

**North West Livestock Development Fund (NWLDF) and Regulation
Policies: A Historical Appraisal, 1974-2016**

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Abstract

This study seeks to highlight the shortcomings in the execution of regulatory policies by the North West Livestock Development Fund (NWLDF) since its inception in 1974, aimed at advancing livestock production in the region. Following independence, Cameroon, with its favorable natural conditions and supportive dynamics, began to prioritize the livestock sector. During Ahmadou Ahidjo's administration, the government recognized the livestock industry's significant potential to contribute to national development. Consequently, the 1971-1975 Development Plan prominently featured livestock enhancement, concentrating on increasing production and productivity. To facilitate the objectives of this plan, the Livestock Development Corporation was established in 1974, tasked with boosting both the quality and quantity of livestock outputs in Cameroon. A key role of the Development Fund was to implement and establish policies designed to uplift livestock farmers and their families. This paper asserts that while these regulatory policies were thoughtfully crafted and aimed at positive outcomes, the actual implementation was done inadequately. This resulted in significant disparities between the set goals and the outcomes, perpetuating a cycle of crises for both farmers and their livestock. The research presented in this paper is derived from a combination of primary and secondary sources, organized through chronological and thematic frameworks.

Keywords: Enforcement gaps, Regulation Policies, Livestock, Implementation, Crisis

Introduction

Raising livestock has emerged as a lucrative and sustainable venture for those involved. In Africa, where poverty and underdevelopment are widespread, the growing population struggles to align with agricultural demands. The livestock situation in agriculture raises significant

concerns, particularly in vulnerable regions like the Sahel and parts of Eastern Africa, where ongoing droughts threaten both animal husbandry and human survival. In these areas, livestock production is often hindered by overgrazing and resource depletion, while other regions remain untapped for their potential. The adoption of animal power in agriculture and the integration of livestock into farming practices are rarely utilized. As a result, livestock productivity and the availability of vital resources such as meat, milk, and other animal products rank among the lowest worldwide. This is especially alarming considering that these products are crucial for survival in many communities. Despite the current low consumption levels, production fails to meet demand, leading the region to increasingly rely on imports of livestock products, even with its evident capacity for production (Ndenecho, 1981).

The North West Region has drawn attention from the government because of its favorable conditions and the reliance of the local community on livestock for their livelihoods. Livestock management in this area of Cameroon has ancient roots, but it gained increased importance following the arrival of the Fulani in the early 1900s (Awasom, 1984). The significant arrival of this group in the region allowed the local population to engage in cattle ranching. Over time, it became essential to enhance the traditional cattle-rearing practices of the community. Prior to the Fulani's arrival, the indigenous people were already involved in livestock management, albeit on a smaller scale, tending to animals such as goats, pigs, and sheep among others (NAB, 1949). It was noticed that as time went on, there were visible efforts made in the promotion of livestock development in terms of regulation policies. It is argued that, while the intentions were genuine and the policies carefully designed to enforce a sector that went a long way to bring hope to farmers and their families, there were visible gaps in implementation. Severally, regulations were violated by graziers and the farmers and conflicts in livestock development practices exacerbated.

Creation and Objectives of the North West Livestock Development Fund (NWLDF)

To promote livestock development in Cameroon, President Ahmadou Ahidjo enacted Presidential Decree No. 317 of November 8, 1974, creating the North West Livestock Development Fund, referred to in French as *Caisse de Developpement de l'Elevage du Nord-Ouest* (CDENO), with its main office located in Bamenda (NAY, 1974). This Fund was established to oversee multiple initiatives aimed at livestock development across the divisions of the North West Region. Its creation was guided by specific goals and operational frameworks, which included a well-organized administration and various funding streams, allowing it to participate in a wide range of livestock improvement projects. It is crucial to emphasize that one of the primary challenges addressed in Cameroon's post-independence policies was ensuring adequate food supply for the rapidly increasing population (Joseph, 1978). This concern extended beyond mere sustenance to include ensuring adequate protein levels for healthy human development. Consequently, there was a pressing need to cultivate a robust livestock sector and establish dependable institutions to fully utilize the country's animal resources (NAB, 1947). In this context, during the presentation of the Fifth Five-Year Economic and Socio-cultural Development Plan to the National Assembly in 1981, President Ahmadou Ahidjo emphasized that nutrition, alongside training and employment challenges, represented a critical concern directing the government's efforts within this new framework. He noted at the Third Ordinary Congress of the Cameroon National Union (CNU) in Bafoussam, and reiterated at the Bertoua Agricultural and Cattle Show, the importance of developing a national food plan in the coming five-year period to strengthen the country's policy of achieving food self-sufficiency (NAB, 1942).

