



**FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF
ETHIOPIA
PASTORAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY
AND STRATEGY**

Final Draft Submitted to GOE for Approval

**March , 2019
Ministry of Peace**



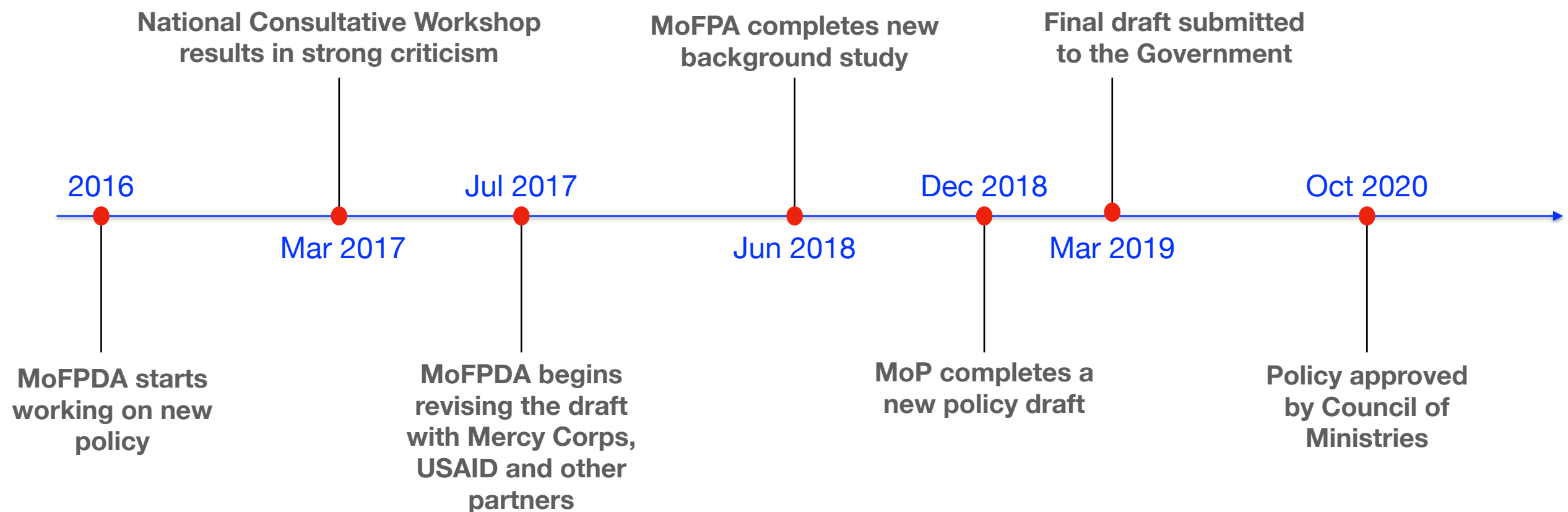
The 2019 draft FDRE Pastoral Development Policy and Strategy

A quick-reference tool

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**Webinar organised by
the University of JigJiga and PAPDA
11 March 2021**

FDRE Pastoral Development Policy and Strategy essential timeline (2016-2021)



this analysis

- **Based on the English text of the 2019 draft**
- **Limited to logical coherence**

Policy structure

Vision



1 General Objective
5 Specific Objectives

2 Pillars

4 Policy Issues

13 Sectoral Strategies

76 Implementation Activities

**Innovative
elements**

Acknowledges the value and specificity of pastoralism

‘pastoral people have their own particular way of life and peculiar environment’ (p.13);

‘90% of the revenue generated from the livestock export in Ethiopia comes from the mobile livestock production in the pastoral areas.’ (p.14)

‘[pastoral] mobility has social, economic, and cultural reasons and consequences that they developed through years of experience which kept them resilient’ (p.15)

‘The livelihood of the people depends on their resilient social/communal customary organization and administration; and the equilibrium between their natural environment and livestock resources.’ (p.15)

‘The basis of our effort in pastoral areas ... shall be the recognition of pastoralism as a mode of production and livelihood system’ (p.25)

