

# The Policy and Practice of Education Provision for Pastoralists in Tanzania



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## Presentation Outline

- Demonstrate that challenges insufficiently acknowledged or met in policy
- Explanations related to national context
  - national level policy environments which affect pastoralism and pastoralists, comparing Tanzania with Kenya
  - the history and ideology of education provision in Tanzania
- Realities of education provision

## Pastoralism Policy Environment

- Increasing donor interest
- Proliferation of pastoralist NGOs
- Donor insistence on broad based participation in PRS process
- MDGs, high incidence of 'poverty' in pastoralist areas
- Tanzania, policies remain hostile to pastoralism
- Kenya, pastoralism seen as a more significant policy issue

# History of education provision

- Historical neglect
- Expansion of conventional, unresponsive schooling
- Boarding schools
- Legacy of Tanzanian education policies

## Challenges for education provision for pastoralists

- Low population densities
- Pastoralist mobility
- Household economy dependent on child labour
- De-motivated teachers
- Cultural antagonism

## Current Policies: Kenya

- National Commission for the Education of Pastoralist and Nomadic Communities
- Plans to devise special provision for pastoralists

## Current Policies: Tanzania

- No recognition of the unique challenges
- COBET
  - To cater for ‘out-of school youth’, including “nomadic Communities, street children, disabled, orphans and out of reach” – not specific for pastoralists
  - Characteristics
  - Only short-term

## In Practice

- COBET
  - Not functioning
- Boarding
  - Very limited impact
- De-motivated teachers
- Cultural antagonism and curriculum relevance



# Conclusions and Policy Implications

- Insufficient special provision for pastoralist areas in policy or practice
- Relative unwillingness to address the specific challenges due to:
  - Unwillingness to make policy on seemingly ‘ethnic’ lines
  - Agenda towards pastoralism
  - Pastoralists’ lack of political voice
- Neglect will have poverty implications
- Changes in policy and practice needed

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