Gender aspects of *Prosopis juliflora* spread perceptions, impacts and coping strategies

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Outline

1. Introduction

2. Key Findings
   a. Perceptions
   b. Impacts
   c. Coping Strategies

3. Conclusions

4. Recommendations
Gender relations influence the use and management of the environment

Women play an important role as social actors

Strict gender roles in a pastoralist society
  - Work tasks and work load
  - Power relations
  - Decision making
  - Access to resources

Focus of the case study → Gender sensitive perceptions, impacts and coping strategies
Study site

Figure 1: Location of Baadu case study site (AYANUW ET AL.)

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Key Findings – Perceptions

- **Curse of Allah**
- P. juliflora responsible for decreasing herd sizes
- Problem ranking differs between men, women, and areas
- “Tiredness” of talking about P. juliflora invasion
- “The black gold”
- Perceived as threat to livestock and food security
Key Findings – Impacts

- “Woyane Hara doesn’t discriminate!”
- Decreasing dry season grazing areas → less livestock → food insecurity
- Men focus on livestock, women include dimension of household needs
- Mobility patterns are influenced
- Pastoralists particular vulnerable

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Key Findings – Coping strategies
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Conclusions

- Men and women perceive invasion mainly in the same way.
- “Woyane Hara doesn’t discriminate.” (local perception) → from a research perspective impact on women and men differs.
- Distinction needs to be made between rural and more urban areas.
- Coping strategies → threat and potential for women → increased vulnerability vs. changing power relations.
- Women cannot be seen as one homogeneous group.
Recommendations

- Administrative responsibilities need to be clarified → women representatives need to be included
- Learn from experiences of others → e.g. Rohi Wadu
- Land use plan → identify sites that can be used for clearing
- Focus on pastoralists → pastoralist women especially vulnerable
Thank you for your attention!