

Pastoral Civil Society

Quarterly Newsletter of RECONCILE/IIED Programme on Reinforcement of Pastoral Civil Society in East Africa

Issue No 11

July - September 2005

Editorial

It is with pleasure that we present to you the eleventh issue of *Pastoral Civil Society*. The current issue has articles and reports of the activities the programme undertook during the quarter and reports from our partners, we have profiled MPIDO a human rights and social development pastoral organization in Kenya. To our partners we encourage you to contribute directly to the newsletter, please send us your comments and reflections we also welcome guest editors in order to give our readers a greater sense of ownership and variety.

Editor

Overview of Programme News

During this quarter the Programme held its 3rd partners meeting in Mbale, Uganda from the 25th to 29th September 2005, the three days event was attended by members of the pastoral civil society, development partners and researchers with a pastoral bias. Participants were drawn from Kenya, Uganda , Tanzania as well as the horn of Africa Ethiopia, Sudan and Somalia.

The first two days of the meeting were dedicated to a workshop whose theme was *Making Privatisation work for Pastoralists in Eastern Africa: Challenges and Opportunities for Pastoral Livelihoods.*

The overall objective of this workshop was to help in designing a policy-oriented action research aimed at understanding what privatisation entails for the rural poor, particularly pastoralists, the opportunities and constraints that come with it and how rural communities can meaningfully engage with the process. The research shall seek to enhance the capacity of rural communities to engage with the process from an informed position, take advantage of its opportunities and manage its constraints in such a manner as to ensure the security of their livelihoods. The third day of the meeting was for the partners meeting whose main purpose is to review the implementation of the programme activities over the period since the last such meeting, draws lessons from the experience and proposes the way forward to ensure achievement of programme objectives in a manner that is beneficial to pastoral civil society organizations in East Africa and their development partners. During the meeting the Core Advisory Group of the programme was also reconstituted.



Participants at the Annual Partners Meeting

The programme has finally completed phase one of the project to Enhance Good Governance for Poverty Reduction in Pastoral Areas in Northern Tanzania funded by the Development Cooperation Ireland under the Micro Project Scheme. A final project report has been submitted to the DCI and the programme is working on a second phase proposal to carry this process forward. However the Institutional Governance Learning Group initiated under this project shall continue functioning as the programme has allocated some financial resources to conduct a workshop on how the IGLG will use and disseminate the policy booklets being developed by Haki Kazi.

The programme has also continued participating in a number of regional functions with a bearing on pastoralism. Among them were the Livestock Policy formulation process in Tanzania, ERETO Ngorongoro Pastoralist Project Steering Committee Meeting and The Pastoral Thematic Group in Kenya organized by the Office of the President Arid lands Resource Management Project.

A detailed description of each of these activities is found below.

Programme holds its 3rd Annual Partners Meeting – 25th/29th September Mbale Uganda

One of the major activities organized by the Programme in this quarter was its 3rd annual partners meeting which was held at the Mt Elgon Hotel, Mbale, Uganda from the 25th to 29th September 2005. The main purpose of the partners meeting is to review the implementation of the programme activities over the period since the last such meeting, draws lessons from the experience and proposes the way forward to ensure achievement of programme objectives in a manner that is beneficial to pastoral civil society organizations in East Africa and their development partners.

The last partners meeting was held in Egerton University, Njoro, Kenya in April 2004 and attended by more than 50 participants from the countries in the Horn of Africa. This years meeting was also attended by 53 participants drawn from countries in the Horn of Africa which for the first time included participants from Ethiopia, Somalia and Sudan.

Together with the Partners meeting, the Programme hosted a two days workshop on the theme *Making Privatisation* work for Pastoralists in Eastern Africa: Challenges and Opportunities for Pastoral Livelihoods.

The theme is of great relevance to the pastoralists of this region because, although privatisation is now a policy reality in the countries of Eastern Africa, there remains a wide gap in appreciation and commitment to the policy between the policy makers, political leaders and the urban-based commercial elite on the one hand and the rural poor on the other. For the former, privatisation is a given and discussions should be about 'how' rather than 'whether' the region should engage with the phenomenon. Among the latter however, there are still arguments about whether in fact privatisation is appropriate for the region.

