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Past activities

Participatory Rangeland Management(PRM) learning visit to Ethiopia

This was the first activity in the Participatory Rangeland Management (PRM) project being implemented jointly by CELEP and ILC (International Land Coalition) in Kenya and Tanzania with funds from the European Commission (EC). On 4–10 September, Kenyan and Tanzanian partners in the project made a 7-day learning visit to Ethiopia. The visit was planned and implemented jointly by ILC and CELEP members SOS Sahel, Farm Africa, RECONCILE, ILRI and the USAID-funded project PRIME (Pastoralist Areas Resilience Improvement through Market Expansion), which are facilitating PRM in Ethiopia. The visit was meant to help the partners understand PRM on the ground. The partners recognised that it is important to know the history of implementation of the PRM approach, which was first developed by Cordaid, then by SOS Sahel, Farm Africa and CARE through the EU-supported programme PRIME. The learning visit to Ethiopia helped the Kenyan and Tanzanian partners to fully grasp the history of PRM and to put it better into context. Several locally developed approaches were considered for study, such as those of the PRIME project and SOS Sahel, which focus on recognising the community's natural resources and work with cooperatives to bring communities together, with the aim of developing an economic component of rangeland management. These partners are working through customary (traditional) institutions to manage the land, with which the communities feel more comfortable than with introduced institutions. However, because of time constraints, the only approach that could be studied during the visit was that of Farm Africa.



WAMIP meeting Brussels + PPR pledging conference

A meeting was organised to revive WAMIP (World Alliance of Mobile Indigenous Peoples) and to work on a new structure. The Eastern and Southern African Pastoralists Network / ESAPN (Benjamin Mutambukah) and Pastoralist Forum Ethiopia / PFE (Tezera Getahun) – both CELEP partners in Eastern Africa – joined as representatives from that region. The Pastoralist Knowledge Hub of the FAO facilitated the meeting. More information can be found here <http://www.fao.org/pastoralist-knowledge-hub/news/detail/en/c/1150762/>. At the same time, a global meeting to eradicate PPR (Peste des Petits Ruminants) was organised jointly by FAO and OIE (World Organisation for Animal Health). More information can be found here <http://www.fao.org/ppr/globalconference/en/>.

Tropentag + lobbying meetings at DEVCO (European Commission International Cooperation and Development) in Brussels

As planned previously, CELEP decided to be very active during this year's Tropentag, which took place in Ghent, Belgium, on 17–19 September. CELEP invited Michael Odhiambo to make several presentations on pastoralism in Eastern Africa. The CELEP-led activities during Tropentag were:

1. A session on pastoral systems. The abstracts submitted for this session can be found [here](#). Ann Waters-Bayer, member of the CELEP core-group, chaired the session, and Michael (Odhiambo) presented a keynote paper on pastoralism in Eastern Africa.
2. A pre-Tropentag panel, which was very well attended and included CELEP members Agrecol Association, German Institute for Tropical and Subtropical Agriculture (DITSL) and Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Germany (VSF-G). A report on this panel can be found on our website (<http://www.celep.info/values-of-pastoralism-with-a-focus-on-eastern-africa-open-discussion-briefing>).

During Michael's stay in Belgium, we also organised a meeting with the EC in Brussels. Contacts for CELEP within the EC have changed and now also involve the desk officers involved in the geographic coordination of programmes, in addition to the thematic officers.

Expert hearing CAP – opinion DEVE Report

On October 16, World Food Day, CELEP was invited to an expert hearing on development implications of the CAP (Common Agricultural Policy) and the need for coherence for development, organised by Maria Heubuch, who is rapporteur in the European Parliament (EP) for a DEVE (Development Committee) report on the development impact of the CAP. It is not easy to relate directly with pastoralism in Europe but we will be able to provide our input for the final report. The input can focus on the need to sustain grassland in Europe and outside (development policies – coherence), to link this with climate change and the overall attitude of the European Union towards pastoralism (domestic policies and external policies).

Koen Van Troos, CELEP Focal Point, joined the hearing. From CELEP's policy/lobbying perspective, it may be less relevant but it was good for Koen to see Maria again and try to pick up where CELEP had left off networking. It also presented a possibility to follow up on cases of land grabbing in Tanzania.

Ongoing/planned activities

CELEP involvement in the EU–Africa week

CELEP has been working closely for several years with Member of European Parliament (MEP) Neuser, coordinator for development issues (DEVE) in the European Socialist Party, the Socialists and Democrats (S&D). They are organising the EU–Africa Week on 5–7 November (<http://www.socialistsanddemocrats.eu/withafrica>). Emmanuel Tebanyang (Teba) from our Ugandan partner Karamoja Development Forum was selected to participate throughout the entire event (see



the programme [here](#). Teba will attend the different sessions and will be a keynote speaker during a session on food security and climate change. The CELEP objective of Teba's participation is to ensure that pastoralism in Eastern Africa is well represented and included in the various discussions.

In addition to his participation in the EU–Africa week, Teba will be meeting representatives from the EC and the DGD (Belgian Development Cooperation) in Brussels.

