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## Past events

### Training in lobbying and advocacy PRM

In light of the previous activities and messages regarding the Participatory Rangeland Management (PRM) project, CELEP organised training in Kenya on lobbying and advocacy, together with the members of the International Land Coalition (ILC) Rangelands Initiative. Michael Odhiambo and Koen Van Troos (CELEP European Focal Point at VSFB/Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium) gave the training and RECONCILE (Resource Conflict Institute) and SNV (Netherlands Development Organisation) provided the logistics. The participants included CELEP/ILC members and partners including representatives from RECONCILE and SNV, CEMERIDE (Centre for Minority Rights Development), TNRF (Tanzania Natural Resource Forum), Kenya Land Alliance, Tanzania Land Alliance and also representatives from Kenyan county governments and from Tanzanian county governments.

At the end of the training, an action plan was drawn up on lobbying for pastoralism in Kenya and Tanzania, with some targeted actions. This will be further developed throughout 2019. The support materials used during the training can be downloaded [here](#).

## CELEP AGM

The CELEP Annual General Meeting (AGM) in 2018 took place on 28–30 November at the Funkey Hotel in Brussels. In total, there were 17 participants from both Europe and Eastern Africa. The [report on the meeting](#) can be downloaded on our website, as well as the [action plan](#). The 2019 core-group was re-elected at the AGM and, since January 2019, has already had two meetings. The core-group includes European members Agrecol, SNV, Cordaid and VSFB and Eastern African partners PFE (Pastoralist Forum Ethiopia), ESAPN (Eastern and Southern Africa Pastoralist Network) and RECONCILE. The next AGM will be in Brussels on 16–18 October 2019. At the 2018 AGM, the CELEP budget for 2019 was approved (€17,000, based on contributions by European members).

### For Your Action:

- **SAVE THE DATE for the next AGM 16–18 October. This will be CELEP's 10 year anniversary, so we will try to make it a special occasion.**
- **If you see any action points that you would like to develop jointly in the following, please get in touch with the European CELEP Focal Point ([k.vantroos@vsf-belgium.org](mailto:k.vantroos@vsf-belgium.org)).**

## Ethiopian Pastoralist Day

The 17th Ethiopian Pastoralist Day was celebrated in Jinka, South Omo, on 25 January 2019 under the theme "Enhanced Pastoralists' Participation and Benefit for National Unity". Eastern African CELEP partner PFE was involved in this year's celebration, together with the Ministry of Peace and the Pastoralists' Affairs Standing Committee of the House of Peoples' Representatives. European CELEP member Up4Change was also present and made some beautiful photos, which were shared on Twitter (@CELEP\_FP). More information on Ethiopian Pastoralist Day can be found [here](#).

## Beating the Famine Conference, Bamako, 26–28 February

CELEP members IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature), SNV and VSFB teamed up together with the regional director of [the PRAPS \(Regional Sahel Pastoralist Support\) project](#) to host a session during the [Beating the Famine Conference in Bamako](#) entitled "Investing for rangelands restoration: challenges and implications for food and nutritional security". CELEP European member AgriProFocus also attended the meeting. More than 420 people from governmental and inter-governmental bodies, international organisations, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), community-based organisations, research institutions, private sector... were represented. The session was also used to advocate for the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP). Other recommendations made during the session included the following:

- We recommend that national ministries in charge of land tenure effectively implement pastoral land policies to protect pastoral lands and rangelands, and to facilitate and strengthen pastoral mobility.
- We recommend that governments, investors and donors increase investment in support of sustainable rangeland management and sustainable pastoralism in the Sahel.
- Rangelands restoration around the world is poorly reflected in current restoration initiatives and commitments. We recommend that governments, the Rio conventions and international organisations place rangeland restoration and pastoral community development at the heart of policies and programmes to accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

