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Past activities

PERSPECTIVES ON PASTORALISM FILM FESTIVAL AT TROPENTAG IN KASSEL, GERMANY

On 17 September, CELEP member organisations Agrecol (Association for AgriCulture and Ecology), DITSL (German Institute for Tropical and Subtropical Agriculture) and VSF (Vétérinaires Sans Frontières) Belgium presented the Perspectives on Pastoralism Film Festival as part of the Tropentag 2019 conference organised by the Universities of Kassel and Goettingen at the University of Kassel.

The film festival was promoted with the text below:

The film festival aims to deepen understanding of how diverse peoples across the world gain their livelihoods from extensive livestock production. The relationships of pastoralist people and animals and their food production systems reflect an intimate intertwining of culture, economy and ecology in harsh environments such as drylands and mountains. In such environments, livestock mobility plays a key role.

Pastoralism is a rational and economically viable landuse system that can generate significant returns in dryland and mountainous regions, but widespread misunderstanding about pastoralism has often left it underprotected, undervalued and a victim of uninformed policies. However, this livelihood system is ideally suited to the climatic and economic uncertainties of our turbulent century. The film festival showcases visual media that will spark dialogue, inspire debate and complement the presentation of



research at the Tropentag conference. Films of different genres – documentary, narrative and animated, made by pastoralists (participatory video) and/or about pastoralists – offer insights into issues important to them.

In addition to the film festival, CELEP also organised a session on the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) gap analysis on pastoralism, in which it collaborated through Ann Waters-Bayer who represents Agrecol Association within CELEP. The report on this workshop can be found here: <http://www.celep.info/research-in-pastoral-systems-workshop-report/>

CELEP also had a booth during the Tropentag conference to raise awareness on pastoralism and diffuse some publications of the Coalition and its member organisations, as well as the journal *Nomadic Peoples*.

CELEP held its 10th annual general meeting in Brussels on 16–18 October

On 16–18 October 2019, CELEP's 10th annual general meeting (AGM) was held in Brussels. To celebrate this special anniversary, CELEP organised a (short) film festival on pastoralism on 15 October, the eve of the AGM, at Cinema Nova in Brussels. This films shown at this well-attended event can be found [on the film-festival website](#).

The AGM started the next day, after a joint lunch, with presentations of CELEP European members and Eastern African partners on their pastoralism-related activities. Then the European Focal Point, Koen Van Troos, presented CELEP's past activities. The day ended with a networking dinner in a typical Belgian restaurant. Day 2 of the AGM was all about policymaking in the EU. Koen introduced the EU's take on pastoralism. Then CONCORD, the European NGO confederation for relief and development, gave further details on EU policymaking, particularly on the EU budget – the MFF (Multi-Annual Financial Framework) – and how to engage with EU delegations in Eastern Africa.

A lunchtime conference on “Matching markets to mobility in Eastern Africa” was held at the InfoPoint of the European Commission (EC). After an introduction by Leonard Mizzi, Head of the Unit Rural Development, Food Security and Nutrition at DG DEVCO, three presentations were made by Ken Otieno (RECONCILE, Kenya), Saverio Kratli (independent researcher, UK) & Moges Bekele (Ethiopian Catholic Church) and Margareta Lelea (DITSL, Germany). This session was live-streamed; the recording can be found in the hyperlinks in the AGM report. Back in their meeting room, the AGM participants worked on future actions of CELEP, and finalised the workplan on Day 3. This focused on identifying: events in which CELEP should be active, publications, EU lobbying/advocacy activities, projects and CELEP organisational development.

The agreed plan is included into the [CELEP AGM 2019 report](#). **CELEP members and partners who could not attend the AGM are very welcome to join in working on the identified actions!**

Members of European Parliament at livestock markets in Ethiopia appreciate economic importance of pastoralism

As agreed during the AGM, CELEP facilitated the visit of two Members of the European Parliament (MEPs), Mr Norbert Neuser – who previously visited Uganda with CELEP in 2015 – and Ms Michèle Rivasi, to livestock markets in Ethiopia in November 2019. The two MEPs visited Ethiopia as part of an official mission of the DEVE Committee of the European Parliament. Thus, CELEP did not coordinate the entire mission but could propose the visit as a side event. Some background

information on the Kara Allo livestock market and on pastoralism in Ethiopia can be found in this short [Briefing note](#).



