

Background

The [Coalition of European Lobbies for Eastern African Pastoralism \(CELEP\)](#) is an informal coalition of European members and East African partners focusing on lobbying, communication and knowledge management in favour of **pastoralism** in Eastern Africa. The members and partners of the Coalition combine forces to lobby their national governments and European and Eastern African bodies to explicitly recognise and support pastoralism and pastoralists in the drylands of Eastern Africa. Concern Worldwide is a member of CELEP and has been promoting pastoralism across projects and programmes mainly in Kenya, Chad and Sudan.

Concern had planned to conduct a **Concern Global Livestock Workshop** to take place in Kenya in 2020. However, due to COVID-19 and the travel limitations imposed, Concern decided to go ahead with an online webinar instead. When Concern reached out to CELEP for some joint activities, it was agreed to jointly organise a series of online webinars, covering a wide range of relevant topics for learning and lobbying on pastoralism in Eastern Africa and to extend participation more widely through the CELEP network.

CELEP's webinars on pastoralism

Six online global webinars were held on a bi-weekly basis between September and December 2020, each one hosted by a CELEP member or partner. Each event focused on a specific theme related to pastoralism. Each webinar took 1.5-hours, started with short presentations, followed by a Questions & Answers session for direct interaction between participants and presenters from research institute, universities, UN agencies, donors, national and international NGOs and civil society organisations. The events were open to everyone with an interest in pastoralism. The table below provides an overview of the webinar schedule:

Topic	Hosting Organisation	Date
<i>Understanding pastoralism and framing the argument for advocacy</i>	<i>CELEP/ Misereor (Germany)</i>	28 th September 2020
<i>Participatory Rangelands Management</i>	<i>Reconcile (Kenya)</i>	14 th October 2020
<i>Addressing animal health challenges in pastoralist areas</i>	<i>VSF (Belgium)</i>	29 th October 2020
<i>Pastoralism and conflict – Rethinking the phenomenon?</i>	<i>IIED (UK)</i>	12 th November 2020
<i>Towards an enabling policy environment for African pastoralists</i>	<i>SNV (The Netherlands)</i>	25 th November 2020
<i>How pastoralism adds to improved food security and nutrition</i>	<i>Concern Worldwide (Ireland)</i>	15 th December 2020

First Webinar - *Understanding pastoralism and framing the argument for advocacy*



MISEREOR
IHR HILFSWERK

The aim of the webinar was to discuss how pastoralism is presented in development and research projects and in advocacy and lobbying. The discussion was grounded on the [Pastoral Development Orientation Framework](#) that Saverio Krätli developed for MISEREOR in 2019, and on the brief entitled “Pastoralists turn variability into food” developed by CELEP and based on Misereor’s pastoral framework. The brief presents the absolute **minimal shared understanding of pastoralism** by CELEP and suggests what this implies for advocacy.

The webinar was facilitated by Sabine Dorlöchter-Sulser (MISEREOR) and the panel of speakers included:

- *Dr. Saverio Krätli*, independent researcher (editor of the journal *Nomadic Peoples*), UK
- *Michael Odhiambo*, former Director of Resource Conflict Institute (RECONCILE), Kenya
- *Loupa Pius*, Coordinator of Arid Lands Network and working for the Dynamic Agro-pastoral Development Organisation (DADO), Uganda
- *Abdulkadir Noor*, Director of Partnership for Pastoralists Development Association, Ethiopia
- *Monica Yator*, Pastoralist Development Network Kenya (PDNK), Kenya.

Saverio Krätli highlighted some key points around pastoralism: **variability** is the norm (not the exception) in dryland contexts, and pastoralism is a **specialisation** to benefit from variability. He also highlighted the need to **change the way pastoralism is framed** in the current development discourse, too often associated with marginal land, vulnerability and being backward, or pastoral mobility described as a coping strategy, rather than a core pillar of this livelihood practice. This leads to a widespread and overly negative connotation of pastoralism, in which its economic and wellbeing contribution to pastoralist communities is widely unrecognised. The speakers largely agreed with Saverio’s points and reinforced those concepts by highlighting how the danger arises from the way the development system and practice is organised. An example is the standard application for grants and funds requiring a problem statement, which leads to focus on what is not working in the pastoral system, leaving no space to emphasise its strengths over its weaknesses. Moreover, climate change is often the argument behind policies and practices that discourage mobility and pastoral productive systems, which overlooks or worst denies **pastoralism’s inherent high resilience** and comparative advantage over other livelihood strategies, within a variable and ever changing natural environment.