Following independence, the government invested considerable efforts to ensure the nation was not only stable and asserting its sovereignty but also achieving food self-sufficiency and providing quality food to its

citizens. Unfortunately, despite the government's commitment to developing the livestock sector and enhancing productivity in the North West region, particularly since the establishment of the North West Livestock Development Fund in 1974, the benefits of this industry have consistently fallen short of expectations for the local population. Farmers have continued to face numerous challenges, including inadequate animal husbandry practices, unfavorable market conditions, various disease outbreaks, and compliance with regulatory policies. The ensuing section will outline the nature and processes of the different regulatory measures enacted by the NWLDF in the livestock sector within the North West region, aiming to highlight the gaps that were present in the implementation procedures between 1974 and 2016.

Regulation on Pastoral Resources

The establishment of the NWLDF livestock development zones, livestock ranches and slaughterhouses especially in the market areas initially led to significant social challenges, particularly the displacement of the local indigenous populations. In 1972 and 1973, a number of government consultants, including specialists from the World Bank, as well as officials from veterinary departments and agricultural sectors, conducted visits to Misaje which is one of the heavily grazing areas in the NWR and home to an increasing number of Fulani people. Their goal was to conduct feasibility studies and assess the cattle rearing practices of both the Fulani and the indigenous communities in the area, as no previous reports regarding these activities had been submitted to any livestock department. Following these assessments, it was concluded that Dumbo was the most appropriate location for the establishment of such a project in the region (P. Tonga, 10/10/2022, Personal communication).

Under state jurisdiction, all land is regarded as public property. The availability of land for these large-scale projects was subsequently confirmed through a Presidential Decree in 1974, which sanctioned the

use of lands for the development of state-run livestock ranches. Prior to the ranch's establishment, the Dumbo community lived in clustered settlements, primarily engaged in subsistence agriculture, growing food mainly for personal consumption and occasionally selling any surplus at local markets to meet up with some basic households necessities. However, when the ranch was created in 1974, it failed to become operational due to the forced displacement of Dumbo residents, particularly the Kwei and Marshi populations, who were relocated to different areas creating space for the ranch to begin operation (G.D. Ngeh, 10/10/2022).

At first, the area had a sparse population, numbering around two hundred people scattered throughout. As a consequence of the ranch's establishment, many individuals migrated to neighboring regions in Nigeria and nearby communities such as Sabongida, Bum, and Nyos village in Menchum Division, taking their livestock and personal belongings with them as they sought new homes. In 1977, Prefectorial Order No. 121/1977 was issued to establish a committee tasked with evaluating the land holdings of displaced individuals from the Dumbo cattle ranch. This committee comprised key officials, including the Senior Divisional Officer of the Donga Mantung Division, who also held a position on the NWLDF board, alongside the Divisional Delegate for Agriculture, the Agricultural Assistant for Mbembe Misaje, the Government Coffee Demonstrator for Misaje, and the Divisional Chief of the Ministry of Equipment, Housing and Lands based in Nkambe. They arrived in Dumbo in 1978, a time when many locals were unaware of their presence, resulting in most not receiving compensation (G.D. Ngeh, 10/10/2022).

The committee produced a detailed report assessing both food crops and buildings, evaluating the assets of affected individuals with compensations estimated between one hundred and five hundred thousand francs CFA each. However, before news reached those in

remote areas, the authorities had already departed, which caused significant discontent and misunderstandings between the local community, governmental agencies, and the ranch's traditional leadership. This tension arose primarily because the locals had lost their farmlands, which had been very vital for agriculture and support of their livelihoods (M. Jueza, 10/10/2022, personal communication).

Similarly, the establishment of the Dairy Cooperatives in Tadu in Bui Division equally reflected the circumstances seen at Dumbo. Prior to this, the residents of the area engaged in activities such as potato cultivation, hunting, bee farming, irrigation practices to enable them grow food crops like maize all through the year. During this time, they built thatched-roof houses and created footpaths connecting their settlements to these farming fields. A lot of them had also grown their eucalyptus trees extensively which fetched them additional income as well as the keeping of goats, sheep, pigs and poultry (B.S. Ngoran, 11/08/2022, personal communication). In an exclusive interview with Ngoran Beltus Suiru, he affirmed that;

...the displacement process of the local inhabitants in the area that was earmarked for the establishment of the Tadu Dairy Cooperative Society was not well coordinated and this situation left many locals who had settled with families, farmlans, and livestock disgruntled. The population number by 2010 was higher and the people were simply asked to quit the area for the establishment of the Dairy Cooperative. Even if some compensation was paid later on, it was not commensurate to what they had invested and this situation ultimately caused problems in their new destinations in neighbouring areas like Simonkoh, Buh, Yungkuy and Njavnyuy (Ngoran, 11/08/2022, personal communication).

