

Synergies of Animal Welfare & Agroforestry

About the project

The SAWA project aimed to enhance the livelihoods of smallholder farmers. SAWA supported farmers to grow fruit, fodder and shade trees and change animal care and management practices. Project interventions were based on agroecological principles of animal health, synergy, economic diversification, co-creation of knowledge and participation



Key lessons

Farmer participation and co-creation meant ongoing active participation in capacity-building activities, field visits, and co-learning events & willingness to try new practices of their own

Long-term support for sustainability

agroecology /forestry projects need support beyond common funding cycles because of the time between investment and return

Holistic approaches maximize impact An integrated approach, combining both ecological and economic interventions, was more effective than focusing on a single aspect of farm management

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ILRI thanks all donors and organizations which globally support its work through their contributions to the CGIAR Trust Fund.



Resilience outcomes

100% of farmers reported being more resilient to economic shocks, 98% to environmental and social shocks after participating in the project

Animal welfare outcomes

- Farmers reported their animals were in better health (88.3%), performed better (94.5%), and had better quality of products (85.2%)
- Farmers described their animals as having improved behaviour and reduced signs of stress (92.2%) and themselves as having greater satisfaction from seeing an improvement in animal wellbeing (86.7%)

Agroforestry outcomes

- Farmers reported income diversity benefits from being involved in the project. Farmers reported more productivity (86.7% of farmers), increased income diversity (85.2%), and higher profitability (74.2%) from their agroforestry products.

