

CELEP Update

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1. Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) Uganda visit

- The timeframe for the MEP visit has been confirmed and will take place 19 October and 24 October 2015.
- **Participants:** MEPs Maria Heubuch (German, Greens) and Norbert Neuser (German, S&D) will travel together with one parliamentary assistant and the CELEP focal point (Koen Van Troos) to Uganda. During the visit, they will be accompanied by Esther Akwii (COPACSO) and Peter Ken Otieno (RECONCILE).
- **Programme:**

19/10 Departure from Belgium/Germany to Uganda

20/10 Afternoon: local briefing in Kampala, organised by COPACO and financed by DanChurchAid. A detailed programme of the briefing is being developed.

- 21/10**
- Departure for Kotido in the morning.
 - Arrival in Kotido and visit of water points, cattle markets, etc.
 - Evening ceremony with elders and kraal leaders.

- 22/10**
- Morning in kraal, participating in village life.
 - Drive to Moroto to meet women pastoralist groups
 - Visit to a marble mine
 - Dinner meeting with stakeholders

- 23/10**
- Flight back to Kampala
 - Meetings with local and international CSO and government representatives in Kampala

24/10 Early flight back to Brussels/Germany

- **For Your Action:** if you still wish to be part of the organising committee of either the Kampala part or the field visit part, please contact the CELEP focal point k.vantroos@vsf-belgium.org



2. Brussels activities in September 2015

- On 22 September, to brief the MEPs travelling with us to Uganda, CELEP will organise a small briefing in the European Parliament between 15h and 16h30. This briefing will be for a limited number of people. The two MEPs will, of course, participate, and representatives from DG DEVCO will make short presentations related to pastoralism and EU development issues in Uganda. The session will be preceded by a presentation from Saverio Krätli (editor of *Nomadic Peoples*) about the new IIED book *Valuing variability: new perspectives on climate resilient drylands development*.
- On 23 September, CELEP will organise another lunch-conference at the Infopoint of the European Commission in Brussels. The aim of the lunch-conference is to launch the above-mentioned book for the Brussels “development community”. This briefing will be public and will take place between 12h30 and 14h. An invitation will be sent around at the end of August or in early September.

3. Windmill park in Kenya

- Recently, a journalist from the Dutch newspaper *De Volkskrant* wrote an article on this issue and she visited the project site. You can find the article [here](#). An English translation is being made and will be circulated shortly.
- With CELEP, we would like to push forward this issue at the European Parliament to see whether we can develop some targeted advocacy actions out of it. The idea was also to send another journalist to the project site to have additional information. The journalist we were working with to do so unfortunately is no longer available.
- We are working on a short document with some basic information/details on the project to be sent to journalists and to EU decision-makers.

4. Tropentag conference in Berlin (16–18 Sept 2015)

- There will be a Tropentag session on *Pastoralism and Forage Systems*; abstracts were selected by German Prof. Jürgen Schwartz.
- There will be a small session on CELEP to present CELEP in order to increase its visibility on the 18 Sept in the afternoon (to be confirmed).
- CELEP is also compiling a photo exhibit which will be put at the conference venue and afterwards travel to Brussels to be used as a tool to raise awareness on pastoralism with EU decision-makers.

5. Highlights of Focal Point meeting with pastoralism person at DG DEVCO C1 (European Commission)

- On 9 July, the CELEP Focal Point Koen Van Troos had a meeting with Roberto Aparicio-Martin, in charge of pastoralism at DG DEVCO Sustainable Growth and Rural Development unit.
- Through this meeting, DG DEVCO was informed on ongoing issues on pastoralism, and their interest in CELEP activities was reactivated.



- DG DEVCO plans to develop new pastoralism programmes in Chad, Somaliland, Central African Republic and Angola. For the (other) Eastern African countries, he referred to the National Indicative Programmes (NIPs) and their references to pastoralism. You can find them [here](#).
- According to Roberto, the “**technical note on pastoralism**” should now really be advancing. During the meeting, the need to incorporate CSO input into the final document was stressed. It was proposed that CELEP would discuss the technical note during the next annual meeting in The Hague. This is, however, to be confirmed by Roberto in early September.

6. Annual meeting

- The annual meeting has been confirmed and will be co-organised by Cordaid and AgriProFocus **on 25–27 November 2015 in The Hague in the Netherlands**. An invitation will be sent early September.

7. Communication tools

- Website: A web designer has been contacted and started working on a first proposal for the new website. The website should be revamped for early September.
- Posters: Through an online vote, two posters have been selected for printing. They will be printed in August. Don't hesitate to order your copy by sending an email to k.vantroos@vsf-belgium.org