The overall objective of this workshop was to help in designing a policy-oriented action research aimed at

understanding what privatisation entails for the rural poor, particularly pastoralists, the opportunities and constraints that come with it and how rural communities can meaningfully engage with the process. The research shall seek to enhance the capacity of rural communities to engage with the process from an informed position, take advantage of its opportunities and manage its constraints in such a manner as to ensure the security of their livelihoods.

This action research shall be conducted at the country level with partners and development practitioners so as to create a more feeling of ownership from among all partners as opposed to the programme carrying the research and disseminating the findings to the partners. This way the programme feel the research will have more impact as it will involve a wider stakeholder. In country preparatory meetings for the research are schedule to take place in December this year.

The meeting report is being finalized and will be disseminated to all participants. If you did not attend the meeting and would like to read a copy please visit our website

For more information, please contact John Letai on e-mail: <u>jletai@wananchi.com</u> or visit <u>www.reconcile.org</u> or <u>www.iied.org</u>



Participants at the workshop.

Project to Enhance Good Governance for Poverty Reduction in Pastoral Areas- End of Phase One Since September 2004 the programme together with six pastoral civil society groups in Tanzania have been implementing a project whose title is *Enhancing Good Governance for Poverty Reduction in Pastoral Areas*. The main focus of the project funded by the Development Cooperation Ireland under its in-country micro projects scheme was Building the Capacity of Pastoral Civil Society in Tanzania.

The one year project sought to complement and add value to the longer-term PCS-EA programme by addressing the **short-term institutional capacity building** requirements of pastoral civil society groups in Tanzania so that it plays a more informed and proactive role in current national policy reform processes for poverty reduction, decentralised government and governance and conflict management.

The methodology used to implement the project and achieve these objectives was by forming a Learning Group which is a mechanism that enables a small group of pastoral associations to analyse their institutional and governance capacities in a participatory way, and on the basis of this analysis to identify a set of activities to be implemented with their members to improve the institutional governance skills of their organisations for more effective and sustainable policy influence.

During implementation the Learning Group conducted a number of exercises together with their members to try and analyse in a participatory way their institutional governance, accountability and transparency as well as assess their internal capacities in dealing with their constituencies.

The group also commissioned Haki Kazi to demystify three policies on The Overall Policy Framework in Tanzania, The Poverty Reduction Strategy II and Local Government Reform to see how these policies impact on pastoralism.

Phase one of this project has now come to and end and the final project report submitted to DCI. However the programme is working on a phase two project to be submitted to DCI for consideration.

The programme has also allocated some resources for the continuation of the IGLG and have proposed to hold a workshop with the group on how to use and disseminate the policy documents once the final booklets are published and submitted by Haki Kazi.

(Report by John Letai)

Generic Training Course

As reported in previous issues of this newsletter progress in developing a full training manual on the Generic Training Course on Pastoralism and Policy Challenges in East Africa has been an on-going process. After the June test training as reported in issue No 10 of the newsletter, the programme has finally come up with a draft manual for module I on the pastoral systems.

This quarter the programme commissioned two resource persons (Prof Salome Misana from the Departnment of Geography, University of Dar es salaam, Tanzania and Margaret Rugadya from Associate for Development, Kampala, Uganda) to develop materials for module II. The two resource persons are scheduled to meet with the Core Training Team in October this year to review the content of the materials developed and incorporate them into the training template. Based on the progress made in developing a draft-training template for module II, the programme has planned to hold a second test training on this module in January 2006 at MS-TCDC. A larger percentage of participants to the test training shall be drawn from those who attended the June 2005 test training.

For more information on this please contact John Letai or Alais Ole Morindat on $\underline{jletai@wanachi.com}$ or $\underline{MorindatA@mstcdc.or.tz}$)

Core Advisory Group (CAG) Reconstituted

One of the key functions of the partners meeting is to reconstitute the Core Advisory Group (CAG) of the programme. This is the decision making organ of the organization as it approves annual work plans and the six months reports as well reviewing the programme activities and giving guidance on implementation of activities.