First, MEP Neuser visited the Kara Allo secondary livestock market, where he was given some background information on the purpose of the visit organised by CELEP through the local partner of MISEREOR, the Ethiopian Catholic Church Social and Development Commission (ECC-SDCO)/Caritas Ethiopia. This trip marked the fifth time that Mr Neuser visited Ethiopia. He expressed his pleasure to make this visit and found it interesting to hear about the important contribution of pastoralism to the Ethiopian economy. He also emphasised that he would raise the issue with the Ethiopian Foreign Minister, whom he was scheduled to meet the following day.

A second visit with MEP Rivasi went to the Kera Beret livestock market. This very busy market was operating at full force when Ms Rivasi arrived with CELEP representatives Moges Bekele and Eyasu Yonas. Ms Rivasi was impressed and astonished at the size of the market. During the visit, she learned that the pastoralists are the major providers of the livestock to be sold at this market. She engaged in conversation with the people in the market, including traders and brokers. After the visit, she asked what support is needed for pastoralists in Ethiopia. Moges and Eyasu explained that CELEP needs strong MEPs to advocate for pastoralism and for the European Parliament to take decisions in favour of Eastern African pastoralists. Ms Rivasi promised to do her best to do so and also stressed the need to consider climate change and peace building as important concerns of the pastoralists. She saw the need to identify areas of intervention and exchange for possible resource mobilisation. The visit ended with her expression of appreciation of CELEP and ECC-SDCO/ Caritas Ethiopia for organising this side event during her stay in Ethiopia.

FAO PKH and ILC RI meetings (Global and Africa)

On behalf of CELEP, Ann Waters-Bayer – from the CELEP member organisation Agrecol Association and member of the CELEP core-group – joined the FAO Pastoralist Knowledge Hub (PKH) and International Land Coalition Rangeland Initiative (ILC RI) Global meetings in Rome on 18–21 November 2019. Benjamin Mutambukah from the Coalition of Pastoral Civil Society Organizations (COPACSO) in Uganda joined as representative of the Eastern and Southern African Pastoralist Network (ESAPN). Reports of the meetings were shared with the CELEP members and partners. The



agenda of the FAO meeting and a short report of the meeting can be found on the FAO website <http://www.fao.org/pastoralist-knowledge-hub/news/detail/en/c/1254470/>.

Regarding the ILC Rangelands Initiative, of which CELEP is now a global member, the main point of the meeting was to develop a new 3-year strategy. The agenda of the meeting can be found here: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1yQI1zv-G0vvSCzacMuZ9Fcx68j-EegOc/view?usp=sharing>. The minutes of the meeting were shared with the CELEP members and partners.

In addition, Ken Otieno – regional focal point for CELEP in Eastern Africa – took part in the meeting of the ILC Rangelands Initiative Africa, which was held in Abidjan on 21–24 November. During this meeting, the RI Africa worked on its strategy for 2020–23. The strategy offers many possibilities for collaboration with CELEP, which will be discussed and analysed by the CELEP core-group.

New publications by members and partners

1. MAKING MARKETS WORK: THE ROLE OF LIVESTOCK MARKETS IN BUILDING THE RESILIENCE OF PASTORALISTS AGAINST DROUGHT IN MARSABIT, KENYA – A NEW STUDY BY CELEP MEMBER TEARFUND

According to this report, pastoralist communities in Kenya live in some of the harshest environments and their livelihoods have been severely hit by recurring droughts, with such climate-related shocks becoming more severe and more frequent. Markets have the potential to build pastoralists' resilience and livelihoods – but do they really do so?

Through this research, Food for the Hungry and Tearfund looked at why the current market systems in Marsabit, Kenya, are offering limited survival options to the 388 pastoralists interviewed. The main reasons included low market access, low market use due to long distances (particularly for women, elderly traders and people living with disabilities), market closures due to frequent external shocks (e.g. drought, disease, inter-ethnic clashes) and a lack of organised community-based livestock marketing groups to enhance pastoralists' bargaining power.

