

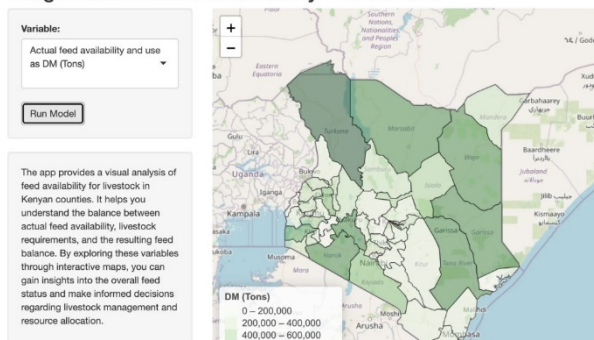
# Our Research Portfolio

## The Observatory

Established in 2021, the Jameel Observatory for Food Security Early Action is a multi-disciplinary, research-for-action program led by the University of Edinburgh in partnership with the International Livestock Research Institute, Save the Children UK, the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab and Community Jameel.

With a community of practice, we broker science, knowledge, and real-world action to devise solutions to better manage shocks facing dryland communities in East Africa. Our resilience-building agenda is delivered through collaborative research and innovation, capacity development and inclusive dialogue.

### Integrated Livestock Vulnerability Assessment



## Our focus

Our research is based on co-creation and facilitation of open innovation 'labs' where observatory partners, collaborators and a wider community of practice identify critical challenges and bottlenecks and, together, devise and test solutions.

Research is delivered through doctoral students, post-doctoral researchers, commissioned research, research calls and through collaborations.

Focused on shocks and risks facing drylands and pastoralist communities, our research is clustered around four themes:

1. Building resilience to shocks and risks
2. Improving risk prediction and forecasting data, value and use
3. Advancing locally led early action
4. Rethinking and tailoring early action for pastoralist communities

## Individual research



John Mutua: evaluating **livestock diets** using earth observation approaches in East Africa



George Tsitati: **locally led anticipatory measures** to mitigate, adapt and respond to humanitarian crises



Puff Mukwaya: **economic evaluation of forecast based action**



Susan Njambi-Szlapka: Anticipatory humanitarian action and **behavioural change**



Abdishakur Diriye: **drought index** triggered takaful insurance for Somali pastoral livelihood resilience



Sirimon Thomas: Operationalizing **One Health** for early warning of food insecurity and socio-ecological system breakdown in Northern Kenya



Reason Mlambo: Spatio-temporal poverty mapping using **earth observation data and deep learning** in Africa



Rosie Herrington: **Refugee camps and livestock** - child malnutrition and health implications in Kenya

## Accelerator projects

- **Next-generation earth observation** for anticipatory drought risk management in East African pastoral drylands (with University of Milan)
- Improved early warning of food insecurity: Integrating **forecasts based on machine learning and anthropometric data** into Kenya's NDMA (with University of California)
- Strengthening **proactive adaptation and early action systems** to enhance food security and resilience to multiple hazards Ethiopia (with ADRA Denmark)
- Harvesting resilience: Understanding **early warning communications** to inform food security early action in the Horn of Africa (with Urban Foresight)

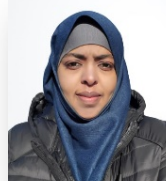
## Research leadership



Nathan Jensen – research lead: how financial tools can deliver early action and build drought-resilient livelihoods



Alan Duncan – head of the observatory: societal, economic and institutional barriers to improved livestock nutrition



Tahira Mohamed - Regional engagement and partnership lead : understanding relations and synergies between humanitarian relief and



Samuel Derbyshire – Regional research lead: evaluating triggers for anticipatory action

More information? Contact Nathan Jensen – [njensen@ed.ac.uk](mailto:njensen@ed.ac.uk)

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