During the annual partners meeting referred to above, the CAG was reconstituted and given mandate to oversee programme activities till the next partners meeting. The CAG is composed of nine members (three from each east African country) whose membership is drawn from representative of pastoral civil society researchers and development partners.

The elected members from each country were as follows:

Kenya

- 1. Wario Galma Action Aid
- 2. Soipan Tuya MPIDO
- 3. Korir Singoei Cemiride

Uganda

- 1. Martha Iriama Karamoja Agro-pastoral development programme
- 2. Simon Nangiro Oxfam GB; Karamoja Office
- Godfrey Karamuzi Nyabushozi Development Agency (NYDA)

Tanzania

- 1. William Ole Nasha Oxfam JOLIT
- 2. Ndinini Kimesera Maasai Women Development Organization (MWEDO)
- 3. Moses Sankale TAPHGO

The newly reconstituted CAG held its first meeting immediately after the partners meeting to introduce themselves and set an agenda for the first full meeting, which is anticipated to take place by end of October 2005. We warmly welcome the new members.

(Report by John Letai)

Proposed Programme Six Months no Cost Extension Approved

We had reported in the last issue of the newsletter that the PCS-EA programme core team proposed to its donors a six months no cost extension period in order to enable the programme complete planned activities and realise its stated objectives and outputs in line with the project document.

In May this year the programme presented to the CAG a draft proposal and revised budget, which was discussed and approved. This was subsequently sent to all the funding partner (DFID, Civil Society Challenge Fund, SDC, Division for environment and Natural Resources in Berne, Switzerland and Ereto II project of DANIDA, Tanzania) for consideration.

Today the programme has the pleasure to inform its partners that this request has since been approved and programme activities have been rescheduled accordingly to conform with this approval. The first phase of the programme now runs to March 2007 and not to September 2006 as initially agreed in the project document.

(Report by John Letai)

News from our Partners

Tanzanian Pastoralist, Hunter and Gatherers Organization (TAPHGO) organizes a livestock policy engagement workshop

On the 1st and 2nd August 2005, TAPHGO organized a workshop on the theme: The Making of the New Livestock Policy in Tanzania: Opportunities and Constraints for Pastoralists

The workshop broad objective was based on the draft livestock policy that the Tanzania government has developed but more specifically

- TAPHGOs' engagement with the livestock policy since inception: the steps taken by TAPHGO to date (studies, conferences) in trying to address the issue of privatization of the livestock industry and what are their implications
- An analysis of the current draft livestock policy: what does it provide for and against pastoralism. What does the policy framework say or how does it relate to livestock i.e. policies currently being formulated by the Ministry and their implications to pastoral livelihoods and or means of production.

What avenues exists for pastoralists to dialogue or air their grievances: Suggest recommendations that TAPHGO will present to the Pastoral Civil Society Tasks Force working on the livestock policy to be presented to the Minister for Water and Livestock Development

The two days events drew participation from members of the pastoral civil society, researchers and government officials from the Ministry of Water and Livestock. The programme was invited to this meeting to make a presentation on its engagement with TAPHGO in this policy dialogue process and also a brief history of the evolvement of the livestock industry in Tanzania.

This meeting was followed by a presentation by the livestock policy taskforce who were seeking views from the stakeholders on how to ensure issues of pastoralism are brought on board in the new livestock policy. Comments received during the meeting were consolidated and sent to the Minister for Water and Livestock to be incorporated in the final policy document.

(For More on this Please contact the Coordinator TAPHGO: e-mail: <u>taphgo2000@habari.co.tz</u>)

Kenya Land Alliance (KLA) launches issues paper on communal/community land, issues paper number 4/2005

Since colonial times the vulnerability and poverty levels of the pastoralists communities in Kenya and Africa as a whole have increased tremendously. This is attributed to the legislation and formulation of laws and inappropriate policies that have gradually contributed to the loss of their traditional communal grazing lands. This was highlighted during the launch of issues paper on communal/community land by the Kenya Land Alliance held at the Nomad Palace in Garissa. The launching of the paper in Garissa, an arid area located in Northern Kenya was deliberate and was premised on the fact the arid areas and most importantly pastoral areas are suited to the communal/community land tenure system and also bearing the fact that people from northern frontier districts participation in the national land policy formulation process was minimal.