There is need to reduce the vulnerability of pastoral households to recurrent droughts. This report makes recommendations for how county and national governments, donors, and humanitarian and development partners can work in collaboration with pastoralists, in particular with women, people with disabilities, youth and marginalised groups, to build resilience through:

- strengthening the role of markets in the short term through restocking programmes, synchronised market days and training in business skills
- providing the tools and training for water harvesting and storage and range rehabilitation
- helping pastoralists to add value to their livestock products, investing in education, and developing stronger coordination between all the actors to enable livestock market systems to work for pastoralists in the long term.

You can find the full report [here](#) and a blog article about the study [here](#).

2. MISEREOR'S PASTORAL DEVELOPMENT ORIENTATION FRAMEWORK: FOCUS ON ETHIOPIA

On 24 September 2019 at the Social and Development Coordination Annual Meeting of the Ethiopian Catholic Church, MISEREOR – the development agency of the German Catholic Bishops' Conference – presented its [Pastoral Development Orientation Framework](#) for working with small-scale producers in pastoral systems in Ethiopia. It was a joint launch with the Ethiopian Catholic Church, which has endorsed the Orientation Framework for its own social development work with pastoralists.

MISEREOR supports development processes in Ethiopia since the 1960s. Its engagement with pastoralists in Ethiopia became a distinct focus during the drought of 2011/12, supporting the work of both church-based development agencies and civil society organisations. The Orientation Framework is the result of over three years of dialogue, involving partners and pastoralists, as well as many of the key actors concerned with pastoral development in Ethiopia.

The Orientation Framework acknowledges that the scientific understanding of pastoralism has undergone a veritable U-turn from the principles that directed pastoral development for most of its existence. It acknowledges the mistakes of the past. It engages with pastoralists' sophisticated knowledge, supporting the understanding of mobility as a key strategy to increase livestock productivity.

The Orientation Framework sketches the way forward in an explorative and participatory way. The core principle is to strengthen pastoral systems, building on pastoralists' own specialisation and expertise. The document is organised in three parts. The first concerns the understanding of pastoral systems in general and the context of pastoral development. The second focuses on the experience of pastoral development in Ethiopia. The third combines these lessons in light of MISEREOR's approach to development in order to define six axes of activity to strengthen pastoral systems in Ethiopia: i) recognise and support their specialisation to use dryland variability for food production; ii) increase pastoralists' options for targeting pasture resources; iii) create appropriate water supplies in strategic locations; iv) improve access to well-adapted services; v) support the understanding and visibility of pastoralism; and vi) promote dialogue in support of people-led pastoral development.

MISEREOR is the German Catholic Bishops' Organisation for Development Cooperation. For over 60 years, it has been committed to combatting poverty in Africa, the Near East, Asia, Oceania and Latin America. It supports local development organisations in various sectors, with strong emphasis on people-led development and sustainable agriculture. It seeks to benefit the poor, neglected and marginalised, irrespective of religion, gender, ethnicity or nationality. Missionary work is excluded by statute. MISEREOR has supported CELEP in the past few years and is involved in CELEP activities, including hosting the CELEP AGM in 2014 at its headquarters in Aachen, Germany.

For further information, please contact Atsbaha Gebre-Selassie (atgselassie@yahoo.com, Tel +251911690217).

3. MOBILE PASTORALISTS & LIVESTOCK MARKETING IN KARAMOJA

The web article "[Mobile pastoralists: the challenge of livestock markets in Karamoja, Uganda](#)" by Loupa Pius of the Dodoth Agropastoralist Development Organization (DADO) – a CELEP partner – was published in March 2019 in the "Impakter" series of the Global Forum in Agricultural Research (GFAR). The article explores livestock markets and the use of pastoralist mobility to enhance the



growing cattle economy in Karamoja. It brings cases of good practice in the livestock trade not only in Uganda but also in northern Kenya. It discusses the challenges faced by livestock markets in Karamoja and makes recommendations for improving the livestock value chain and economy in the area.

Ongoing activities

Advancement towards an IYRP

An overview of the latest developments regarding the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP) can be found here:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1eyRW88wz_syaHQN_C9GWuj07a4cikKGP/view?usp=sharing.

In short, the proposal from the Mongolian Government will be voted on by the FAO Committee on Agriculture (COAG¹) in October 2020. The COAG members that have been difficult so far in accepting international years are the USA and the European countries. Ann joined the International Support Group for the IYRP on behalf of CELEP and, through that, CELEP was asked to assist in lobbying European countries to support the proposal for an IYRP. The European Union has a vote in the COAG through the EC (<http://www.fao.org/unfao/govbodies/gsbhome/coag/en/>) but, more importantly, so do the European Member States. Therefore, CELEP needs to influence both the EC and the Member States. The list of COAG contacts can be found here:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1W_aKmVVBBrNSH-lbML--NxFH5OhXg7LpT/view?usp=sharing.