The final remarks highlighted the need to promote “**empowering**” **narratives** so that we emphasise pastoralists’ strengths (specialisation) over vulnerability, as well as promoting policies that **support mobility** as a way to counteract the effects of climate change. The panel finally stressed the importance of interrogating ourselves on the opportunity of using certain terms and of presenting pastoralism under a certain light: even though these terms may be useful to obtain funding for projects, they may be problematic in the long term. What we say can influence mind sets and narratives on the usefulness of pastoralism.

Second Webinar – *Participatory Rangelands Management*



The webinar presented experiences from the [Participatory Rangelands Management \(PRM\)](#) approach that CELEP's partner organisations RECONCILE (Resource Conflict Institute) and the Tanzania Natural Resource Forum (TNRF) are piloting in Kenya and Tanzania in partnership with ILRI (International Livestock Research Institute), ILC (International Land Coalition) and VSFB (Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium). The aim of the webinar was to draw lessons on the modalities under which PRM is applied in Kenya, Tanzania and Ethiopia, in order to better understand how it could also be applied elsewhere. Ken Otieno facilitated the webinar (Executive Director, RECONCILE; Technical Coordinator, Rangelands Initiative Africa Component; & Regional Focal Point, CELEP) and the panel of speakers included:

- *Dr. Fiona Flintan*, Senior Scientist–Rangelands Governance at International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)
- *Irene Aloo*, Programme Manager PRM Programme at RECONCILE, Kenya
- *Zakaria Faustin*, Executive Director, Tanzania Natural Resource Forum (TNRF), Tanzania.

Fiona Flintan presented the PRM pilot in Ethiopia aiming to secure pastoralists' rights to communal lands in Ethiopia, where there was no legal recognition of those rights. The approach was based on three stages: 1) **Investigation** of rangeland resources, how they are used, by whom and when 2) **Negotiation** with the current institutions for managing the rangeland and need to establish new ones 3) **Implementation** or development of management and evaluation procedures. The pilot revealed some challenges such as the longer term impact of PRM that discourages community investments. A series of recommendations were provided including the importance of the institutionalisation process by local governments for its long term sustainability. The full pilot report of PRM in Ethiopia can be found [HERE](#)

The second presentation was on the PRM EU-funded pilot in Kenya and Tanzania. In Kenya, a Community Rangeland Investment Fund was set up to support community projects and initiatives for improving rangelands. Conflict management and peace building were also integrated in PRM practice. Overall, preliminary findings from impact analysis show that PRM work had a positive impact by improving livelihood and land productivity, by enhancing women's participation in rangeland management and by pacifying areas affected by conflicts. Moreover, communities are coming back to deserted land both crop farming and livestock production have increased, the level of school attendance has risen, and the community and county government officers are collaborating to ensure that peace is maintained. It is particularly interesting to note that national and county governments have supported the whole PRM implementation process. In 2016, the Kenyan government enacted the Community Land Act, which provides for legal recognition of community lands and in 2019, the County Spatial Planning Toolkit for Pastoral Areas was integrated with PRM practices. For more information on the PRM pilot in Kenya, check this short [REPORT](#).

Third Webinar - Addressing animal health challenges in pastoralist areas

Vétérinaires
Sans Frontières
Dierenartsen
Zonder Grenzen



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The aim of the third webinar was to share lessons on community-based and public-private collaborations for the provision of animal health services in remote pastoral areas, and to show how a One Health approach can be implemented in such settings. The webinar was facilitated by Koen Van Troos (Policy and Education Manager, VSFB & Regional Focal Point, CELEP), and representatives from Concern Worldwide and Vétérinaires Sans Frontières (VSF) presented their programme experience; the panel of speakers included:

- *Dr Emmanuel Emaruk*, Programme Coordinator, VSFB, Uganda
- *Hassan Olow*, Senior Livelihood Manager, Concern Worldwide, Kenya

VSF presented their One Health programme in Karamoja (Uganda), where demographic growth is leading to an increased intensity of the interactions between people and animals, thus favouring the spreading of zoonotic diseases. It is also where poor hygiene and sanitation conditions are causing food borne diseases and other food safety issues. Within this context, VSF introduced a One Health programme based on four objectives:

1. **Increased access to veterinary services**, through a network of Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs), widespread surveillance of zoonotic diseases and screening of goats for brucellosis.
2. **Increased community awareness of connections between human and animal health and the environment**, through the identification of risks factors and multidisciplinary collaborations between veterinary and human health systems.
3. **Community engagement in surveillance of zoonotic diseases**, through training of community-based surveillance structures and participatory disease surveillance (PDS).
4. **Increased access to clean water and sanitation**, through the Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) approach and other WASH interventions.