The participants at the launch observed that inappropriate land laws and the false notion by the post colonial and post independence governments that land in pastoral areas is readily available for future developments has led to the setting aside of land in these areas for use by military, mining activities, registration, tiling and settlements among others, with very little regard to the claims of the local community who are neither consulted nor compensated. It was observed that this is due to misconception that since land in arid areas are unoccupied, they are free for distribution and settlement and that no one has claims to them.

It was also observed that despite the spirited attempts by successive governments to promote the individualization, registration and tiling of land and formulation of unfavourable lands laws in Kenya including the Trust land, Land and Group Representatives Act, customary claims to land by pastoralists has not been completely extinguished.

The communal/community land issues paper number 4/2005 proposes measures, which should be taken by the state to actualize and recognize the communal/community land

tenure system. It adds that this is possible with the enactment of laws and formulation of polices by the government that facilitate growth of vibrant land market and the transfer of user and access rights as opposed to the transfer of the land itself.

The paper also proposes the review of the group ranch system (Group Representatives Act) in places where it is applicable and the cessation of sub –division and fraudulent individualization of land by group representatives. On Trust land areas the paper recommends more control over land issues by the local community, unlike the current situation where they are under the local authorities. In actualizing the communal land tenure, the participants proposed that measures must be put in place to ensure those norms, practices and usages that discriminate against women, children, the poor and the disabled are discouraged. Lastly the paper proposes that mechanisms should be put in place to protect the rights of and minimize conflict between different land users, including the use of traditional conflict resolution methods.

Some of participants at the launch pointed out that resorting to communal ownership of land in pastoral areas would be beneficial as access to credit would possible as some of the pastoral areas have large mineral and oil deposits that if put under the control of the local communities will enable them have access to credit leading to improved livelihoods and infrastructure.

By Brezhnev Otieno

Pastoral Thematic Group (PTG) Meeting Held

RECONCILE participated in a PTG meeting held on 29th September 2005 in Nairobi as a member. Arid Land Resource Management Programme organized the meeting with the aim of reviewing its performance, refocusing on specific themes that are not adequately addressed by other organizations and to chat the way forward for the group.

PTG was formed in December 2001 to ensure that the voices and the issues of pastoral communities in Kenya were fully represented in the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP and has its secretariat at ALRMP.

In the past PTG participated in the following activities: PRSP formulation, constitution review, formation of Kenya Livestock Marketing Council (KLMC) and Pastoral Development Network of Kenya (PDNK), supported the Pastoral Parliamentary Group (PPG), supported the coalition of Pastoralist education, CEMIRIDE-KPW, EALA tour to northern Kenya and attended the initial land policy workshops.

As a way forward the members proposed that the secretariat should be strengthened so as it is able to put more pressure on the members, secondly the PTG should develop a strategic plan with clear vision and mission, thirdly lead organizations for each thematic group should be identified and clear roles defined and lastly SWOT analysis of the PTG should be undertaken to ensure PTG has a continuous all round role as opposed to waiting for issue to arise.

For further details on PTG contact Nyawira Hiuhiu at ALRMP on alrmphq@africaonline.co.ke

Special Feature

A Pastoral Community's Struggle Against Injustices

Isiolo district, an arid land area found in the Eastern parts of Kenya, is predominantly occupied by nomadic and semi – nomadic pastoralists but has recently witnessed the emergence of sedentralised pastoralists with high degree of destitution. While Isiolo is often referred to as the "bread basket" of northern Kenya, due to the abundance of natural resources, among them minerals and wildlife, members of the local community have remained poor owing to marginalization and alienation of their traditional grazing lands.

