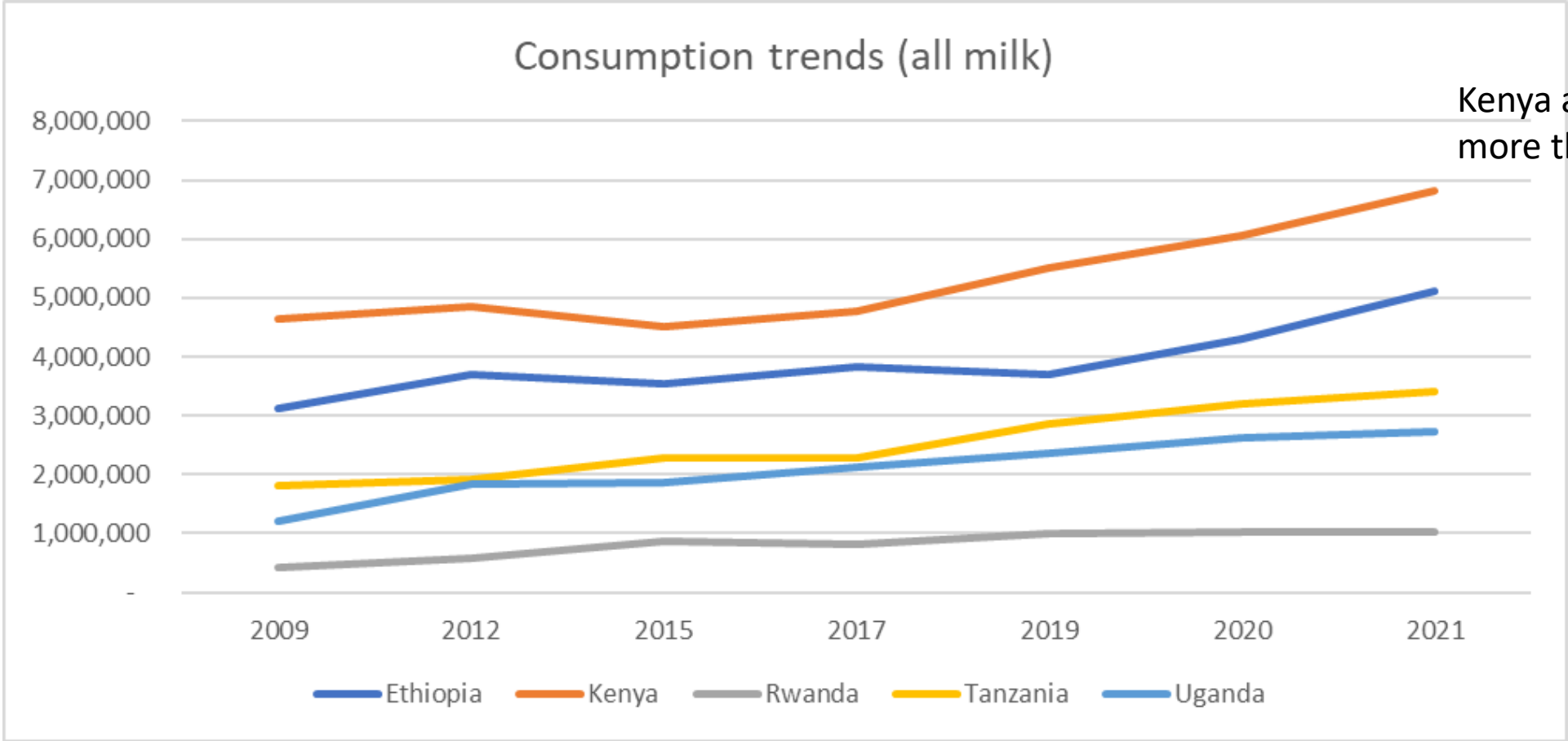


# Trends in Dairy in East Africa

- Demand for dairy products is growing mainly because of increasing populations
- Production volumes are increasing but mainly due to larger herd sizes
- Production is in some cases already not meeting the demand
- The mixed crop-livestock farming system is most prevalent
- Year-round feed availability is the main limiting factor for production increase (and less drop in the dry season)

