



CELEP UPDATE

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Past activities

Third ECHO East Africa pastoralist symposium, 6–8 March, Nanyuki, Kenya

More information here <https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/81c89717-3fbd-42f5-a7da-22eb5c41d918>. CELEP was initially asked to co-organise this symposium, but the core-group finally decided not to be involved, although some support was given in terms of suggestions for speakers, etc. Several people in the CELEP network attended, and CELEP was mentioned several times. The conclusions of the symposium will be shared within the network as soon as they appear.

World Bank conference on “Land Governance in an Interconnected World”, 19–23 March, Washington DC, USA

Last year CELEP facilitated the submission of several abstracts on pastoralism and the participation of partners from Eastern Africa. Though this year CELEP was not able to invest as much time, several abstracts related to pastoralism were submitted and presented (see the link below). Several presentations focused on pastoralism in Eastern Africa, in particular on Kenya and Ethiopia (<https://www.conftool.com/landandpoverty2018/index.php?page=browseSessions&presentations=show&search=pastoral>).



International Year of the Camelids accepted

The year 2024 will be the United Nations International Year of Camelids, which intends to raise public awareness of the importance of camels, llamas and alpacas to food security. This will also be an opportunity to raise awareness on pastoralism. Please note that the International Year of Camelids will take place during the International Decade of Family Farming (2019–2028).

CELEP learning visit on dairying in Kenya

In March, CELEP organised a learning tour on small-scale dairying in Kenya for a delegation from three West African countries – Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger – in collaboration with Oxfam. CELEP has already been active on this topic and even organised a roundtable session in the European Parliament on pastoralism and dairying during the 2017 CELEP annual meeting in Brussels. European Union (EU) policies affect dairying in both Eastern and West Africa directly (through development aid) and indirectly (through domestic agricultural and trade policies). Dairying is therefore an important entry point to advocate with the EU for recognition of pastoralism. This is also the trajectory through which the International Land Coalition (ILC) Rangelands Initiative defines key milestone in the Participatory Rangelands Management project, which is funded by the European Commission and seeks to improve pastoralists' nutrition. The one-week learning tour in Kenya was facilitated by RECONCILE, the CELEP regional focal point in Eastern Africa, and the European CELEP members DITSL (German Institute for Tropical and Subtropical Agriculture) and SNV (Netherlands Development Organisation). The CELEP core-group and the European focal point in Vétérinaires Sans Frontières (VSF)-Belgium provided input and assured the overall coordination of the tour.

News on this learning tour can be found on the website <http://www.celep.info/kenyan-dairy-sector-learning-tour-day-1/>. Documents including the list of participants and the programme of the visit can be found [here](#). CELEP would like to thank all of the people involved in organising and facilitating this learning trip and especially Dr. Olivier Basole Kashongwe from the Department of Animal Sciences of Egerton University for accompanying the West African delegation throughout the visit. Follow-up actions regarding this visit will be planned by the core-group, including the dissemination of a statement on pastoral dairy development that was prepared for European institutions.

Ongoing activities

European Development Days

The European Development Days will be on 5–6 June in Tour & Taxis in Brussels. This is an important event for raising awareness with European actors involved in development cooperation. More information can be found on the website <https://eudevdays.eu/>. The overall theme this year is Gender. Subtopics include violence, emergencies, health, peace and security, education, migration, environment, human rights, digitalisation and rural development. The proposal submitted by CELEP together with the FAO Pastoralist Knowledge Hub and UNESCO was accepted. It is for a Lab debate on “Women’s empowerment in pastoralist societies” under the topic “Rural women/girls and development”. It will take place on 6 June at 9:00 h. More information will soon be shared.

CELEP website and Twitter

A small team was involved in discussions about revamping the website, integrating a news section, Twitter feed, etc and making it more dynamic. These changes will be made by the end of April. CELEP is also increasingly active on Twitter. If you post things that are relevant to CELEP on your Twitter account, please make sure to tag @CELEP_FP.

FOR YOUR ACTION:



- **If there is no link yet on your organisation's website to the CELEP website, please make a link as soon as possible.**
- **If you post things that are relevant to CELEP on your Twitter account, please make sure to tag @CELEP_FP.**

Advocacy activities regarding the European Parliament

Amendments in reports/resolution

The Committee in the European Parliament in charge of foreign affairs (AFET) is preparing a resolution on "violation of the rights of indigenous peoples in the world, including land grabbing". You can find the draft report here <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//NONSGML+COMPARL+PE-615.257+02+DOC+PDF+V0//EN&language=EN>. CELEP has been working with Member of European Parliament (MEP) Heubuch to include pastoralism and has proposed an important amendment through the Committee in charge of Development (DEVE). You can find the amendment [here](#) under article 32. Voting in the DEVE Committee is scheduled for the end of the month. A temporary version of the policy brief on land of CELEP was shared and the amendment mentioned in the above was based on its' content.

Visit of a delegation of the DEVE committee to Uganda

The DEVE committee of the European Parliament has planned a mission to Uganda on 7–11 May. The objective of the mission is to **examine the situation and response (by national authorities and donors) to the arrival of South Sudanese refugees in the country**. It is the intention to travel to the North of the country and visit the settlements there. Side events or visits in cooperation with CELEP are allowed only within this context. CELEP is trying to use this as an opportunity to lobby for pastoralism.