[CELEP involvement in PRM project in Kenya and Tanzania – training in advocacy/lobbying in Kenya + Toolbox for advocacy/lobbying](#)

CELEP – through VSF-Belgium – is involved in a project piloting PRM in Kenya and Tanzania. The aim is to test and develop PRM for Kenya and Tanzania with the intention of improving, scaling up and mainstreaming this approach being implemented in line with the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure (VGGT). CELEP involvement is meant to add to the overall project purpose, which is to attain secure and better use of rangelands (sustainable productivity) by local communities by developing a management model for PRM in Kenya and Tanzania. The project presents a platform for strengthening CELEP's role in championing the resource access and tenure rights of pastoralists in East Africa through CELEP's knowledge management, communication and lobbying activities. CELEP leads the advocacy component through VSF-B and with support from RECONCILE and other partners in the collaboration. In particular, CELEP will contribute to Output 3 of the project: local, national and continental guidelines, and supporting enabling policy and legislative environment for PRM established and implemented.

In this light, two activities will be completed before the end of 2018:

1. Development of a **toolbox** with general advocacy/lobbying techniques, exercises and concepts. The toolbox offers insights on basic concepts related to advocacy and presents exercises to identify advocacy issues, propose solutions, formulate recommendations, identify stakeholders, define messages etc. The toolbox will be finalised by mid-November and will be made available on the CELEP website.
2. Based on the toolbox, a **training** will be organised in Kenya on 19–21 November. It will start off with one day of training on regional policy and advocacy processes, provided by Michael Odhiambo. Koen will give basic training on advocacy during the following two days. SNV, CELEP member, will host the training in their Nairobi office. The participants will include implementing partners of the PRM project, CELEP partners, participants at the government level, etc.

[Next AGM: REGISTER NOW!](#)

The next Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held in Brussels, Belgium, **on 28–30 November**. A provisional programme can be found [here](#). For those of you interested in joining the AGM, please complete the [online form](#). Please also note that the organisers cannot provide financial contributions for participation; participants will have to bear their own costs. We look forward to welcoming you once again at our AGM!

[Document of SDGs and pastoralism](#)

CELEP, under the lead of SNV, has been developing a document on the link between the Sustainable Development goals (SDGs) and pastoralism. You can find it [here](#).

For your action: If you have input/comments on the document, please integrate them through the hyperlink given above by November 25.

[International Year for Rangelands and Pastoralists \(IYRP\)](#)

Ann reported that the Government of Mongolia proposed an IYRP at the FAO COAG (Committee of Agriculture) meeting in October; the COAG put the issue on its agenda for formal review at its next



meeting in October 2020. The likely date for an IYRP is 2028, but there may be a chance for 2026. Thus, the IYRP is now formally in the United Nations process. The leadership by Mongolia now needs support from other countries, donors and civil society, so that the proposal will be approved at COAG 2020. COAG rules require that governments wanting an IY must provide evidence of funding support. We have about 1.5 years to find ways to convince governments to give support; the Mongolian proposal and all expressions of support must be submitted several months before the meeting.

With Mongolia now leading, the “International Steering Committee” has become an “International Support Group” (ISG) to Mongolia and other governments wanting an IYRP. Ann continues to be a member of the ISG on behalf of CELEP. It would be good if CELEP members and partners could keep their governments informed about the IYRP initiative and convince them to support it. The ISG will continue to raise awareness during upcoming events, such as the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) conference in Nairobi on 11–15 March 2019, possibly through a side event.

For your action: Please inform the ISG/Ann of upcoming events where the IYRP can be promoted.

Tentative future activities

Ethiopian Pastoralist Day

CELEP is looking into possibilities to be involved in events during the Ethiopian Pastoralist Day (EPD) to be held on 23–25 January 2019 in Jinka in southern Ethiopia. Eastern African partner Pastoralist Forum Ethiopia (PFE) is taking the lead on this. Recently, several positive changes took place regarding pastoralism in Ethiopia with most notably important progress on the pastoralist policy and strategy at federal level. To give visibility to these processes, PFE and other local and international actors want to highlight them during the EPD celebrations to which CELEP partners and members could contribute. CELEP may organise an event with the Ministry, Parliament, PFE, etc. and target the African Union (AU), the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the EU delegation.

For your action: If you would like to be involved in this, please contact the CELEP Focal Point or attend the AGM to finetune how CELEP could be involved.

Follow-up Loliondo (Oakland report, EP resolution, Thembi article)

In the previous update, the Oakland Institute report on land grabbing in Loliondo was mentioned (<http://www.celep.info/maasai-losing-the-serengeti/>). There is a clear interest in the EP to take up this issue again, as we did it before (cf. Resolution on land grabbing in 2015).

For your action: If you have more information on what is going on in Loliondo AND you want to help develop a lobbying strategy on this particular case, please get in touch with the CELEP Focal Point: k.vantroos@vsf-belgium.org

Organisational matters

EU members leaving CELEP

Pax and Kimmage are leaving CELEP. We thank them for their past involvement in CELEP and hope at one point to welcome them back – perhaps in another institutional constellation – into our Coalition.

For your action: Members of the CELEP Google Group interested in becoming a European member or an Eastern African partner of CELEP should get in touch with the CELEP Focal Point