.

**Table 8. Increase in the herd size during the project period**

%Increase in the herd size	Sennar State		Blue Nile State	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
10% - 30%	5	10.0	0	0.0
31% - 50%	8	16.0	1	2.5
51% - 70%	9	18.0	5	12.5
71% - 100%	25	50.0	19	47.5
> 100%	3	6.0	15	37.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>100</b>

55.0% and 42.5%, of the beneficiaries indicated the changes in their social status through education of children and brotherhood & married for the second time and social posts, education of children and brotherhood & married for the first time respectively in BNS. While 68.0% and 18.0% of them indicated the changes in their social status through social posts & education of children

and brotherhood, and social posts & education of children and brotherhood & married for the first time respectively, while few of them 14.0% indicated the changes through education of children and brotherhood & married for the second time in SS (table 9). The qui square test shows that there were significant differences ( $P < 0.05$ ) in the social impact of the project on of the beneficiaries in BNS and SS  $p = 0.000$ .

**Table 9. The social impacts of the project**

Changes in social status	Sennar State		Blue Nile State	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Education of children and brotherhood & married for the second time	7	14.0	22	55.0
Social posts & Education of children and brotherhood	34	68.0	1	2.5
Social posts, Education of children and brotherhood & married for the first time	9	18.0	17	42.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>100.0</b>

#### IV. DISCUSSION

In the present study the respondents (Table 1) were mainly from youths who are illiterates due to the lack of schools in such remote villages or who leave schools due to poverty. From survey result we found that in BNS about half of were herders and the rest were households. While in SS the beneficiaries were farmers, herders and household, this indicates that the project targeted the small poor households, farmers and herders. This result is similar to Nepal Community Livestock Development Project which aimed to reduce the incidence of poverty in rural communities in the project area. This result supported the studies of [30], which demonstrate that "the majority of the world's estimated 1.3 billion poor people live in developing countries where they depend directly or indirectly on livestock for their livelihoods".

The main types of activities in the study area are breeding and fattening of sheep and the majority own sheep

as their main type of herd, mixed herds of sheep & goat were found only in BNS, this support the study of [22] which explained that "Sheep and goats play a significant role in the food chain and overall livelihoods of rural households" and study of [12] who mention that "traditionally, sheep and goats have served as means of ready cash and a reserve against economic and agricultural production hardship. Also study of [24] proved that "small livestock in high demand and can thrive on low inputs and local resources". Most of beneficiaries are have small herds (11- 20 head of animals), which means that the small producers were targeted by the project.

Unlike BNS in SS all the beneficiaries used crop residues for feed their animals in summer and winter this is attributed to climatic conditions which resembles western Asia and north Africa, semi-arid areas with less than 300 mm average annual rainfall, where small ruminant animals (sheep and goats) are an important source of income in this

is mainly because they require low initial capital and maintenance costs and use marginal lands and crop residues [27].

The goal of the ILPP project was to intervene in livestock production since they were predominantly income-generating activities carried out by poor smallholder operators in rural areas in a way to achieve the goal of the project which is focused on reducing poverty and contributing to food security. So the impact of the project was clearly seen through the changes in the economic situation of beneficiaries during the project years, the result survey pointed that the beneficiaries indicated the changes in their economic situation through increase income, increase number of herd and few of them have home improvements & establishing. Most of the beneficiaries were pleased with the impact of the project and they described it as very good. This agree with study of [7] which reveal that "Overall, rural development is important to farmers, and cultural factors and an entrepreneurial spirit play an important role in realizing the potential of the agricultural sector in rural areas. This is similar to Nigeria Second Livestock Development project which aimed to increase the production of livestock and raise farmer incomes.

The impact of the project on animal health and productivity indicates that extension work has positive results. The training of veterinary animal health workers and organization the community in the village development committees as a part of the project activities, enabled beneficiaries to identifying, planning, implementing, and managing their subprojects. Also the water subproject had great effects on the surrounding environment by availing healthy drinking water, reducing the costs of water for livestock and domestic use. The revenue from these other activities was used finance development in term of schools, hospitals, training ...etc, improved the livelihood of the beneficiaries and the surrounding environments as in case of Madagascar Livestock and Rural Development Project which aimed to improving the incomes of poor animals owners and to encourage policy changes in the livestock sector, were the animal-health protection, roads and water supply was improved [17]. This is similar to Nepal Community Livestock Development Project experience to reduce the incidence of poverty in rural communities, and to improve the levels of food security, through support for goat rising and microfinance services.

According to LIUs group's leaders project activities on target rural communities have a great impact on livestock production, which increased herd size per household. Also LIUs group's leaders indicated that, the income of different beneficiaries involved in restocking project were increased, all targeted beneficiaries explained the restocking subproject affected on their income, in BNS the annual income of 65.0% of beneficiaries increased to the range of 50-100%, while in SS the annual income of 54.0%, of beneficiaries increased by the same range. The extra income contributed to the families' health and education and, this typically agreed with the finding that "rural development generally refers to the process of improving the quality of life and economic well-being of people living in relatively isolated and sparsely populated areas" and that "rural development is also characterized by its emphasis on locally produced economic development strategies". [23].

The outcomes of the project under consideration are similar to those of Philippines Smallholder Livestock Development Project which aimed to increase improving the income of the beneficiaries and diversifying on-farm employment opportunities [20]. Also Ethiopia Fourth Livestock Development Project focused on improving the livelihoods and food security of small-scale agro-pastoralists [19].

The changes in beneficiaries' social status through education of children and brotherhood & married for the first and second time and social posts, in BNS 97.5% of the beneficiaries indicated the changes in their social status through education of children and brotherhood & married for the first and second time and social posts. While in SS 86.0% of them indicated the changes in their social status through social posts & education of children and brotherhood, and married for the first time, this come in agreement with [6] [24] [25] and similar to the case of Namibia Northern Regions Livestock Development Project.

From the other side the non- beneficiaries indicated that, there are indirect project benefits such as to provide veterinary & marketing services, extension and awareness.

## V. CONCLUSION

From the present study it is observed that the restocking subprojects implemented by MLFR through Multi Donor Trust Fund for the development of rural areas was commendable and worthwhile for the economic development. the study concluded that, the restocking subproject have great impacts on economic situation and social status changes for beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries as well, thus achieving the goal of ILPMP which is focused on reducing poverty and contributing to food security.

The study recommended that, continuous and extension of rural development programs to involve more rural and the poorest communities in the country.

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