

CELEP UPDATE

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CFS 44 and side event on role and importance of women in pastoral communities (12/10)

CELEP worked with the Pastoralist Knowledge Hub (PKH) to propose a side event at the 44th session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS44) on 9–13 October in Rome. The side event was accepted and held on 12 October (1.5h). A panel was composed of six female speakers. CELEP suggested that Ann Waters-Bayer from CELEP member Agrecol and member of the CELEP core group take part in the panel on behalf of CELEP. Some others in the panel included Sadia Ahmed from the CELEP member PENHA (Pastoral and Environmental Network in the Horn of Africa) Somaliland and from CILSS (Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel). A report of the event can be found [here](#).

Integrating the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists into International Decade of Family Farming (10/10)

Two days before the side event at CFS44, a meeting was held of the World Coordinating Committee (WCC) hosted by the World Rural Forum (WRF) to prepare for an International Decade of Family Farming (IDFF). The Steering Committee (SC) that is lobbying for an International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP) recently decided to explore the possibility of integrating the IYRP into the IDFF and asked Ann to join the IDFF meeting on behalf of CELEP and the IYRP SC.

The campaign for the IDFF is already much more advanced than that for the IYRP: on 4 October 2017, the Government of Costa Rica officially sent to the Second Commission of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) the text of a resolution to declare an IDFF. The experts in this Commission from all countries in the UN can now read the text and sign to indicate official support from their country. They can also comment on the text and suggest revisions. There is now a chance for the experts from Kenya, Mongolia, Australia etc to insert something about pastoralists into the resolution before signing. It is not enough to convince one's Ministry of Agriculture; it is necessary **to approach the Ministry of Foreign Affairs** and, through them, the Embassy in New York. The Embassy person who is expert in the Second Commission of the UN needs to sign (electronically) to indicate support. It will be important **to get as**

many national governments as possible supporting the proposed resolution for an IDFF, ideally with revisions to bring in pastoralism more strongly.

The decision about formally adopting the resolution will be made in November; the Bureau of the Second Commission will set the date. So it is urgent that the process described above take place within the next 2–3 weeks. If the Second Commission approves the resolution, it will be sent together with other resolutions under “Food Security” for adoption by the UNGA. The WCC is fairly confident that the IDFF will be declared for the period 2019–2028.

If the IDFF is declared, IFAD and FAO will be given the official mandate to coordinate the IDFF with support from civil society and other stakeholders. It will probably set up a Steering Committee as governance mechanism composed of civil society, governmental and international organisations and will draw up an action plan. The IYRP SC – in which Ann is active on behalf of CELEP – will also need to lobby with FAO and IFAD to bring pastoralist issues into the IDFF.

The WCC is already drafting an action plan for national, regional and global level, in the hopes that the IDFF Steering Committee will use this as a starting point. The plan will include things like setting up a development fund for family farming and supporting participatory research to meet the needs of family farmers. The draft action plan will be shared with CELEP members and partners, which can make modifications and additions to bring in more about livestock-keeping, pastoralism, mobile peoples etc. This will then lead into a long process in the WCC to agree on the content and wording of the action plan, and we will have to convince and negotiate to keep pastoralism in. Then the content and wording of the action plan will need to be negotiated by the IDFF Steering Committee, and it may even need to go through the Second Commission of the UN in New York. This is a normal process with a UN-declared international year or decade.

The WCC is discussing the possibility of having a different focus theme for each year in the decade. We would need to lobby for focusing a year on livestock-keepers/pastoralists. It is unsure (but not impossible) whether 2020 – the year originally targeted for the IYRP – will be focused on this theme.

The WCC wants to know which livestock-keeper/pastoralist associations are involved in the campaign for the IYRP, as it is fundamental to them that family farmers (a term that includes pastoralists) lead the advocacy process. WRF is convinced that the IDFF will be successful only if more organisations take part than are currently in the Forum, and **would welcome organisations that bring pastoralists to the table.**

For Your Urgent Action: Lobby your respective countries to sign the proposed resolution to declare an IDFF, ideally after incorporating references to pastoralists – within the next 3 weeks. In order to do so, a template letter was designed and can be downloaded [here](#). You should get in touch with your Ministry of Foreign Affairs, possibly through your Ministry of Agriculture.

Pilot project on Participatory Rangelands Management (PRM)

A meeting was held between Ken, Fiona and Koen to discuss the modalities of the PRM project for which CELEP lobbied the European Parliament. This is a first step proposing a structure to manage the grant between ILRI, RECONCILE and VSFB/CELEP. Some key activities were identified to carry out in the first year of the project. At the CELEP annual meeting, the progress made on the project will be presented and, during a working session, CELEP’s possible involvement in the project will be defined.

