# 9. Strategies for enhancing domestic animal yields through mitigating cattle rustling in Northern Rift Valley and Northern Eastern regions of Kenya

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## Abstract

Livestock farming in the Northern Rift Valley and Northern Eastern Region faces challenges such as low animal yields and rampant cattle rustling, impacting the livelihoods of pastoral communities. This research explores strategies to enhance animal yields and mitigate cattle rustling, focusing on economic, technological, social, and policy interventions. The study employs a mixed-methods approach, combining quantitative data from surveys and secondary sources with qualitative data from interviews, focus groups, and field observations. Quantitative analysis reveals the importance of improving market access and financial services for livestock farmers, enabling investments in better breeds and technologies. Technological interventions such as GPS tracking and mobile applications are effective in reducing cattle rustling incidents. Community-based approaches and robust policy frameworks are identified as essential for sustainable development, emphasizing community empowerment and resource management. The study provides evidence-based recommendations to policymakers, advocating for a comprehensive approach that integrates traditional knowledge with modern practices to ensure long-term resilience and productivity in livestock farming.

***Keywords:*** *Breed Improvements, Enhancement of Animal Yield, Financial Services, Market Access*