Kenya Pastoralists' Week

As agreed in the CELEP action plan for 2019–20, CELEP will be involved in this year's Kenya Pastoralists' Week (KPW), which will take place on 18–20 December 2019 in Baringo County. For information on the programme and activities, please consult this website (<https://cemiride.org/kpw/>). CELEP will also Tweet during the KPW, so don't hesitate to retweet or tag CELEP @CELEP_FP.

Some background information on the KPW: Under the theme "The economy of rangelands and pastoralism", this year's KPW is critical at the local, national and global levels. It is an opportunity to build the grassroots momentum around rangelands and pastoralism. Among other global events, the campaign led by a host of organisations and governments to have the United Nations declare an International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralism (IYRP) was started in Nairobi in 2016. The joint International Rangelands Congress (IRC) and International Grasslands Congress (IGC) will take place in Kenya in 2020. These events, among others, call for engagement and participation of as many partners as possible in the KPW 2019 in Baringo.

Rangelands cover around a third of all the terrestrial above-surface area and are at the centre of pastoral livelihoods, providing human and livestock populations with food, fodder, shelter and water. Rangelands host around a third of the world's biodiversity, and this includes the grazing and browsing species that are the bedrock of the pastoral economy. In a world that is placing ever-greater demands on nature, and where the planet's capacity to support humanity is under threat,

¹ The Committee on Agriculture (COAG) is an FAO Governing Body that provides overall policy and regulatory guidance on issues related to agriculture, livestock, food safety, nutrition, rural development and natural resource management.



rangeland ecosystem services are of growing value, and the role of pastoralists in securing them is increasingly important.

In Kenya, the overall development and management challenge is to provide policy and strategy guidelines towards the sustainable growth of the rangelands in a manner that is efficient and equitable. It is a challenge that has to address the fundamental unique and dynamic state of the rangelands, to ensure the rangelands resource endowments are fully harnessed without destroying their assimilative and regenerative capacities. Additional challenges are realised access to productive opportunities, guaranteeing desirable levels of social welfare, strengthening urban–rural linkages and making resource-based development more effective.

Of significance in this challenge is the recognition that the rangelands exhibit ecological condition that favour mobile pastoralism and set limits to settled agriculture, and that they are not homogenous in terms of livelihood needs and priorities. Some of the constraints to comprehensive rangeland development include, among others: rainfall patterns that are inherently erratic, frequent drought, insecurity, lack of basic infrastructure, incessant poverty, and biophysical and socio-economic vulnerability. Today's rangelands are also characterised by increased human activity, land fragmentation and sedentarisation, increased loss of pasture and biodiversity, loss of livelihoods and resource-based conflicts, and massive land degradation in some areas.

Evolution with the pastoralist film festival

After a positive evaluation of the editions of the pastoralist film festival in Kassel in September and in Brussels in October, it was decided during the CELEP AGM that several CELEP members would coordinate the promotion and organisation of the film festival at other occasions. The members who are coordinating this include Ann, Margareta Lelea (from EU member DITSL) and Koen. They already decided to contact the people whose films are part of the current selection to ask them if their (short) films can be part of a travelling programme, which can then easily be used at different venues. Two more possibilities have already identified, including the organisation of the film festival at Wageningen University (most likely in March 2020) and in October 2020 during the International Grasslands and Rangelands Congress in Nairobi. If CELEP members and partners wish to organise a showing of the films, they should get in touch with the organising committee. For CELEP members and partners who want to keep an eye on upcoming editions of the film festival, they should consult the website www.pastoralistfilmfestival.com from time to time.

CELEP videos – The Pastoralist Series

During the CELEP AGM, several participants were interviewed asking their opinion on issues related to pastoralism. These videos have recently been finalised and will be promoted during the KPW online on the VSFYB Youtube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=16uUK6XT5zo&list=PLCCXsFXencwVqLmhQAFFJPVFW17uIBq6e>.

They will also be included in the film selection for the travelling programme of the film festival on pastoralism.