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## Past activities

### Kenya Pastoralists Week

Through CELEP’s Focal Point in Eastern Africa at the NGO RECONCILE, the Coalition contributed to the organisation of the Kenya Pastoralists Week (KPW) held in late December 2019 in Baringo County. The 14-page [“Report on the Kenya Pastoralists Week 2019 in Baringo, Kenya: The Economy of Rangelands and Pastoralism”](#) (2020) includes summaries of the main presentations made to celebrate pastoralism in Kenya, which underlined its economic importance for local livelihoods and for the country. During the KPW, CELEP helped provide a platform of engagement for its members and partners by facilitating discussion on how to further increase the capacity of pastoralist civil society to influence policy processes at local, national, regional and global level. Even if the KPW is a national event, CELEP’s involvement was relevant for influencing regional policies and frameworks, like in the case of the annual Ethiopian Pastoralists’ Day. It helps place such events within a regional context and reflects the synergy within the Coalition. CELEP members Cordaid, SNV, Welthungerhilfe and CELEP regional focal point in Eastern Africa RECONCILE were particularly involved. CELEP partner Pastoralist Women Health and Education (PWHE) also joined some of the festivities.

### CELEP co-signs call on locust crisis in the Horn

Desert locusts are breeding and spreading quickly through farm- and rangeland across the Horn of Africa – in Somalia, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, South Sudan, Djibouti, Eritrea and Tanzania. Somalia and Ethiopia are experiencing the worst locust crisis in over 25 years and Kenya the worst in over 70 years. The locust crisis could lead to major food crises for both humans and animals. It exacerbates the already vulnerable food-security situation and threat to livelihoods, especially for agropastoralist groups in the Horn, as it comes after a succession of previous shocks including drought and flooding and in a context of widespread conflict and displacement.

In response to this crisis, several international and national NGOs working in the Greater Horn of Africa – including ACTED, CELEP member Concern Worldwide, Norwegian Refugee Council, Oxfam and Johanniter International Assistance – have formed a Regional Desert Locust Alliance (RDLA) to



coordinate responses to the locust crisis and to call for greater national, regional and international support for local people in the Horn. The RDLA stresses the need for livelihood support so as to prevent that the locust crisis leads to a humanitarian disaster. It calls on donors to initiate timely funding for livelihood protection and early recovery activities now, rather than waiting and having to make an expensive emergency response later in the year. It particularly stresses the need to safeguard the livelihood resources and diet diversity of (agro)pastoralists and other vulnerable groups.

As a coalition focusing on pastoralism in Eastern Africa, CELEP has co-signed the RDLA statement on the Greater Horn of Africa locust crisis and joined the call to donors and policymakers to support the livelihoods of local people affected by this crisis. You can find the statement [on our website](#). CELEP also shared the statement with its lobby contacts.

### CELEP involvement in the PRM project

The team coordinating the Participatory Rangeland Management (PRM) project, composed of ILC/CELEP members and partners, decided to make a film as part of the advocacy/capitalisation activities coordinated by CELEP. Through a call for tenders, Patrick Augenstein, who is also linked to the University of Bonn ([link to Youtube page](#)), was selected to make the film. He has vast experience in focusing on rangelands, particularly with the Tanzania Natural Resource Forum (TNRF), which is one of the partners in the PMR project. Patrick will be able to combine the film assignment with other ongoing assignments that will allow cutting costs and achieving utmost efficiency (e.g. in use of film footage). Patrick agreed to work together with the local project team to reinforce their capacities in filming. In addition, he will also provide a series of high-density photos that CELEP will be able to use in its publications (output of the video to use as a global advocacy tool). The participatory process of making the 12–20-minute film will stretch over two years.

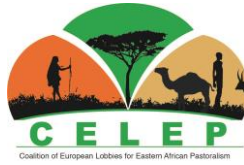
A 4-page brochure on the PRM project and what has been achieved thus far can be found [here](#).