Concern Worldwide presented the evolution of a multi-year programming on animal health services in Marsabit (Kenya). During the initial phase, the intervention entailed the provision of **electronic cash vouchers** for identified most vulnerable pastoralist households, who could use and redeem the vouchers to purchase feed and veterinary drugs from preselected agro-vet suppliers. After a programme review, the involvement of trained **Animal Health Service Providers (AHSPs)** for drugs administration was introduced to avoid problems of drug misuse and resistance. In addition, a collaboration with Sidai Africa for the provision of **high quality veterinary drugs** was established to address the issue of counterfeit drugs on the local market, while drug quality checks (assay tests) were performed on a sample of the stock. Following that, the **Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards (LEGS)** conducted an [operational research](#) on Concern's e-voucher model to identify and test alternative programme models for the application of LEGS, while complying with key donor regulations on animal health and specifically in the area of procurement, storage and distribution of veterinary pharmaceuticals. While the research confirmed that the e-voucher is an effective response tool during crisis and can meet the needs of poor pastoralists, the LEGS findings have further helped to adapt the model to ensure its sustainability.

Find here the [LINK](#) to watch the webinar.

Fourth Webinar - *Pastoralism and conflict – Rethinking the phenomenon?*



This webinar, hosted by the International Institute of Environment and Development (IIED) in collaboration with the Karamoja Development Forum, offered an opportunity to learn about recent findings on pastoralism and conflict, using an alternative lens through which the dynamics of pastoralism and the root causes of conflict in pastoral areas might be better understood. The webinar was facilitated by Dr Saverio Krätli, editor of the journal *Nomadic Peoples*, and the panel of speakers included:

- *Dr Camilla Toulmin*, Senior Associate at the International Institute for Environment and Development (UK)
- *Dr. Kennedy Mkutu*, Associate Professor for International Relations and Peace Studies at the United States International University in Kenya
- *Simon Longoli*, Director of the Karamoja Development Forum in Uganda.

At this webinar the findings of a [research](#) that looked at the quantitative evidence of **farmer-herder conflict** across a wide band of semi-arid Africa were presented. In contrast to some generalised assumptions, no evidence was found that incidents associated with farming and herding, or more generally, incidents involving pastoralist populations, have grown at a faster rate than all other forms of violence, and that speaking of farmer-herder conflicts is overly simplistic and misleading. Crop farming and herding systems are actually complementary, and peaceful relations between crop farmers and herders are the norm. Rather, **ill-conceived policies, power and poorly regulated access to land** management are often the root causes of conflict. The difficulties faced by both categories relate to **corrupt and ineffective state administration** policies to manage natural resources, while local mechanisms used to manage competition over water and land have been undermined by governments seeking centralised power and decision-making. Moreover, central governments have allocated land areas to domestic and foreign investors for large-scale projects, often without taking into consideration the needs of local people – often pastoralists – and without paying them any compensation. The raising of mega-projects in East Africa, like **transport infrastructures, oil extraction, large irrigation schemes**, among others are displacing pastoralists and impacting negatively on their livelihood strategy and access to vital natural resources, leading to dispossession, disputes and armed conflicts. In such context, terrorist groups exploit the resentment of local people towards the government and local grievances over land and make their money by raiding local settlements, smuggling arms and drugs, and kidnapping. The concluding remarks stressed the need for governments' support to **pastoral mobility** through investments that **protect corridors** and make patterns of **transhumance** more secure. Governments also need to promote fair laws for **conflict resolution**, making them accessible in practice, and to recognise and reinforce the legitimacy of local mechanisms used to open up dialogue and negotiations and to build collective resilience to future shocks.

Find here the [LINK](#) to listen to the webinar, and the [LINK](#) to the full webinar report.

Fifth Webinar - *Towards an enabling policy environment for African pastoralists*



The webinar, organised by SNV and the Voice for Change Partnership (V4CP) in collaboration with staff from the AU (African Union), ECOWAS (Economic Community of West African States) and IGAD (Intergovernmental Agency for Development), aimed at building a better understanding of policy frameworks concerning pastoralism at the IGAD, ECOWAS and AU level. The exchange focused on the challenges related to setting up, endorsing and implementing the policy frameworks within national policies. The webinar was facilitated by Koen Van Troos (Policy and Education Manager, VSF-Belgium & Regional Focal Point, CELEP), and the panel of speakers included:

- *Mamadou Koutou*, Senior Research and Programme Officer at the AU's Semi-Arid Food Grain Research and Development (SAFGRAD) Bureau
- *Japheth Kasimbu*, IGAD Transhumance Protocol expert
- *Michael Ochieng Odhiambo*, Director of People, Land and Rural Development, Kenya.