Isiolo is one of the few districts in Kenya with mineral deposits and some of the mining areas include Duse mines, found in Kina Division. Duse mines, has had a checkered history since its discovery by members of the local community in the early seventies. With the identification of the stones as sapphire, a lot of interests was cultivated towards Duse in Isiolo and it was only a matter of time before Gemstone Mining Company, owned by Mr. Wolf applied for and was granted a mining license by the government on 22nd November 1971. Gemstones operated for close to 15 years before subsequently transferring the license and mining rights to M/S Ndusi mines who operated the mine for a very short time and later transferred the same mining rights to Gemkit Enterprises on 14th August 1986 due to increasing insecurity in the area.

Close to four years after Gemstone was in operation, the Isiolo County Council informed the Commissioner of Mines that Gemstone Mining Company had enclosed 980sq.km of land, which was grazing land and demanded compensation for the loss of the land, which clearly shows that prior to the granting of the mining license, neither the County Council, which administers the Trust land on behalf of the residents, nor the pastoralists were consulted. Duse lies at the heart of lucrative grazing area about 18kms from Kina and the area has been a safe lifeline zone for the pastoralists during the dry seasons.

The fact that the mining companies were granted licenses to conduct mining activities by the government without consultations with the residents of Isiolo is a clear example of how the Trust Land Act has been abused. The initial and successive granting of licenses was done with no reference to members of the local community residing around Duse for whom the same piece of land had been held in Trust by the County Council, nor were they compensated. The lack of a legal framework for the compensation of community members is a result of section 53 of the Trust Land Act, which allows the Commissioner of lands to administer Trust land, including granting of leases on behalf of the County Council with very little reference to the rights, interests or benefits of the residents of the Trust Land.

While different companies have exploited mineral resources in Duse area since 1970 no tangible benefits have trickled down to the local community and as one of the community elders puts it, "If the resources of Duse were well used and fairly distributed the levels of poverty would be significantly reduced". The effects of mining on the lives of the people in Duse are numerous and include the cutting of trees which were used for fencing off the mining area, the holes and trenches dug during the mining activities are rarely filled and have been a source of accidents and even death to the community members, sound from the bidets used by the mining companies have scared away wild animals from the area. On the other hand there has been the systematic acquisition and destruction of prime grazing area by the mining companies some of which are safe lifeline zones for pastoralists. In 2003, the residents of Kina protested against the injustice perpetuated by the mining activities. Eighteen people were arrested and charged with interference in the mining area. The case against them, which has dragged for close to two years, was concluded in July 2005 when the magistrate's court in Isiolo dismissed all charges against the accused. At the moment, Waso Trust Land Project, a civil society organisation, which facilitated the hiring of an advocate for the accused, intends to seek review from a constitutional court as regards the legality of the granting of the mining licenses to the companies.

Besides mining, Isiolo is a major stakeholder in the Tourism industry and is the only District in Kenya that has three national game reserves namely; Shaba Game Reserve covering 256 sq.km, Buffalo Game with an area of 131 sq.km and Bisan Adi covering 150 sq.km. These National Reserves, which provide good camping sites and lodges, a big tourist attraction.

The Game Reserves accommodate some of the world's rare species like reticulated Girrafe, the beautiful Beisa Oryx with it's rapier like horns, the pin – stripped gravy Zebra with distinctive round ears, the blue necked Somali Ostrich and Geremuk, Elephants, cape Buffaloes, Lions, Cheetahs, stripped and spotted Hyena among others.

The Bisan Adi Game Reserve was established in 1978 and subsequently transferred to Mulika in Meru National Park. The game resrve is one of the best-located Reserves in the Northern Circuit with wonderful landscape and very rich game heritage. Since its gazzetement, Bisan Adi has not been put into any use or exploited; yet community members have been denied access to pasture and water in the reserve and residents have been victims of harassment, arrests and confiscation of livestock.

Wildlife and trees are preserved in Shaba and Buffalo Springs game reserves and they are out of bounds for human habitation and grazing. This has had a negative impact on the lives of the local residents given that their grazing rights have been extinguished and are unable to access these protected areas during drought. On the other hand the land set aside for the reserves were arbitrarily gazzeted as conservancy areas without consultation with the local community as outlined in section 13(2)(a) of the Trust Land Act regarding procedures for setting apart of Trust land and no compensation was given for the loss of land.