It should be emphasized that this scenario was seen to be occurring in many parts of the region where ranches and other institutions targeting to promote livestock development were established. The indigenes became victim of these unorganized displacements for the establishment of ranches and other associated institutions that were out to development

livestock sector in the region. Whether by design or destiny, there was need to fully compensate the local people and allocate new areas for their resettlement even if the purpose was intentionally for the good of the communities that were engaged in livestock keeping for their livelihood.

Furthermore, the relocation of the indigenous population in the Dumbo and other parts of the region resulted in strife between the ranch management and the local traditional leaders, as well as the indigenous community. This tension arose because the local people received no compensation for the seizure of their lands. Consequently, they frequently trespassed onto the ranch territory to engage in mining operations that yielded considerable profits. This conduct, which violated the administrative regulations, led to the loss of livestock, as the individuals participated not only in unlawful activities but also in the theft of ranch animals. From this situation, it can be inferred that the displacement of the local populace to distant and adjacent areas significantly hindered the NWLDF from fulfilling its intended goals as established by its founding decree. This encroachment ultimately disrupted the Fund's operations (B. Tifuntoh, 06/12/2022).

Plate 1: Cattle Wounded and Poisoned by Farmers for Crop Destruction



Source: Extracted from Foncha Martin's Archives, 2022.

Regulation on Cattle Movement

In Cameroon, the movement of cattle was primarily governed by Decree No. 76/420 of 14th September, 1976, which was later amended by Decree No 86/755 of 24th June, 1986. From these legislative measures, several key aspects regarding the movement of livestock can be highlighted. Articles 1 and 2 of Decree No 76/420 stated that grazing was permitted across all pastoral lands in the country; however, the Minister of Livestock remained with the authority to restrict grazing in certain designated areas, particularly during outbreaks of disease. Additionally, grazing in urban locations and alongside roadways was prohibited although graziers continued to allow their animals to stray around and along the major roads. Sometimes, they transported their animals to markets through the major highways and also during periods of transhumance and this practice caused serious urban disorder. The graziers moved over long distances for many weeks from their areas of origins through the major cities to the new destinations. If cattle were meant for the market, graziers will have to pay *jangali* to councils as they traversed these checkpoints which usually generated so much money for the councils over the years in the region.

Table 1: Estimated *Jangali* Tax Revenue collected by Various Councils in the NWR 1986-2003

Year	Total Cattle Population	Jangali tax per cattle	Total amount of tax in FCFA
1986/87	488,000	200	97,600,000
1987/88	479,200	200	95,840,000
1990/91	467,000	200	93,400,000
2000/21	443,950	200	88,790,000
2002/23	408,550	200	81,710,000
TOTAL	2,286,700	-	457,340,000

Source: Ngalm, “Cattle Industry”, 144

As shown on Table 1, between 1986 and 2003, the total number of cattle transported within the region and across council check points stood at 2,286,700 and while the *jangali* amount remained 200 FCFA, the total

amount raised for various councils was 457,340,000 FCFA. Occurring within a difficult time in the country marked by the advent of the economic crisis that arrested Sub-Saharan Africa as a whole, the nation's economic activities were significantly affected. Looking vividly, it is seen on the table that, the number of cattle transported started from 488,000 in 1986 and dropped progressively to 408,550 animals in 2003 while the amount of *jangali* equally began from 97,600,000 FCFA in 1986 down to 81,710,000 FCFA in 2003. This is justification that while other economic facets of the nation were suffering the negative effects of the economic crisis, the livestock sector was not left out (R. Sunday, 27/12/2022, personal communication).

