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Authors: Esther G. Kimaro, Jenny-Ann L. Toribio, Siobhan M. Mor



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Climate change and cattle vector-borne diseases: use of participatory epidemiology to investigate experiences in pastoral communities in northern Tanzania

Esther G. Kimaro^{a,b}, Jenny-Ann L. Toribio^a, Siobhan M. Mor^{a,c*}

^a Sydney School of Veterinary Science, The University of Sydney, Australia

^b Tropical Pesticides Research Institute, Livestock and Human Diseases Vector Control, Division, P. O Box 3420, Arusha, Tanzania

^c Marie Bashir Institute for Infectious Diseases and Biosecurity, The University of Sydney, Australia

* Corresponding Author:

Dr Siobhan Mor, Charles Perkins Centre, The University of Sydney, NSW 2006, Australia.

Email: siobhan.mor@sydney.edu.au

+61 407 362 822

HIGHLIGHTS

- Cattle vector-borne diseases, East Coast fever (ECF) and African animal trypanosomiasis (AAT), were ranked amongst the top five most important cattle diseases by pastoral communities in northern Tanzania
- Pastoralists associated ECF and AAT occurrence with specific seasons while vector abundance (*Rhipicephalus appendiculatus* and *Glossina* sp.) was not clearly associated with specific seasons
- Pastoralists acknowledged changes in climate and environmental parameters over the last 30 years (1984 and 2014) and identified noticeable but non-significant decreases in ECF occurrence and *R. appendiculatus* abundance over this time period.

ABSTRACT

Climate change is predicted to increase incidence of vector-borne diseases in humans, however, little is known about the impact of such diseases in livestock. In the absence of historical data with which to examine the inter-relation between climate and disease,

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