## International Youth Agro-pastoral Entrepreneurship Summit 2019

The youth agro-pastoral summit was a [4-day meeting](#) with different processes going on. The CELEP Regional Focal Point for Eastern Africa (Ken Otieno, RECONCILE) attended the meeting within the context of the rangelands and pastoralism work that contributes to the CELEP agenda. In the panel discussion, Ken's talking points were along the following lines:

### Top-line challenges:

- **Changing land uses and patterns, especially in the rangelands, and demand by large-scale investors, mega government projects etc.** *How can organising and consolidating youth social capital be used in securing youth land rights? (use of technology, participatory processes like resource mapping, land-use planning etc)*
- **Integrated approaches to support full engagement of the youth in agro-pastoral business.** *How can programmes/projects respond to institutional/organisational issues and build the capacity of youth for sustainable approaches?*

### Some solutions:

- **Policy options to promote effective youth access to land for production and employment.** *Affirmative action recognising the diverse nature and the population of the youth and their potential contribution to national economies.*
- **Modern information and communication technology (ICT) offers great potential and will attract youth into agro-pastoral business sectors.** *A need for tailored programmes towards knowledge building and skills development will address gaps especially in capacity areas and create more awareness through a medium that speaks to the youth.*
- **Processes that promote land access and youth-based investment including use of technology.** *Participatory planning methodology allows the youth to identify and secure land as part of the land and resource-use planning. Tools and approaches are incentives for youth engagement in land investment and planning, e.g. Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM) process, Participatory Rangeland Management (PRM) process, etc.*
- **Financing gaps.** *Building partnerships with financial institutions to respond to financing gaps by creating credit facilities that address the youth's needs, e.g. Youth Enterprise Fund in Kenya, single business permit. Establishing multi-stakeholder youth platforms for knowledge and information sharing and learning, e.g. youth summits.*
- **Institutions.** *Cooperatives to support the complete value chain system for the youth.*

## Planned events

### 8-10 April, Meeting on dairying, Brussels – “72h of milk”

On 8–10 April, several West African pastoralist organisations ([under a common campaign for local milk](#)), European NGOs (SOS-FAIM, CFSI/ Comité Français pour la Solidarité Internationale, Oxfam, European CELEP member VSFb etc) and European farmers (European Milk Board) will co-organise an event entitled “72h of local milk”. This will be held in Brussels and include a more technical session (targeting donors and technical agencies), a political session in the European Parliament (hosted by Member of European Parliament Maria Heubuch and organised by Oxfam) and a mass mobilisation event. CELEP was involved in the past in promoting dairying in pastoral systems ([statement](#), roundtable conference at the AGM in 2017, [activities at the 2018 Tropentag](#) etc.) and therefore chose to be active on this topic during the session on 9 April. CELEP has invited Research Associate Margareta Lelea from the European CELEP member DITSL (German Institute for Tropical and Subtropical Agriculture) to present how the Kenyan dairy model was developed and, in particular, what policies facilitated its development. Through this, CELEP hopes to contribute to an enabling environment for local dairy production in Africa and in particular for milk coming from pastoral production systems.

## 4–5 July, LANDAC conference, Utrecht

European CELEP members SNV, Cordaid and AgriProFocus (together with Heifer International) will co-organise a session on pastoralism during the LANDAC conference on 4–5 July in Utrecht. The session is entitled “Transforming pastoral landscapes: the importance of inclusive land management, policy engagement and climate risk management”. You can find the abstract for the session [here](#). There is a possibility to integrate other abstracts into the session. Abstracts can be submitted until 28 March through the conference website <http://www.landgovernance.org/>

**For Your Action: If you are doing relevant research on pastoralism and land issues, submit your abstract through the LANDAC website before 28 March.**

## 18–20 September, Tropentag conference, Kassel

More information here: <http://www.tropentag.de/>. In the past couple of years, CELEP has been particularly active at the Tropentag conference. Last year in Ghent, Belgium; [CELEP organised several events](#) and invited a speaker from Eastern Africa (Michael Odhiambo) to highlight pastoralism. This year, the Tropentag conference will be held in Kassel, Germany, and the core-group proposes to organise the following sessions:

- a. A pre-Tropentag workshop on the PRM project, the gap analysis on rangelands and pastoralism and research on livestock mobility, and to draw attention to the incorporation of pastoralists into the Decade of Family Farming. This could be organised together with the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas ([ICARDA](#)). The deadline for abstract submission for a pre-conference session is 1 May. Ann from the core-group will coordinate.
- b. Possibility to organise a mini film festival on pastoralism. Other CELEP members and partners could come up with a working group to prepare this.
- c. If sufficient abstracts are submitted on pastoralism, an entire session during the Tropentag conference could be dedicated to this topic. Researchers (particularly young scientists who are connected to/have studied in Germany, Belgium, Netherlands, Austria, Switzerland, Czech Republic etc) are therefore encouraged to submit abstracts on their recent research related to pastoralism. Deadline: 1 May via the website <http://www.tropentag.de/>.

**For Your Action: If you are interested in contributing to one of these activities, please get in touch with Ann Waters-Bayer ([waters-bayer@web.de](mailto:waters-bayer@web.de)).**

## Finalised publications

### Gap analysis on rangelands and pastoralism

As a follow-up to [the UNEA-2 resolution on Combating Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought and Promoting Sustainable Pastoralism and Rangelands](#); a gap analysis was conducted “to explore whether there are gaps in the current provision of technical support and environmental and socioeconomic assessments of grasslands, rangelands, soil erosion, land degradation, land tenure security and water security in drylands, including the ongoing assessments of the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, in order to better understand the implications for sustainable livelihoods, while taking into consideration local and indigenous knowledge and technologies”. The report was published by UN Environment and GRID-Arendal. Ann Waters-Bayer contributed to the report on behalf of CELEP. The report identifies the need for a global integrated assessment of rangelands and pastoralists that will provide a knowledge baseline crucial for monitoring the achievement of the SDGs among pastoralists. You can find more information on the gap analysis on the CELEP website <http://www.celep.info/gaps-in-knowledge-about-pastoralism-rangelands/>.

## CELEP publication on SDGs and pastoralism

CELEP has issued a new brief "[Pastoralism & the SDGs: how supporting pastoralism can help realise the Sustainable Development Goals](#)" (February 2019, 8pp). It looks at the SDGs most relevant to the pastoral context, and assesses for each of them the main challenges as well as the steps needed to ensure that pastoralism can contribute to achieving the SDGs. These approaches are supported by concrete examples of interventions, provided by various CELEP members.

## CELEP publication on pastoralism and family farming

To mark the beginning of the United Nations Decade of Family Farming 2019–28, CELEP combined forces with the ILC Rangelands Initiative and the International Support Group (ISG) for the IYRP in publishing an illustrated brief "[Pastoralists as family farmers](#)" (March 2019, 4pp). In the definition of family farmers for the International Year of Family Farmers (2014) and for the Decade of Family Farming, pastoralists are mentioned as a group requiring specific attention. Despite this recognition, most statements, papers and information about family farmers refer primarily to small-scale crop farmers. CELEP, ILC and the ISG – as a group of organisations supporting, working with or representing pastoralists – seek to draw attention to the importance of including pastoralists within discussions and interventions in family farming.

## Publications planned/underway

### Policy brief on pastoralist education

As defined in the action plan, a working group is currently developing a policy brief on pastoralist education. The work is led by CELEP member Up4change. Several other CELEP members and Eastern African partners, as well as members of the CELEP GoogleGroup, are involved.

### Baseline studies on pastoralist policies

According to the action plan, several baseline studies on pastoralist policies in Eastern Africa will be conducted in 2019. The idea is to take a closer look at the policy environment of pastoralism in Eastern Africa to be able to develop more targeted advocacy. This activity could be financed through the 2019 funding that will be allocated to CELEP through the PRM project. Details are currently being developed. Once the Terms of Reference are defined, they will be shared and a consultant will be sought. Ideally, the study should be completed with an analysis of European Union (EU) policies in favour of pastoralism in Eastern Africa.