Human – wildlife conflict has become a common phenomenon in Isiolo and this has been more prominent during the dry seasons. Under pressure to look for water and pasture for their animals the community members have had no option but to access the game parks. This has often resulted in the imposition of fines by the Kenya Wildlife Service. Another menace that the local community have to contend with is havoc caused by the wildlife that at times leave the game parks destroying crops and killing livestock and human beings.

To be able to accrue benefits from the tourism activities and to enable pastoralists access water and pasture, a stakeholders' consultative meeting should be convened and explore ways on how revenues from tourism activities will trickle down to the local community. As a long-term venture tourism and conservancy activities should eventually embrace co – ownership and co – management by the County Council, Kenya Wildlife Service, local community and other stakeholders so as to facilitate human wildlife co – existence and reduce vulnerability and poverty levels of the pastoralists. That is only when injustices against the local inhabitants of Isiolo will contained.

By Brezhnev Otieno

Action Research on Gender and Pastoralism

We reported in the last issue that RECONCILE had planned to carry out an action research on gender and Pastoralism with the overall goal of mainstreaming gender into our work and into discussion about policies related to pastoral communities in East Africa. We are pleased to report that consultative meetings with partners in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania were held successfully. This was combined with field visits to pastoral community groups in the three countries. We are working on the issue papers and a debriefing meeting will be held in November this year. During the debriefing meeting, issues that came out from the research will be discussed and participants will be expected to come up with the way forward.

For more details and information contact Eva malel (<u>eva@reconcile-ea.org</u>) and Elizabeth Kharono (<u>Kharono@yahoo.com</u>)

PROFILE

MAINYOITO PASTORALISTS INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (MPIDO)

MPIDO is a Human Rights and Social Development organization that addresses urgent needs and problems facing the Maasai Communities (pastoralists) in Kenya. MPIDO has played a big role in supporting maasai communities in presenting their views to both the Constitution of Kenya Review Commission and the Njonjo Commission besides being at the forefront of advocating for Land Rights for Maasai's who lost their land through the Anglo-Maasai Agreements of 1904/ 1911.

Vision

MPIDO envisages Maasai Pastoralist societies whose members have access and control over key resources, who have sustainable livelihoods and whose human rights are recognised, promoted and safeguarded.

Mission statement

MPIDO's mission is to promote, facilitate and create an enabling environment for securing Human Rights including natural resources rights for sustainable livelihoods among the Pastoralist Maasai Society.

Objectives

- 1. To promote and secure the rights of Maasai pastoralists with regard to land and natural resources.
- 2. To enhance community capacity and to participate in securing sustainable livelihoods.
- 3. To ensure that MPIDO has the capacity to effectively implement its strategic plan.
- 4. To build unity and solidarity among Pastoralists in Kenya, regionally and internationally.

Programmes

1. Land Rights Programme

MPIDO works with communities to ensure legal and social security of land tenure for the pastoral communities in all its target areas. This involves advocacy and lobbying at different levels within and outside government to amend oppressive legislations in order to revoke titles that were fraudulently obtained and have the land revert back to its rightful owners – the Maasai.

2. Women Empowerment and Girl Child Education

The main purpose of this project is to encourage education of the Maasai girl child and make community members, especially women, gain confidence that they are the prime movers of their own destiny and that they are major forces in dealing with the issues that confront them.

3. Drought Management & Relief Programme

Through this project, MPIDO aims to achieve a dramatic reduction in poverty and a marked improvement in food security for the poor.

4. Feeding Programme

MPIDO is conducting a school and public feeding programme to curb the effects of the drought in the region and to prevent deaths. The feeding programme is currently being conducted in six schools and their communities. These are the Enkereyian, Iloodoariak, Oltepesi, Esonorua, Eremit and Enkoireroi Primary schools.

5. Goats Restocking Programme

This project is intended to promote recovery and reduce vulnerability to future droughts amongst severely affected Pastoralist communities through small animals restocking, improved access to water, and training in improved farming and diversification practices.

6. Water Projects

MPIDO has put forth various interventions in order to provide clean water to the community.

Contact:

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