Acknowledges that past approach was a mistake

‘... pastoralists that constitute 12% of the Ethiopian population ... have been neglected and forgotten for years.’ (p.13)

‘Gaps in previous governments’ policies and strategies; and the attitude that considers pastoralism as a backward livelihood system, without clearly understanding it; practices that restrict mobile pastoralism/animal husbandry; and absence of development plans that were relevant and participatory, have been observed as contributing factors to the underdevelopment of the pastoral areas.’ (p.15)

‘Weak implementation capability; deep rooted good governance problems; repetitive and cyclical natural and man-made catastrophe and vulnerability (drought, flood, conflict, and epidemic); and absence of stand-by prevention and protection mechanisms; climate change; land-use conversion; and a development strategy that does not consider the impact of such land-use conversion have remained bottlenecks in pastoral development.’ (p.22)

Acknowledges that pastoral development needs to be centred on pastoralism

Having acknowledged that failing to take pastoral people's way of life and ecology into account in the past is at the root of current problems in pastoral areas (p.15 and p.22), the policy sets on not to repeat the same mistake.

Specific Objective (a) is to: 'Respond to the demands of pastoralists for growth and development in a holistic manner by taking their livelihood system as the basis' (p.26)

Specific Objective (b) is to: 'Guide sectoral policies and strategies... to be revised in light of the livelihood basis and ecology of pastoralists' (p.26) (p.15)

Innovative elements

- ☒ Acknowledges the value and specificity of pastoralism
- ☒ Acknowledges that the past approach was a mistake
- ☒ Acknowledges that pastoral development needs to be centred on pastoralism

Problems



A two-faced structure



- The two basic pillars (pp. 27-31) are effectively a second set of objectives: i. increasing animal production and productivity; and ii. sedentarization. Very much the approach of past regimes. Directly opposed to the policy objectives.
- Embedded in the pillars, there is an overarching objective: livestock-based industrialisation, described as ‘the central point of the Pastoral Development Policy and Strategy.’ (p.31). Opposed to the policy objectives.
- The operational sections of the policy, from pillars to implementation activities, are aimed at serving the goals embedded in the basic pillars and, overall, serving livestock-based industrialisation.



A U-turn from existing achievements

- The innovative elements found in the opening pages and the policy objectives are disregarded and contradicted in the body of the policy.
- The overarching objective and the basic pillars are also in sharp contradiction with the *AU Policy Framework for Pastoralism*, which supports pastoralism as a way of life and pastoralists' right to self-determination (principle 3); supports pastoral mobility (principles 4 and 7); and warns against the links between unruly commercialisation of food production, dispossession and growing social inequality (pp. 14 and 17).
- Pillar 2 is also in direct contradiction with the 2015 *Ethiopia Livestock Master Plan*, which recommends to 'promote herd mobility as a strategy to utilise temporal and spatial variability in the availability of forage' (p.72).



Signing a blank cheque

.....20²¹.....

Pay.....

..... or Bearer.

Birr

Br.

Pastoral Development Bank *Ethiopian Pastoralists*

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- The policy acknowledges a legacy of lack of understanding of pastoralism, as cause of mistakes, but does nothing towards improving or even updating such understanding.
- The representation of pastoralism in the policy is simplistic, superficial and out of date.
- The policy claims to be based on pastoral people's way of life and ecology, and pastoralist knowledge, but this basis is left undescribed; the 'pastoralism' at its core is an empty space dangerously open to be filled with virtually anything.