According to these guidelines, all animals located within town or along the roadside were only to be transient, without remaining or grazing in those areas. Grazing was permitted exclusively on designated grazing lands. The regulations also stipulated that while livestock could move freely between regions, the Minister of Livestock had the authority to limit the entry of animals from one area to another for health-related concerns. Three primary categories of cattle movement were defined: movement for rearing purposes, movement for commercial activities, and transhumance. For both rearing and commercialization, animals must utilize specific cattle tracks established by the Minister of Livestock (DAW, 1966). These tracks were initially defined by Arrêté No. 02/MINEPIA on July 20, 1988, and later amended by Arrêté No. 03/MINEPIA on August 9, 1989. In the North West Region, the relevant tracks included: NW1 – (Nigerian border) Nwa, Kumbo; NW2 – Wum, Bafut, Bamenda; NW3 – Fundong, Bambui, Bamenda; NW4 – Mbengwi, AchaTugi, Batibo; NW/W1 – Sabongari, Fouban or Ndu; NW/W2 – Jakiri, Fouban; NW/W3 – Bamenda, Santa or Pinyin, Mbouda, Bafoussam; NW/SW1 – (Nigerian Border) Dumbo, Nkambe, Ndu, Kumbo, Jakiri, Sabga, Bamenda, Bali, Batibo, Widikum, BachuoAkagbe, Nguti, Kumba, Muyuka, Mile 17, Mutengene, Limbe, Idenao (DAW, 1966).

During transhumance, livestock follow specific paths or gorges designated by Agro-pastoral commissions in the regions they traverse. Herdsmen are present with the animals throughout the journey. According to the relevant Decrees, anyone accompanying the animals must carry certain documents. The type of documentation required depends on the purpose of the journey, whether it is for transhumance, breeding, or commercial sales. For transhumance, the essential document is a transhumance card issued by regional MINEPIA services. This card must be signed by the appropriate MINEPIA authorities both at the point of departure and upon return. Furthermore, animals may need to be vaccinated or treated against specific diseases as specified by the regional MINEPIA services. In cases where animals are being transported for breeding purposes, owners must secure a cattle passport from the Regional Delegate or Divisional Delegate of Livestock. This passport requires signatures at both the starting and ending locations, as well as at all veterinary checkpoints along the route (R. Sunday, 27/12/2022, personal communication).

A certificate confirming that the animals had received their vaccinations or treatments was also necessary. If this vaccination certificate was missing at the veterinary checkpoint, the animals would need to be vaccinated on-site before proceeding with their journey. For animals destined for slaughter, owners are required to secure a medical *laissez-passer* from the veterinary service in the departure area. This document must be accompanied by identification marks from the veterinary authorities at the animals' place of origin. The marking fee, determined by a joint agreement between the Ministry of Livestock and the Ministry of Finance, is the responsibility of the animal owners. Additionally, the Ministry of Livestock, through the North West Livestock Development Fund, provided vehicles to aid in the transportation of cattle, especially to various regions throughout the country (S. Abety, 27/12/2022, Personal Communication).

Transporting livestock and their products required specialized vehicles designed to ensure the safety and well-being of the animals during transit to various rearing locations like ranches. Among these vehicles were livestock trailers-available in both open and enclosed styles-specifically crafted for animals such as cattle, pigs, sheep, and horses. There were also cattle liners, which were large, enclosed trucks with dedicated compartments solely for cattle transport. Another type was livestock carriers, which included semi-trailers or trucks that featured custom compartments for animal transport. Additionally, gooseneck livestock trailers were designed with a raised front section, allowing more space for animals to stand comfortably during long journeys. Lastly, stock trucks, characterized by their heavy-duty construction, came with either open or enclosed beds suitable for transporting a wide variety of animals (D. Mbiydzennyuy, 20/07/2022, Personal Communication).

Plate 2: Vehicles Provided by MINEPIA for the transportation of beef



Source: Nongoh's Field Collection at the NWLDF, 2022

Despite the existing regulations and identified transportation routes for livestock in the area, ranchers have persisted in transporting cattle in ways that contravene established protocols. The designated paths have

often been overlooked during the movement of livestock, whether for commercial reasons, transhumance, or grazing activities. As previously mentioned, using the main road for livestock movement has led to significant issues, including traffic disruptions, road pollution from livestock waste, damage to farmers' crops adjacent to the roads, harm to vehicles, and an increase in road accidents, as depicted in Plate 3 (Ngalim, 2006).

Plate 3: Livestock obstructing the main roadway alongside vehicles leading to traffic congestion.



Source: Nongoh's Field Collection in Bambui, 2022.

