WHAT INVESTMENT IN DAIRY?

Environmental and economic perspectives of camel milk industry

The rise of camel milk marketing in the Mediterranean basin
Montpellier, 15-16 November 2021
Inna Punda, Economist (Agribusiness), FAO Investment Center
Camel milk production is on the rise, yet insufficient to satisfy the booming demand.

Source: FAO/OECD Outlook 2021-2030
Change in consumption
(higher per capita incomes)

- health benefits
- environmental
- animal welfare
- biodiversity

COVID-19 pandemic increased the demand for traditional and health-boosting products

Urbanization: rural people in cities maintain their food preferences
SUPPLY
Different systems
WITHOUT DATA YOU ARE JUST ANOTHER PERSON WITH AN OPINION

W. Edwards Deming
Cost of Production, USD/L (feed – 30%)

Sales Price, ex-farm, USD/L

Gross Profit Margin, %

Return on Investment, y.

Source: B. Faye, G. Konuspayeva. Calculations for 100 h. farm
Water footprint

Water (all types) per L of raw milk

100

1000 (camel, intensive)

2000 (cow, intensive)
Learn the lesson of highly productive dairy operations in arid countries.
Camels emit less methane than cows or sheep!

Lower metabolism -> Less feed -> Less methane
Pastoral systems can have neutral carbon balance
Equation is fragile

Natural resource & animal stocks balance
Joint forces to yield results!

Investment priority areas:

- Farm-level
- R&D
- Feeding systems’ productivity & sustainability programs
- Industry associations (enabling environment, market, access, consumer education)
Camel Industry Unions to unlock industry’s potential
FAO Pastoralist Knowledge Hub: Bringing pastoral voices to the global stage
Let’s change together the *statis quo* of the camel dairy!