Mamadou Koutou provided an overview of pastoral policies at the AU level and across the regions. In 2011, the AU approved a [Policy Framework for Pastoralism in Africa](#) aimed at securing, protecting and improving the lives, livelihoods and rights of pastoralist communities in Africa. The framework emphasises the need to fully **involve pastoralists** in the **national and regional development processes** that are supposed to benefit them, stressing the regional nature of many pastoral ecosystems in Africa and, therefore, the need to support and **harmonise policies** across the Regional Economic Communities and Member States. While some important objectives have been achieved, such as the recognition of the role of pastoralism in development and the integration of pastoral issues into decision-making processes, big challenges remain. They include the lack of harmonisation and the discrepancies of policies among countries and/or between regions, and the weak infrastructure in the pastoral areas as well as the lack of services.

Japheth Kasimbu provided an update on the status of the **Transhumance Protocol** in the IGAD region. The protocol was developed to harmonise national policies covering free movement, access to land, water and social services, livestock identification and mapping of livestock migratory corridors, which would lead to higher livestock productivity and enhanced pastoralists' wellbeing. Four years after its first elaboration, at the end of 2020 the IGAD Committee of Ambassadors and the country ministers responsible for Livestock and Pastoral Development endorsed the protocol. The **Implementation Roadmap** (Fig. 1) was also endorsed and will start to be rolled out from 2021 in each country, following the formal ratification and domestication process.

Michael Ochieng Odhiambo presented perspectives from Eastern Africa civil society and explained the main challenges that falls in between the policies and their actual implementation. Some of these include the low participation of pastoralist groups in the development of the IGAD's transhumance protocol, which may limit their ownership in the execution phase. Beside, at the national level, there are still conflicts between the various policies and state strategies, for example the mega-projects, the commercialisation strategies, the mining and oil exploitation, that often target pastoral areas and are negatively impacting the well-being of pastoralists. If such discrepancies are not addressed the benefits for pastoralists will be limited.

Find here the [LINK](#) to watch the webinar.



Figure 1 Transhumance Protocol - roadmap for implementation

Sixth Webinar - How pastoralism adds to improved food security and nutrition

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This webinar, hosted by Concern Worldwide aimed at providing an overview of the critical linkages between livestock production and human nutrition outcomes in pastoral contexts by presenting the *Milk Matters* study and the preliminary results of the *Livestock for Health* operational research carried out in northern Kenya. The webinar was facilitated by Koen Van Troos (Policy and Education Manager, VSF-Belgium & Regional Focal Point, CELEP) and the panel of speakers included:

- *Regine Kopplow*, Senior Adviser for Food and Nutrition Security and lead of the Livelihood Team with Concern Worldwide
- *Dr Thumbi Mwangi*, Associate Professor at the Washington State University, Paul G Allen School for Global Animal Health, and Director of the Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Animal Health
- *Dr Edwin Mbugua Maina*, Coordinator for Health and Nutrition Programmes with Concern Worldwide Kenya.

Regine Kopplow presented the results of the second phase of the [Milk Matters study](#) carried out in 2012, by the Feinstein International Center at Tufts University, Save the Children, and USAID, which evaluated the impact of dry-season support to livestock production on milk supply and child nutrition in the Somali Region of Ethiopia. The research was based on the knowledge that **milk** – and **animal products** in general – is fundamental for **pastoralists' nutrition**, including children. It is estimated that about 50% of the energy intake of pastoralists is provided by milk coming from their own livestock. However, this largely depends on the **seasonality of milk availability**, which depends on livestock holding and productivity at household level. Therefore, poorest households with few livestock often resort to cheaper (but also less nutritious) starch-based products. The key findings of the study showed that supporting animal feeding of milking animals kept close to women and children during the dry season (when livestock productivity is minimum due to shortage of pasture and fodder) led to **improved milk production** and **consumption** among children, who benefited in terms of **nutritional status**. Overall, the nutritional status of children receiving milk stabilised over the dry season, and the cost of the interventions was found significantly lower compared to therapeutic feeding programmes targeting malnourished children.

Dr Thumbi Mwangi presented the preliminary results of the **Livestock for Health (L4H)** operational research implemented through a partnership among Concern Worldwide, the Washington State University, FAO, UNICEF, the Pastoralist Community Initiative Development and Assistance (PACIDA) and the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) Kenya. The main **factors associated with malnutrition** among children and women in Laisamis subcounty (Marsabit County) are largely linked to seasonality, and thus forming the background of the L4H study (full [report available here](#)). The research uses a cluster randomised control trial design and involved 1,800 households in 36 villages in Marsabit County, divided in three groups of 600 households each. The first intervention arm received additional livestock feed; the second, both livestock feed and nutrition education and counselling; and the third arm constituted the control group. The preliminary findings show that households in the treatment arms have **higher weekly milk yield** compared to households in the control, and that **average milk intake** among children is also higher among treatment households. The L4H study will continue for one more year (2021) to cover four dry seasons in total and to provide a better measure of the impact of intervention and its marginal benefits.

Find here the [LINK](#) to watch the webinar, and the [LINK](#) to the full webinar report.

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