Problems



A two-faced structure



A U-turn from existing achievements



Like signing a blank cheque

Policy structure

Vision

**investments
and 'modernisation'
efforts are based
on old approach**

2 Pillars

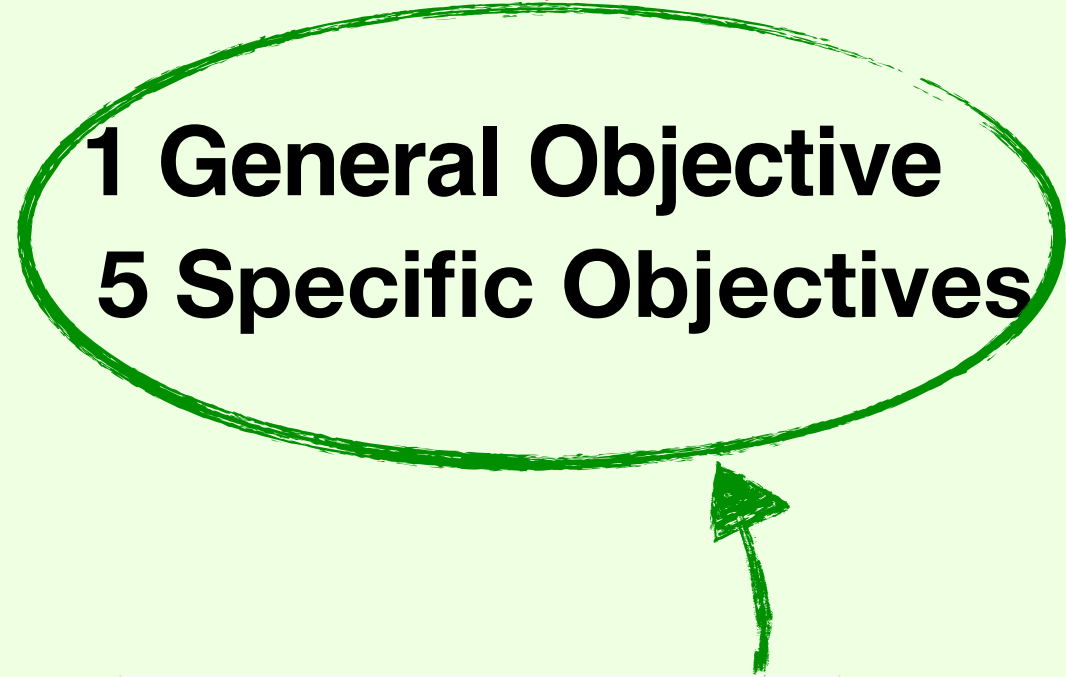
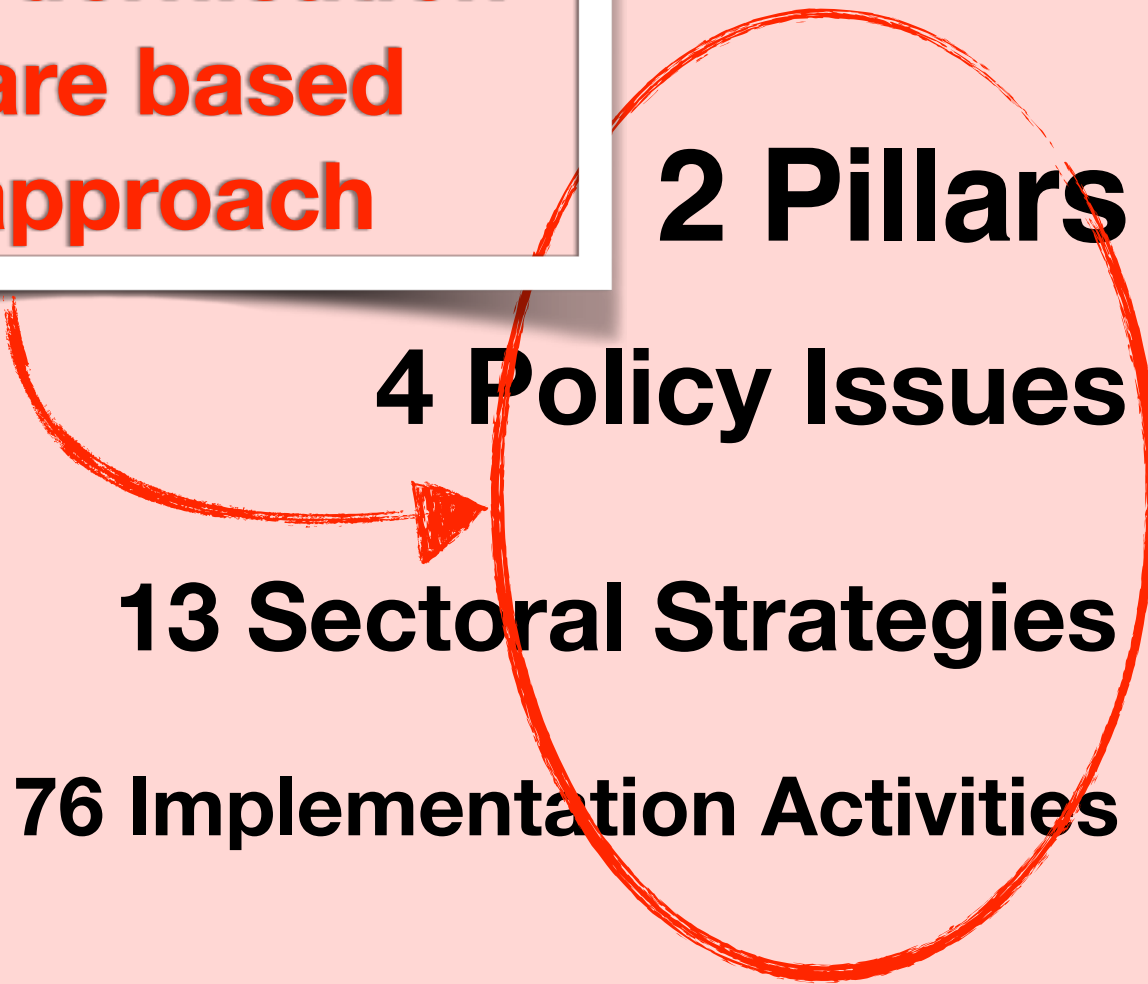
4 Policy Issues