FOR YOUR ACTION:

- **If there are any CELEP members or partners working with refugees in Uganda in a pastoralist context, please contact Koen (k.vantroos@vsf-belgium.org).**
- **If there are members or partners who have critical data on pastoralists and refugee camps/refugee issues, please share them in the GoogleGroup or by contacting Koen.**

Next Joint Parliamentary Assembly (JPA) of ACP and EU

In our action plan, we indicated that we would try to organise an activity for the JPA session in East Africa, which will take place in Kenya in April. However, due to other activities that are rather time consuming, it will be very difficult to do something at the JPA other than, for instance, facilitating participation of Nairobi-based members and partners or meeting to talk with MEPs at their hotels. However, the next official JPA session will take place in Brussels in June; this could be an opportunity as the dates are near the dates for the EDDs. You can find the agenda [here](#). However, none of the proposed topics on the agenda relate directly to pastoralism.

Updated documents/positioning

- In addition to the above-mentioned statement of pastoral dairy development, a somewhat longer policy brief on both pastoral and smallholder dairy development, focusing on the Kenya example, is being prepared for wider advocacy about dairying and family-based production units. A final version will be shared for approval by CELEP members and partners at the end of April.
- CELEP has been working on an updated version of its policy brief on land. You can find the latest version [here](#). **FOR YOUR ACTION: if you still have comments/edits that you would like to propose, please alter the online document before 16 April. Afterwards, a clean version will be given to a graphical designer for professional layout.**



EC/IFAD/ILC project on Participatory Rangelands Management in Kenya & Tanzania – ILC (International Land Coalition) membership

This project is still being prepared and a first meeting will most likely take place in early May to discuss implementing modalities and CELEP involvement. For more information on this, you can check earlier updates or the report of the annual meeting in November.

CELEP – through VSF – recently became a member of the ILC. This will also help in our international visibility.

CELEP participation in conferences and events

The CELEP core-group receives an increasing number of invitations to take part in conferences. This is positive, since it increases the visibility and the overall recognition of the Coalition. However, it is impossible to accept all invitations. Therefore the core-group agreed on the principles below, which will be included in the final CELEP strategy (see next page):

CELEP – as a coalition – will join a conference/seminar

- *If CELEP is invited to present something about CELEP actions and the organisers agree to fund CELEP's participation.*
- *If CELEP resources are to be used, participation will be evaluated in terms of having a specific impact on EU thinking on pastoralism in Eastern Africa. These meetings will therefore most likely take place either In Europe or on the international level.*

In this light, several conferences were discussed in the core-group:

1. Adaptation Futures, 18–21 June, Cape Town, South Africa: This is a key conference on climate adaptation. It brings together more than 1000 participants from academia, government, civil society and business, all aiming to take climate adaptation forward. Adaptation Futures 2018 aims to use its setting on the African continent to attract more African and Global South delegates than ever before to the conference and forefront developing country adaptation contexts. The deadline to submit abstracts has passed. CELEP members SNV and IIED are sending delegations.
2. Symposium on Climate Change Adaptation in Africa, 14–15 May, Ibadan, Nigeria, will focus on enhancing Africa's capacity to cope with climate change. It will showcase experiences from research, field projects and best practice in climate change adaptation in African countries, which may be useful or implemented in other countries in the continent. There will be a special session on "Climate Change Adaptation Strategies Among Pastoralist Communities in Africa".
3. 7th All Africa Conference on Animal Agriculture (AACAA), 15–19 October, Accra, Ghana, provides a forum for stakeholders – professionals and other practitioners – to share views on issues germane to animal agriculture. The AACAA is held every four years. The theme of the 7th AACAA is: Innovations to secure the future of animal agriculture in Africa in a globalising world. **Deadline for submission of abstracts is 30 April.**

FOR YOUR ACTION: if you submitted an abstract on pastoralism in Eastern Africa for any of these conferences, please share it with the CELEP GoogleGroup or the CELEP focal point.

Tropentag and the CELEP Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Tropentag will take place 17–19 September in Ghent, Belgium, with the overall theme **Global food security and food safety: role of universities**. It is very open as far as topics of submitted abstracts/papers are concerned. The process is more or less the same as each year. [The call for](#)



[abstracts has been published](#). The evaluators cluster the accepted abstracts into themes, so there could be a session on animal production or even pastoralism. **The deadline for abstracts is 15 April.**

FOR YOUR ACTION: in order to have a specific session on pastoralism, several abstracts focusing on pastoralism should be submitted, so please submit an abstract on pastoralism to make sure that pastoralism is high on the Tropentag agenda.

The core-group is currently looking into possibilities to have the CELEP AGM in Belgium either right before or right after the Tropentag in Belgium. A decision will follow before the end of May.

Organisational information

CELEP strategy

A working group within CELEP has been working on a new CELEP strategy to have a more coherent approach to the activities CELEP is conducting. You can find the final document of this strategy [here](#).

FOR YOUR ACTION: if you still have any comments on this document, please send them to Koen (k.vantroos@vsf-belgium.org) before 9 April.

CELEP budget

A minimal budget for CELEP was drafted and is based on the contributions of the European members of last year. You can find it [here](#). All members will also be contacted before the end of April to request which type of contributions – in kind or financial – they foresee and will receive a payment request accordingly.