

The Role of Dairy Co-operative in Promoting Socio-economic Benefits of Farmers
A Case of Dairy Co-operative in Hai District
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This study centred on exploring the role of dairy co-operatives in promoting socioeconomic benefits of farmers in Hai District. Specifically, it examined the motives for dairy farmer to join the dairy co-operatives, the roles played by co-operatives in eliminate market failure and reducing the costs through economies of scale and coordination. Lastly, it assessed the socio-economic benefits of dairy co-operatives in Hai district. In this study, a single cross-sectional research design was applied on the basis that, the design is widely used in descriptive studies and data can be collected using different methods at one point of time. Data were collected from two co-operative societies namely Kalali and Nronga using questionnaires, key informant interview and documentary review. Data were analysed using descriptive analysis. The findings identified the roles played by cooperatives to eliminate the market failure by reducing the costs through economies of scale and coordination. Lastly, the study identified the socio-economic benefits of dairy cooperatives in Hai district. Furthermore, there is still a lot of room for improvement as far as the dairy sector goes. The concept of dairy farming, and commercialized agriculture as a whole, is yet to be fully sold to the smallholder farmers in Hai district. The levels of Government support and partnership with companies in terms of trainings and other capacity building exercises, provision of extension services and raising awareness levels in dairy farming and other best practices was deemed necessary among the farmers. Therefore, the study has proposed that the dairy farming sector in Hai is yet to realize significant impact to the farmers in terms of inputs from the youthful, post-secondary educated generations in the district as most of the farm managers have attained primary education.