## Update on lobbying/advocacy

### Adoption of Resolution L17 at UNEA-4

The fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) took place from 11–15 March and included the presentation of the above-mentioned report on the gap analysis as well as the adoption of Resolution L17 on "[Innovations in sustainable rangelands and pastoralism](#)". The resolution was proposed by the Government of Kenya and supported by the Africa Group. At the very last moment, CELEP was also involved in lobbying some of the relevant actors to get the resolution accepted. The resolution is a very important step forward in the overall recognition of pastoralism and addressing issues around pastoralism and rangelands in all their aspects.

### World Rural Forum conference on 27–28 March in Bilbao, Spain, to prepare official launch of United Nations Decade of Family Farming

CELEP, through Ann Waters-Bayer, member of the CELEP core-group on behalf of Agrecol, is involved in the processes surrounding the preparation of the United Nations Decade of Family Farming (DFF)

and, in particular, in the World Coordinating Committee that was set up by the World Rural Forum (WRF) and is part of the International Steering Committee for the DFF. This involvement is linked to the lobbying/advocacy for an International Year on Rangelands and Pastoralism (IYRP), as one of the objectives is to have an entire year within the DFF devoted to pastoralists. In this regard, Ann is joining the 6<sup>th</sup> Global Conference on Family Farming organised by WRF. This is meant to prepare the official launch of the DFF, which will take place in late May in Rome. For this conference, CELEP, the ILC Rangelands Initiative and the International Support Group for the IYRP collaborated in preparing a brief on "[Pastoralists as family farmers](#)". This brief has also been translated in French.

## EU lobbying/advocacy

### 2–3 April: Food and agriculture in times of crisis

More information here: [https://ec.europa.eu/knowledge4policy/event/save-date-2-3-april-2019-high-level-event-food-agriculture-times-crisis\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/knowledge4policy/event/save-date-2-3-april-2019-high-level-event-food-agriculture-times-crisis_en). This event is being organised by the European Commission. CONCORD (European Confederation of Relief and Development NGOs) was contacted to suggest some speakers. CELEP (Koen) will try to attend and to make sure pastoralism is included in the discussions. Pastoralist representatives are also likely to take part (mostly from West Africa). The most recent CELEP documents on SDGs and family farming will be disseminated during the event.

### New reference document on livestock at DG DEVCO

DG DEVCO – the European Commission Department for Development Cooperation – is preparing a new document on livestock. Though CELEP is not authorised to review the document, it has been actively engaging with DG DEVCO to at least inform the authors about recent publications regarding pastoralism to make sure pastoralism is involved positively. Recently, a report was also published by the [Taskforce Rural Africa](#) – which role is to focus on the development role of food and farming – mentioning also pastoralism. [This report](#), which focuses on Africa–Europe collaboration in the field of agriculture, is expected to influence EU development collaboration in the near future and especially regarding a summit of European and African Ministers of Agriculture to be held in June in Rome. Though the report includes pastoralism, it mostly focuses on its role related to current conflicts and less on its important values. Additional lobbying/advocacy is therefore needed, in particular to attain the long-awaited goal of having an EU reference document on pastoralism.

### In-country meetings with EU delegations

As agreed in the CELEP action plan and in line with the planning of the new budget and the NDICI (the [new EU instrument for neighbourhood, development and international collaboration](#)), meetings are to be organised in the Eastern African partner countries of CELEP to effectively influence EU decision-making. The core-group can provide basic background information and contacts to arrange the meetings, but Eastern African partners and European CELEP members in the countries should actually set up the meetings.

**For Your Action: If you would like to be involved in these meetings, please contact the European CELEP Focal Point [k.vantroos@vsf-belgium.org](mailto:k.vantroos@vsf-belgium.org)**