# Trends in East Africa

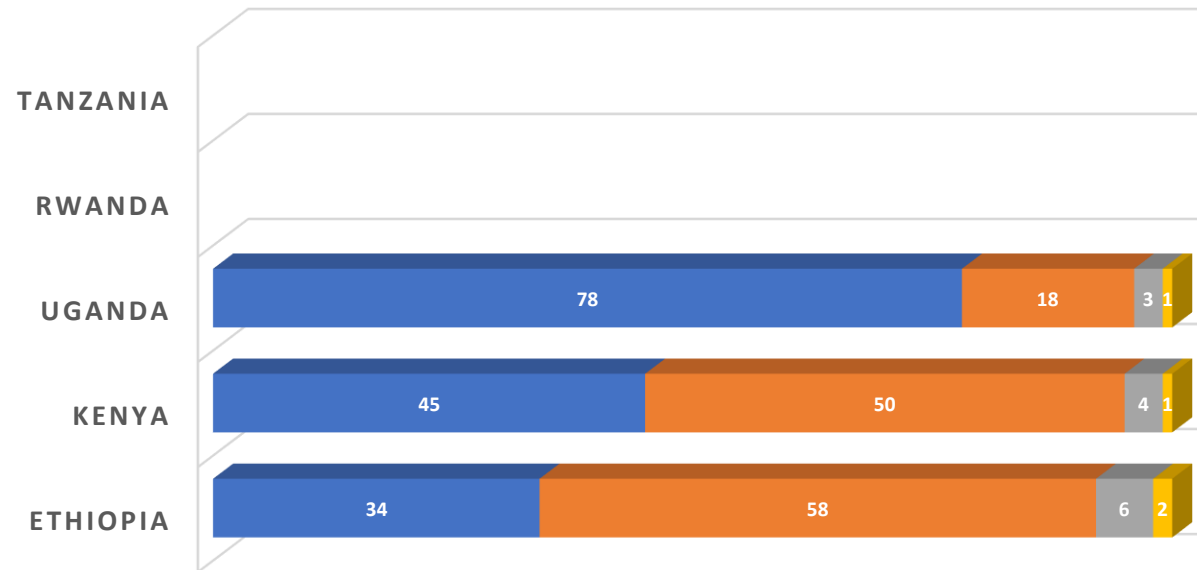


Source: IFCN 2021-2022

# Dairy in East Africa - Farm structure

% OF FARMS IN SIZE CLASSES (COWS)

■ 1-2 ■ 3-9 ■ 10-19 ■ >20



**Average farm size**    **No. of farms (x1000)**

1.5 cows                      1.956

4.4 cows                      120

2.4 cows                      2.572

2.4 cows                      1.897

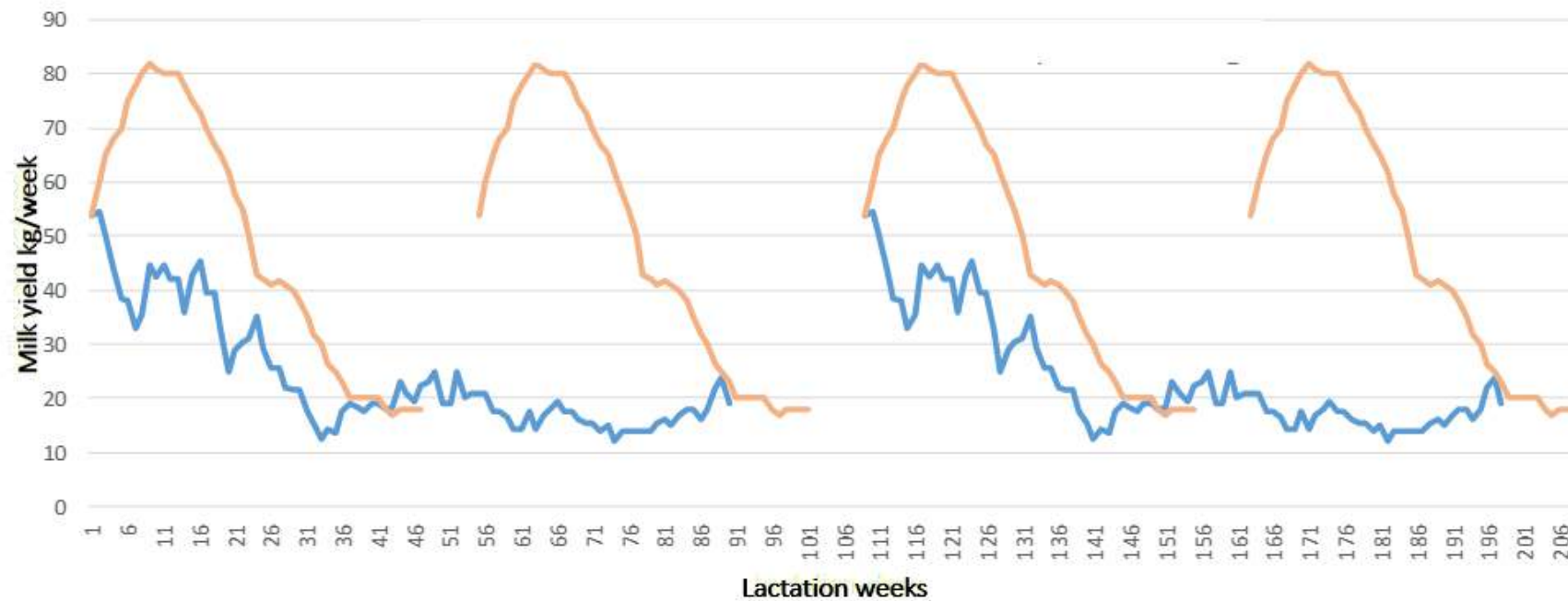
4.5 cows                      2.648

**9.2 Million dairy farms**  
**100,000 medium and large-scale farms**

# Argumentation

- Meeting the increasing demand is possible by improving the productivity of the existing herd.

*Improved lactation curve through improved feeding*



Source KALRO, Miano, D., 2019

# NEADAP position on dairy development EA

For self-sufficient and sustainable dairy sectors in East Africa, support should be focused on **mixed crop-livestock farmers to intensify production** in geographic locations where dairy in **combination with cropping** has a **comparative** advantage, where **market access** can be assured and where dairy farms are (or can be) **clustered**.



- Mixed crop-livestock with intensive forage production on part of the land strengthens the farming system: *recycling minerals-grasses builds up organic matter and provide weed and disease-free soil for the next crop-forage legumes are deep rooted and provide N, short duration-drought resistant crops like forage sorghum can grow after e.g. potatoes, using remaining soil moisture.*
- Year-round good quality fodder is a sine qua non for sustainable dairy- therefore availability of sufficient land in a milkshed is crucial for sustainable and profitable dairy production.
- Farmers are looking for stable income, the EA and world market are volatile, therefore specialisation in only dairy is too risky