Discussion on land rights in the Google Group

A discussion on land rights and what is happening in Tanzania was ongoing in the CELEP Google Group. This is an issue CELEP worked on in the past leading to [a resolution in the European Parliament on land](#)

[grabbing in Tanzania](#). More information was shared in the Google Group and by email, and this will be presented at the session at the European Commission Infopoint in Brussels during the annual meeting. As soon as the poster for the session is finished, it can be shared and, as this is an open session, everyone can attend. The presentation at the Infopoint will take place on 9 November from 12.30h–14h with representatives from CELEP's Eastern African partners.

Abstract for the meeting in Dakar on education and pastoralists

The most recent version of the abstract for [the meeting in Dakar on pastoralism](#) can be found [here](#). The deadline for abstract submission was extended until the 10 October. CELEP is now waiting to be informed whether its abstract was accepted. Preliminary exchanges with the co-organiser CIRAD were promising, and the abstract for a panel discussion on pastoralist education is very likely to be accepted.

The panel will be composed of:

- Dr Caroline Dyer from Leeds University (<http://www.polis.leeds.ac.uk/people/staff/dyer/>), member of the CELEP Google Group
- Dr Petra Dilthey, anthropologist and director of Ethno Empowerment (<http://www.eem.org>) with the new CELEP member Up4Change
- Pablo Manzano Baena (ex-WISP, ex-FAO, member of CELEP Google Group)
- Boubacar Barry, Association pour la Promotion de l'Élevage au Sahel et en Savanne (APESS).

As you can see, the fourth panelist represents a Western African civil society organisation (CSO). Contacts were made with APESS following a suggestion by the conference organisers to work on a joint proposal with this CSO. APESS manages an education programme for pastoralists in Western Africa. Koen Van Troos – CELEP focal point – could moderate the session (if accepted) on behalf of CELEP.

CELEP Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Registration is now closed. The final agenda and participants list can be found [here](#). Many participants are joining not only from Europe but also from Eastern Africa (Kenya, Sudan, Ethiopia and Tanzania). For the AGM, it is still possible to suggest actions for CELEP for 2018 (focusing on Eastern African pastoralism, knowledge management and advocacy at the United Nation/European Union level).

For Your Action: If you would like to propose an action for CELEP for 2018, please send a short description of the action to Koen (k.vantroos@vsf-belgium.org) before 31 October.

There will also be two side events:

1. A briefing in the European Parliament together with the German Institute for Agriculture in the Tropics and Subtropics (DITSL) on 7 November from 14h–15h30. The idea is to raise awareness on pastoralism in the European Parliament by focusing on its potential for dairy development in (Eastern) Africa. This briefing is organised by Norbert Neuser, who is Member of the European Parliament (MEP) for the progressives (S&D) and with whom CELEP organised a field mission to Moroto, Uganda, in 2015. This is a closed session and the number of participants is limited, as only 30 persons can enter the room. People from the Commission (DEVCO C1), the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) and the European Milk Board are also invited. You can still give inputs for this session as well. Background documents could also be very interesting, if you can provide any.
2. A session at the European Commission Infopoint on conflict resolution in pastoralist areas on 9 November from 12h30–14h. The session will be introduced by Maria Noichl, another S&D MEP. Several Eastern African partners will then speak on conflict resolution in Eastern Africa: Peter Ken

Otieno from RECONCILE, Edward Porokwa from Tanzania and Vivian Muciri from Assistance Mission Africa (AMA). This session is public and an invitation will be shared with the Google Group to make sure that it is well attended.

New members and partners

CELEP has a new procedure, whereby members and partners are asked to complete a membership/partnership form to join the Coalition. The core group then decides within two weeks whether the request will be accepted or not. According to this new procedure, three new Eastern African partner organisations and one new European member organisation were accepted. You can find more information on them below and on our website www.celep.info. On Behalf of CELEP we wish them a warm welcome and look forward to working with them.

For Your Action: CELEP google group members interested in becoming CELEP EU members or CELEP EA partners should contact the CELEP EU focal point at k.vantroos@vsf-belgium.org.

