



CELEP engagement strategy

Introduction

Pastoralism is a vital part of the Eastern African drylands, supporting the livelihoods of over 25 million people (60 million including agropastoralists, or roughly 5% of the total population of Africa) in this region and covering over 50% of the area's land surface. Their mobility allows the pastoralists to make optimal use of the sparse dryland resources, by moving with their herd to places where pasture and water resources are better at specific times of the year or in different years. Next to their significant contribution to the economy (up to 30% of national agricultural GDP) through the sales of meat, milk and skins, livestock also ensures employment, food & nutrition security, social status and a buffer against shocks.

Despite the economic potential of livestock and the growing demand for meat, the majority of pastoralists live below the poverty line. The frequent occurrence of shocks, of both natural and human causes, weakens the pastoral systems with its traditional institutions and coping mechanisms. At the root cause of these shocks lie a variety of factors, including increased fragmentation of and conflict over pastoral land, degradation of resources, political marginalisation and adverse government interventions. On top of that comes climate change, which puts even more pressure on the dryland resources through higher temperatures, higher rainfall variability and more extreme climate events.

Goal

The overall goal of CELEP's lobbying and advocacy efforts is to create an enabling environment for Eastern African pastoralism. In order to do so, CELEP targets the European Union and national governments in Europe with the aim to enhance 1) recognition of the value of pastoralism for the sustainable development of Eastern Africa's drylands and 2) understanding (and implementation) of good practices that underpin this sustainable development.

Thematic foci

The following thematic areas will be prioritised in CELEP's lobbying and advocacy work. Throughout these thematic areas, emphasis will be put on the value of pastoralism, which is seen as a foundation for all of CELEP's work.

1. **Access to and management of pastoral land and natural resources** to ensure inclusion and participation of pastoralists in resource governance. This approach aims to facilitate mobility, sustainable management and use of resources, takes into account customary institutions, includes conflict-resolution mechanisms, and is underpinned by appropriate/supportive policies, land tenure and access rights, and participatory decision-making processes. An important aspect of this approach involves strengthening pastoralist organisations so that they can better express the voices of pastoralist men and women in defending their rights to use land and natural resources.
2. **Enhanced food security and marketing of pastoral products:** Pastoralists play an important yet undervalued part in their countries' economies. On account of their marginalised position, pastoral areas are often lacking in the necessary infrastructure and services that can support effective market systems. The variety of different products that livestock provide, including milk, meat, hides and skins, offer many income-generating opportunities, such as processing, transport, trading etc. To leverage these opportunities, pastoralist men and women need to be supported by appropriate infrastructure and policies (both national and international), marketing opportunities, and access

to resources and information. Particular attention will be paid to dairy development, in view of the central role that women have in the pastoral milk economy. The income generated from these livestock activities or from the direct exchange of livestock for other food products is also vital for achieving food and nutrition security for pastoralist communities (next to the milk and meat they consume themselves).

3. **Enhanced resilience:** The strength of pastoralism lies in its capacity to adapt to changing conditions, making it a very efficient production system under the unpredictability of dryland conditions. This strength needs to be leveraged/reinforced in order to make pastoralists more resilient to shocks, including the greater climate variability that is projected for the future. Closely related to Point 1), elements that are needed to achieve this include more secure access to resources, enhanced disaster-risk/drought-cycle management, conflict-resolution mechanisms, livelihood diversification, improved market opportunities, reinforcement of safety nets (such as livestock insurance) and better access to (early warning) information on climate shocks, conflicts and diseases.

Measuring the change

Target audience	Barriers – assumptions	Change	Measuring the change
European decision-makers (European Parliament, European Commission, European National Governments)	European decision-makers do not have access to the necessary information and/or are unaware of the need for them to act in favour of pastoralism in Eastern Africa.	European decision-makers are informed and aware of the importance of pastoralism in Eastern Africa and act in its favour.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulations and resolutions of European decision-makers reflect the positioning of CELEP. • The European Commission develops a technical note on pastoralism. • Specific CRS purpose codes are created for pastoralism. In order to do so, European decision-makers advocate within the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) for specific Creditor Reporting System (CRS) purpose codes for pastoralism. This will allow CSOs to measure any change in allocation of official development aid (ODA) to pastoralism
CELEP European members and Eastern African partners	CELEP European members and Eastern African partners do not have sufficient/adapted capacities to fully play a role in advocacy for pastoralism in Eastern Africa. They should also harmonise their vision on pastoralism to assure effectiveness of common lobbying actions.	CELEP European members and Eastern African partners have sufficient/adapted capacities to advocate for pastoralism in Eastern Africa and share a common vision on pastoral development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Common position papers on pastoralism in Africa and related sub-subjects. • The argumentation of CELEP European members and Eastern African partners to advocate for pastoralism in Eastern Africa is improved.

Theory of Change: graphics

