

# IMPLICATIONS OF DONKEY HIDE TRADE FOR ETHIOPIA.

“VICTIMS OF....”



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# VICTIMS OF .....?

- ▶ Mentioning contribution from economics perspective....,
- ▶ Instead wanted to see the challenge from the other side...Think without box
- ▶ Donkeys were probably among the most miserable creatures that ever lived on earth since biblical times (in my view).

# VICTIMS OF....

- ▶ Deep-rooted negative attitudes towards working donkeys with myths and traditional behaviours still continue to mistreat and undervalue these animals.
- ▶ This is worsened by little interest from the public sector to promote good welfare, health and husbandry practices.
- ▶ This made the life of a donkey particularly harsh not only the way they live but also the way they die.
- ▶ Recently another set of worrying imported challenge has emerged--its hide











Can we stop this?



**BROOKE**  
ACTION FOR WORKING  
HORSES AND DONKEYS

# THE OTHER SIDE

- ▶ Successful by magnifying a “traditional myth” that gives meaning and making fortune out of this -described as “ *One of the three treasures of Traditional Chinese Medicine*” -TCM- *extremely dense and powerful story* .
- ▶ Organized a network of wealthy and poor customers-consumers-the “Consumer Knows Best”
- ▶ Are we defeated? -21<sup>st</sup> C. science has made this myth probably more potent. With money, powerful corporations, has made this web of story to grow from strength to strength.





Network of traders right from villages to Kenya





# CHANGE THE STORY?

- ▶ Why we failed to simply replace this myth with the plenty of facts we have? – **“TCM-has no benefits as described....”**
- ▶ Why increasing the glory of fictional stories “TCM” instead of bettering the lives of suffering animals?
- ▶ It seems as corporations accumulate power/money, they become immune to their mistakes, instead of changing their stories to fit reality, they can change reality to fit their stories.
- ▶ They are able to force their myth on submissive reality – judge themselves by the yardstick of their own inventions.





# “WHO SUFFERS?”

- ▶ When we forget that these are just merely fictions, we lose touch with reality- we forget the suffering of real entities?
  - ▶ Ethiopia, Kenya, politicians, corporations and consumers will not suffer – the donkey for sure suffers
- ▶ Real entities–the suffering of donkeys is 100% real.
- ▶ The reality is our donkeys are diminishing faster than we realize by 3000’s or more a day.
- ▶ Most of our donkeys sooner or latter will find themselves in the slaughter house in more numbers....





Who else is a victim of this traditional Myth?



# Our Rural Woman ...