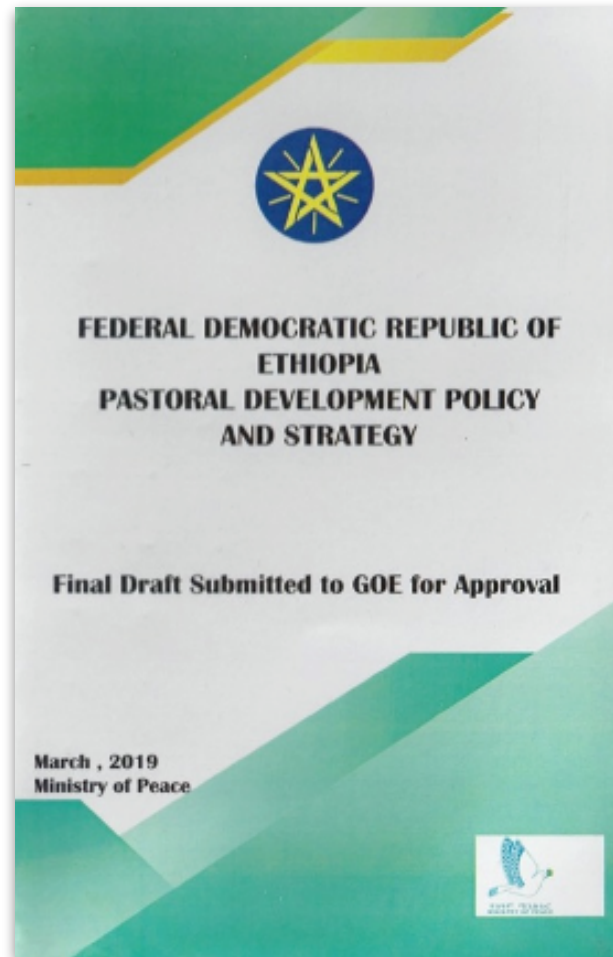
13 Sectoral Strategies

76 Implementation Activities

**1 General Objective
5 Specific Objectives**

**innovative
elements
are not being
invested upon**





thank you
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