1. **up4change e.V.** is a German non-governmental organisation (NGO) focused in recent years on ethno e-empowerment (eeem.org), an interactive multimedia e-learning programme developed with pastoralists in northern Kenya. It consists of the following modules: ethnographic video and photo materials, eBooks with true-to-life content to playfully learn basic literacy and simple calculations to acquire necessary life skills, tablets with solar charging devices to be mobile and independent, and barefoot teachers as multipliers. The eBooks so far are: Manyatta, Fora, Town, Drought Resilience, Alternative Livelihoods, Animal Health, Conflict Management and Livestock Marketing. up4change sees this culturally based learning content, which is lacking in the normal school curriculum, as a first step to an educational system that integrates the pastoral lifestyle.
2. **Assistance Mission for Africa (AMA)** is a Christian-based NGO in South Sudan with a vision for 'A just, free, dignified and self-actualizing society'. AMA has recently revised its strategic plan to reflect changes in its environment and to review how it relates with the world to execute its mission: "To facilitate the role of communities and individuals in realizing just, free, self-actualizing and dignified lives". AMA is committed to mobilising the communities they serve to determine their own development and empower their self-determination. It seeks to secure their rights to dignified lives. AMA has made a purposeful choice to focus on implementing programming in the following thematic areas:
 - a. **Peace and Community Security:** Towards sustainable peace and community security in the Unity and Eastern Lakes Regions including efforts for national cohesion. This is done through enhancing community capacity to respond to conflict and also develop localised mechanisms for dispute resolution, and building the communities up to be able to cushion themselves against protracted conflict.
 - b. **Natural Resource Management:** Toward participatory, efficient and considerate natural resource management and reduction of resource-based conflict, with the aim of ensuring that there is equitable use of natural resources among the community and also protection of these resources for future generations.
 - c. **Livelihoods:** Towards securing the livelihoods of communities in Unity and Eastern Lakes where possible, AMA ignites entrepreneurship, develops advocacy, undertakes research, documents the community reality and provides capacity building. AMA also seeks to enhance value chains among the pastoral community within the region. It works

towards diversifying their livelihood and also enhancing their capacity to be able to safeguard their livelihood.

3. **Kaalmo Relief and Development (KRD)**. KRD is a local non-governmental, not-for-profit, non-sectarian, non-partisan, humanitarian, advocacy and development organisation working to alleviate the suffering of poor and marginalised communities in Gedo Region, Somalia, and to support them to become self-reliant in addressing their problems. KRD was established by a group of young and energetic people who were highly motivated and committed for contributing their time, skills and energies to alleviating the plight of affected people and the development and empowerment of socially disadvantaged and vulnerable communities by addressing poverty issues and gender-based discrimination. KRD was established in 2006, when Somalia was gripped by a drought that killed many people. In response to the natural calamity, KRD started mobilising communities, local authorities, business people and civil society organisations to participate in the campaign of saving lives and livelihoods of the famine-affected populations in Gedo Region.
4. **Eastern and Southern African Pastoralist Network (ESAPN)** is a network organisation that works through exchange of knowledge and building collective action of pastoralist organisations and well-wishers to raise pastoralist voices. By teaming up with CELEP, it seeks to build synergies in this direction and will tap into the vast reserve of knowledge on the CELEP website, which will be a valuable resource to support lobbying and advocacy activities. ESAPN will generate data and evidence on the ground in the region and provide it to CELEP to carry out lobbying activities with the Brussels offices of the European Union. This will help to obtain support, since most organisations want to hear stories as told by the concerned communities and not from third parties. Hence, communication between ESAPN and CELEP will play a vital role in both informing the Eastern African communities and supporting the energies of CELEP in pursuit of a common objective of good life for pastoralists.

Stakeholder gap-analysis workshop

During the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) in May 2016, a group of developing countries asked UNEP to conduct a global assessment of rangelands and pastoralism. However, some other countries wondered whether existing and ongoing assessments already covered this need. In the end, the UNEA resolution 2/24 "Combating desertification, land degradation and drought and promoting sustainable pastoralism and rangelands" called for a **gap analysis of available information on rangelands and pastoralism**, as a first step toward an assessment.

Gaps refer to information that has low "fitness of use" for policymakers (and advocacy – our concern in CELEP), low data confidentiality, accessibility/use restrictions, poor quality (including remoteness from ecosystem issues) or scarcity of long-term data needed for evaluating long-term trends. The gap analysis will cover all sources of information, including indigenous/local knowledge.

On behalf of CELEP, Ann is a member of the advisory group for the gap analysis. In the first week of November, a stakeholder meeting will be held in Norway to present initial findings about information gaps, to identify ways of improving the sampling methods and data sources, and to finalise questionnaires for collecting additional information and assessing the confidence level of accessible information. The workshop will also collect participants' views on information needs, concerns, known gaps, recommendations, etc., and their advice on stakeholders/individuals that should receive the questionnaire. Ann will take part in the Norway workshop as a European CELEP member, while Benjamin Mutambukah, member of the CELEP core group on behalf of COPACSO and the ESAPN, will join as a representative from Eastern Africa.

ACTION POINTS:

- **Lobby your respective countries to sign the proposed resolution to declare an IDFF, ideally after incorporating references to pastoralists – within the next 3 weeks. In order to do so, a template letter was designed and can be downloaded [here](#). You should get in touch with your Ministry of Foreign Affairs, possibly through your Ministry of Agriculture.**
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