Regulations on Animal Health

The NWLDF viewed the enforcement of laws and regulations related to animal health as critically important. Disease in animals not only leads to their death but also diminishes production and productivity, causing serious repercussions for the health of consumers. Various laws and decrees governed animal health, addressing issues like the movement of cattle, with many regulations aimed at protecting animal well-being. For instance, Decree No. 76/420, established on September 14, 1976, prohibited the mistreatment, harm, or killing of someone else's animal. Mistreatment included actions such as beating, injuring animals, or

attaching harmful items to them, often arising from disputes between farmers and graziers over crop damage. Article 8 of Decree No. 78/263, dated September 3, 1978, empowered the agro-pastoral commission to resolve disputes regarding crop damage, while animal mistreatment cases were under the courts' jurisdiction. Law No. 2000/017, enacted on December 19, 2000, along with Law No. 2001/006 from April 16, 2001, classified certain diseases as infectious and dangerous to both animals and humans, with tuberculosis being the most commonly stated. Article 10 of Law No. 2001/006 required vaccinations against these listed diseases for all animals. The costs of these vaccinations were to be determined by a specialized commission from the Fund. Additionally, the legislation mandated that if an animal was ill or suspected of having any of the specified diseases, the owner must inform the nearest veterinary officer or administrative body. Veterinary officials would then advise the owner on how to prevent the spread of the disease to other animals. Reports indicate that in several areas where livestock fell ill due to health issues, residents sometimes took it upon themselves to slaughter these animals and distribute the meat among themselves, disregarding warnings from veterinary officials. This behavior violated the regulations concerning animal health and public consumption habits, often leading to severe consequences.

Regulation on Cattle Markets

The NWLDF played a crucial role in enforcing laws and regulations aimed at managing and controlling cattle markets across the region. The establishment of these markets was vital for livestock development, as farmers needed to sell some of their livestock to secure essential household supplies. This necessitated the NWLDF's involvement in ensuring orderly operations within all cattle markets throughout the region. The regulation of cattle sales was governed by Decree No. 76/420, issued on 14th September 1976, which also guided the movement of cattle. According to Article 20 of this decree, all cattle transactions were

required to be conducted exclusively at official markets overseen by local livestock authorities (NWLDF), prohibiting direct purchases from farmers' properties. The initiative for setting up these cattle markets originated with the Governor, while the local council's mayor would submit a proposal for their establishment, which the Governor would then approve based on recommendations from the Regional Livestock Delegate (M. Jueza, 10/10/2022, personal communication).

Additionally, the legislation established that only cattle owners were allowed to sell their animals at designated markets, while only approved buyers could make purchases there. In situations where unofficial cattle markets or unauthorized sales occurred in the area, such activities were often banned, and legal repercussions were enforced. Article 29 specifically barred the participation of intermediaries, commonly known as License Buying Agents (LBAs), in the domestic market, although they were permitted to buy livestock for export purposes. Many of these LBAs lacked a deep understanding of market dynamics; they acted primarily as middlemen aiming to profit at the expense of both livestock breeders and the individuals they represented. Consequently, the NWLDF was tasked with ensuring compliance with these regulations to eliminate such intermediaries from the industry (S.I. Abdou, 10/08/2022, personal communication). Cattle owners and the Fulani community in the area were not obligated to obtain any special permission to sell their livestock in the markets. They simply needed to comply with existing regulations by allowing for veterinary inspections and paying the required fees for market access or inspection. In contrast, those purchasing cattle and traders were mandated to have specific documentation issued by the Minister of Livestock or the Senior Divisional Officer (M. Foncha, 09/08/2022, personal communication).

The Minister of Fisheries and Animal Husbandry approved the operations of cattle traders who had acquired livestock from various parts of the

country, while the SDO was tasked with granting permission to traders who sourced cattle within their divisions. Each registered cattle trader was issued a professional card that required annual renewal. Traders had the option to hire assistants to help them purchase cattle at the market, but these helpers needed to be authorized as well and obtain their own professional cards from the Divisional Delegate of Livestock. The regional cattle market in Mendankwe, which received support from the NWLDF, implemented guidelines to ensure adherence to these regulations. Cattle available for sale at this market came from all seven divisions, drawing buyers not only from local regions but also from those looking to buy other livestock for personal use. Upon arrival, the cattle were inspected and vaccinated before they could be sold. Cattle owners had to pay several fees based on the number of animals brought to market, which included 300 FCFA per head for sales, a 500 FCFA fee for utilizing facilities, a 300 FCFA transit fee, and a 250 FCFA council fee. Furthermore, local businesses were required to pay a daily tool fee of 100 FCFA (M. Foncha, 09/08/2022, personal communication).