## Ongoing activities

### EU lobbying – an update

CELEP has been actively lobbying institutions of the European Union (EU) to build up support for a specific EU policy on pastoralism in (Eastern) Africa. To attain this goal, CELEP – through the CELEP European focal point at VSF-Belgium – is promoting pastoralism at the level of the EU institutions, in particular with the European Parliament, the European Commission and to a certain extent also with the Council of the European Union. CELEP is seeking entry points within these institutions to be able to put pastoralism on the agenda. In addition to the themes of food security, climate change and land, CELEP is exploring the relevance of the theme of conflict mitigation for this purpose. The EU is increasingly concerned with *conflict* in pastoralist areas – particularly in the Sahel; this could be an entry point to advocate for pastoralism. CELEP is also seeking opportunities *to link up the EU's positioning regarding pastoralism in external policies to its positioning regarding pastoralism within Europe* through its domestic policies. CELEP believes that pursuing both pathways for advocacy will add to its overall goal of gaining a specific EU policy for pastoralism in (Eastern) Africa.

In terms of lobbying targets, CELEP now has a good working relationship with several members of the European Parliament and is trying to increase its number of allies. It would like to organise a study trip for Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) to Kenya, as it did in 2011 and 2015. With the Parliament, current entry points include dairying, as CELEP – through VSF-Belgium – is also part of a



coalition lobbying the EU to support local dairying from (agro-)pastoral systems in West Africa. Another entry point is the follow-up on the EU–Africa relations, as the EU is working on a new strategy for this, and the Parliament is in charge of writing the strategy report.

In the European Commission, CELEP has developed a good working relationship with the Directorate-General on Development (DG DEVCO) and in particular with Unit C1, focusing on food security and rural development. Through the angle of conflict mitigation, CELEP is now looking into broadening its focus to include also the European External Action Service (EEAS). Simultaneously, CELEP is also exploring how to increase in-country lobbying/advocacy with EU delegations in Eastern Africa.

Regarding the Council, CELEP is working through its German members and with the support of MISEREOR in influencing the German presidency of the Council to include pastoralism in the agenda. A group of German members of CELEP is currently working on this.

### European Development Days

For the upcoming European Development Days ([www.eudevdays.eu](http://www.eudevdays.eu)) on 9–10 June 2020 in Brussels, CELEP is involved in proposal for two sessions to raise awareness on pastoralism. The first one, submitted by VSF-International (to which CELEP members VSF-Belgium and VSF-Germany belong) together with DG DEVCO, ILRI, VSF Swiss and CCM (<http://www.ccm-italia.org/en>), proposes a lab debate on pastoralism and the One Health approach. A second proposal was submitted with Search for Common Ground (SCG) on pastoralism and conflict resolution. SCG is currently working on farmer–herder conflicts and will publish a toolkit on this. Together, SCG and CELEP have proposed a brainstorm lab to discuss this important topic.

### Pastoralist Film Festival

CELEP now has the official permission of the filmmakers to use a series of short films to organise showings of the “Perspectives on Pastoralism” film festival. All information regarding the film festival can be found on the dedicated website [www.pastoralistfilmfestival.com](http://www.pastoralistfilmfestival.com). As you will see there, CELEP currently has three showings lined up: two in the Netherlands and one in Kenya. The filmmakers gave CELEP their consent to use the films until the end of 2020 in a so-called travelling programme, which – as the name indicates – is meant to travel around. The programme is based on the Brussels edition organised last year during the CELEP Annual General Meeting and consists of two compilations of films of approximately 45 minutes each, all either subtitled in English or spoken in English. These compilations can be shared with groups interested in organising a showing of the film festival.

**If you are interested in organising a showing of the film festival, please get in touch with Koen ([k.vantroos@vsf-belgium.org](mailto:k.vantroos@vsf-belgium.org)).**

### News on members and partners

CELEP member SOS Sahel UK closed at the end of February 2020. SOS Ethiopia and SOS Sudan are now independent structures and will continue being part of CELEP as partner organisations.