

Public Abstract

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Title:A Sustainable Livelihood Resource Evaluation of Communities That Participated in a Livestock Development Project a Decade Ago

Livestock projects are a popular type of development activity to provide resources that farmers can use to positively change their livelihoods. Recently NGOs have been moving towards more holistic approaches of monitoring and evaluating their development projects. While this is creating a more complete picture of immediate impacts in the community, there are short-term constraints due to the time frame in which the monitoring and evaluation occurs. This research used the sustainable livelihoods framework's livelihood capitals to determine what the long term impact of a livestock development project was on several areas in the Altiplano Highlands of southern Peru. The Heifer Project International's Alpaca Biodiversity Project was active from 2004-2007. Through a simple categorical analysis, the results determined that the area with the most enabling environmental factors saw the greatest Long-run benefits. The livestock project's livelihood capital resources contributed to the area were able to have a moderate to strong positive impact and be maintained because of the existing environmental factors. In the other area's the project's livelihood capital resources had adverse impacts according to the farmers interviewed. Overall, the area in which the project exists needs to have environmental factors that provide for the primary needs of the community, thus allowing for the farmers to fully utilize their available livelihood capital resources and new livelihood capital resources introduced by the project.