Plate 4 depicts the Mendankwe Regional Cattle Market in the North West Region, recognized as one of the largest cattle markets established by the NWLDF. Operating every Thursday, this market drew graziers from the surrounding areas, who brought cattle in varying quantities for sale. Buyers from nearby regions flocked to the market on this day with the intention of acquiring livestock. The image captures sellers and buyers in small clusters, actively engaged in discussions and negotiations over cattle prices.

Plate 4: The Mendankwe Regional Cattle Market, North West Region



Source: Nongoh's Field Collection in Regional Cattle Market, Bamendankwe 2022

Cattle sellers were issued receipts before they were given access to enter the market enclosure with their animals. Each cow was charged a fee of 300 FCFA, so the total costs for sellers varied depending on the number of cattle they brought. Additionally, some individuals acted as middlemen; they acquired cattle at lower prices from more remote areas in the region and subsequently transported them to the regional markets. Establishing cattle markets was the responsibility of local councils, and the number of these markets depended on the volume of animals produced in each locality. Most markets operated on a weekly schedule, with the majority of animals purchased locally being transferred to the Bamendakwe central cattle market every Thursday for further sales. This central market served as a key hub for cattle from the region and was the largest and most vibrant market in the area (Ngalim, 2006). Significant livestock markets also emerged in the primary cattle-producing regions of Donga Mantung, Menchum, and Bui divisions, which are adjacent to Nigeria. These regions served as key access points for the movement of animals into and out of the area. Moreover, it is essential to highlight the rise in the illicit transportation of livestock, which often occurred through

these borders, facilitating the unregulated entry of animals into the region (D. Ngeh, 10/102022, personal communication).

In these markets, livestock breeders commonly received various types of receipts, which acted as documentation for transactions related to the sale or purchase of animals. These receipts were crucial for maintaining records, managing accounts, and fulfilling taxation requirements. Among them were sales receipts provided to buyers, which confirmed their purchases and included details such as the type and quantity of animals, the price, and the method of payment. Similarly, purchase receipts were given to sellers as evidence of the sale, outlining the same details. Additionally, feed receipts were issued for transactions involving animal feed, indicating the price and payment method. Veterinary receipts documented the services provided by veterinarians, specifying the service type, cost, and payment approach. Finally, transportation receipts were generated for the transport of livestock, detailing the type and number of animals being moved, the distance traveled, and the method of payment (Y. E Che, 21/07/2022). As already highlighted, the importance of issuing receipts in livestock markets were varied and included among other things; record keeping, taxation clarifications, accounting processes and dispute resolutions.

In various local and underground (illicit) markets situated in remote areas, livestock sales occurred without adhering to established marketing principles. Regions that were difficult for veterinary officials and livestock regulators to access saw significant breaches of regulations related to livestock commercialization. Even in formal sales locations, buying agents were reported to engage in inconsistent marketing practices, significantly impacting the profits of livestock farmers. Additionally, issues such as insecurity, theft, and other marketing malpractices were prevalent along commercial routes and centers, jeopardizing the overall livestock sector, the animals themselves, and the incomes of the farmers involved (P. Mbipeh, 20/10/2022, personal communication).

Conclusion

The paper articulated and upheld the argument that, despite the earnest efforts of the NWLDF to implement livestock regulation policies in the region, significant gaps in execution procedures were evident. This situation rendered farmers and their livestock, along with the broader livestock sector, susceptible to increased conflicts and violations. The NWLDF was established with distinct developmental aims that evolved over time, initially focusing on improving both the quality and quantity of livestock production not only in the North West Region but throughout Cameroon. This also included formulating and enforcing regulations that could efficiently manage the livestock industry. Attaining these objectives necessitated collaboration with national bodies and other government departments involved in the livestock sector.

However, the inability of NWLDF leadership to properly implement policies, due to the shortcomings and other policy deficiencies only created an environment conducive to regulatory breaches within the different divisions of the livestock-producing areas and commercial hubs. It is also important to highlight that the strategies of the NWLDF went beyond merely boosting livestock production; they aimed to reduce poverty in regions surrounding grazing lands that previously lacked essential social infrastructure like schools, roads, electricity, and employment opportunities. Achieving these aspirations required the development of well-organized frameworks. Similar to many organizations in Cameroon, the NWLDF faced challenges related to operational discontinuities and inconsistent policy implementation. Instances of resource mismanagement and breaches of conduct were perpetuated by individuals in managerial roles at various NWLDF facilities and production sites. Despite these hurdles, some developmental initiatives were partially realized, fueled by the desire to assist local communities in meeting their daily food needs.

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