



Pastoral Civil Society

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

Issue no 4 October - December 2003

Editorial

We are pleased to present to you the fourth issue of *Pastoral Civil Society*.

In this issue you will find reports of programme activities for the last quarter of 2003 and our plans for the first quarter of 2004. As in previous issues we bring you news from the region and beyond. We have information on upcoming events of relevance to pastoralists and we profile the Karamoja Agropastoral Development Programme based in Karamoja in North Eastern Uganda.

We take this opportunity to thank all of you for your support during this past year. Your interest in the Newsletter has encouraged us greatly and we look forward to making even greater improvements in the coming year. May we take this opportunity to wish all of you a merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous new year.

Editor

Programme News

The major programme activities during the past quarter were the recruitment of the Programme Manager, the holding of a training workshop on pastoralism and policy in the Sahel at MS-TCDC, and the finalisation of the Uganda scoping study. We also issued and disseminated a programme leaflet and the second six-month report on the activities of the programme. Read on for details about some of these activities and achievements.

Appointment of Programme Manager

The search for a Programme Manager for this programme has been on for some time, as you have noticed in previous copies of the

Newsletter. We are delighted to report that following interviews held at the offices of Oxfam GB in Nairobi on 15th October 2003, John Pamita Letai has been appointed Programme Manager, and will take up his appointment on 1st January 2004. We express our thanks to Izzy Birch and the folks at Oxfam GB for their assistance with regards to interviews. Apart from taking over their boardroom all day, we also had the use of their telephone to conduct a telephone interview with a candidate based in the US.

A total of 26 people from different countries and backgrounds applied for the job. Although up to one-half of the applications came from Kenyans there was a good spread

of interest in the job with applications from as far afield as USA, Germany and India. We were however disappointed that in spite of a vigorous publicity campaign through pastoral networks, not a single application was received from Tanzania.

Six applicants were shortlisted for the interviews, and we are delighted to have John Pamita Letai take up the appointment. He brings into the job a long experience on advocacy for pastoral rights with a good working knowledge and links all over East Africa. Watch out for a profile of the new Programme Manager in our next issue.
(Report by Michael Ochieng Odhiambo)

Scoping study, Uganda

The scoping study found out that no institution in Uganda offers courses on pastoralism as such. Instead, there are courses on issues pertaining to pastoralism at Makerere University. The Department of Veterinary Medicine offers training in animal health, which is purely technical and does not address any conceptual issues around pastoralism. The Department of Geography studies the arid lands from a purely geographical perspective.

However Makerere Institute of Social Research (MISR) has undertaken research on pastoral land tenure as part of a national land tenure study undertaken in 1996. Otherwise research undertaken on pastoralism is likely to be on the basis of the individual interest of the researcher rather than an institutional commitment to the issue. The Centre for Basic Research (CBR) in Kampala has a sizeable number of such research projects.

Other institutions deal with pastoralism at the project level either as part of research study or as a component of a specific programme. The report on this study is being completed and will shortly be available at RECONCILE.

Training Workshop on Pastoralism and Policy in the Sahel

We hosted a training workshop at MS-TCDC between 20th and 30th October 2003 on Pastoralism and Policy in the Sahel, as part of the process of designing the generic course on pastoralism and policy in East Africa. The workshop attended by 13 participants from Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania was facilitated by Brigitte Thebaud who designed the Sahel training on which our proposed training is modeled. The workshop was organised to provide an opportunity for key stakeholders in East Africa to gauge the relevance of the Sahelian training course to their reality.

Brigitte took the participants through an abridged version of the Sahelian training over a period of seven days, after which a smaller group of participants spent two days relating the training course to the specific reality of East African pastoralism. There was general consensus among the participants that the course is useful and relevant, even though it was recognised that materials will have to be developed that are pertinent to the situation in East Africa.

Following the training workshop, a template of the training course for East Africa is being finalised. Alais Morindat will work closely with the new Programme Manager over the coming months to put together the beginnings of the East African course. Watch this space for updates.

Have you received copies of the following?

1. Programme Brochure
2. Second 6-Months Report
3. *Pastoral Civil Society* Newsletter, Issues 1, 2 and 3
4. Any of our reports mentioned in issues of the Newsletter

Copies of these are available on request. All you have to do is contact the Editor.

Other News

Kenya

Pastoralist Development Network of Kenya is launched

As Kenyans approached the 2002 general elections, it became clear that pastoral issues were coming to the centre stage of the national political agenda, as different political parties positioned themselves to claim the pastoralists vote. Each of the major political parties included pastoral concerns in its campaign manifesto, with promises of mainstreaming pastoral interests in national development. Awareness about pastoralists development needs had been ably articulated by the Pastoralists Thematic Group (PTG) in the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) two years earlier.

The victory of the National Rainbow Coalition was thus a climax of significant progress in the articulation of pastoralists concerns at the national level. The PTG and the Arid Lands Resource Management Project (ALRMP) appreciated these gains, but recognise that a lot more remains to be done to ensure effective advocacy and coordination of pastoral issues in the country. PTG and ALRMP with funding support from Oxfam have worked closely with pastoral civil society organisations to create a national network for Kenyan pastoralists and organizations working around pastoral issues. They constituted a Task Force which enlisted the services of a consultant to write up a constitution for the network known as the Pastoralist Development Network of Kenya (PDNK). A number of consultative forums were held at which stakeholders discussed and refined the constitution.

On 23rd October 2003 the PTG and ALRMP hosted a one-day ceremony at Silver Springs Hotel, Nairobi at which the network was officially launched and its constitution adopted. The function, which was presided over by Hon. Ali Wario MP for Bura in Tana River District, attracted more than eighty participants including Members of

Parliament and a diversity of stakeholders working on issues of pastoralism and pastoral development. An Interim Steering Committee comprised of 15 members representing pastoral districts was constituted. The Committee, chaired by Dr. Kimpei Munei of the University of Nairobi was mandated to work for a period of one year during which it shall organise for the election of a Board of Management.

For details about the network, including copies of the launch workshop report and the constitution, please contact Ms. Nyawira Hiuhu of Arid Land Resource Management Project, email: nyawirah74@yahoo.com (**Report by Ronald Owuor Athoo**)

Pastoralists and Minorities Meet to discuss the Draft Constitution of Kenya

During the month of October, the Center for Minority Rights Development (CEMIRIDE) hosted a three-day workshop at the Merica Hotel, Nakuru to review and assess the progress made so far at the National Constitutional Conference taking place at Bomas of Kenya with regard to issues of concern to Pastoralists and Minority Groups. More than twenty participants, among them delegates to the Constitutional Conference, experts and activists working around issues of pastoralism and minority rights attended the meeting, which was held between 14th and 16th October 2003.

During the workshop, technical working committee members reported on the progress made on various issues especially as they reflect on pastoral livelihoods. Participants went through the Draft Constitution chapter by chapter to understand and relate issues agreed upon at the conference, which have a bearing on the livelihoods of minority groups. Suggestions were made on a number of issues which they felt were not adequately addressed by delegates at Bomas and by extension the technical committees, and strategies for addressing these were considered.

The meeting agreed on a number of issues and came up with strategies of pushing forward the minority rights and pastoralist agenda into the new constitution. A committee was established to put together issues raised and take the discussions forward for further deliberations at Bomas III. CEMIRIDE will coordinate the work of committee. It was mandated to carry out a number of activities including publishing of pamphlets/ for distribution at Bomas III, organising field visits for specific technical committees and organising a separate consultative forum to discuss the report of the Commission of Inquiry into the Land Law Systems of Kenya Report (the Njonjo Commission).

At the end of the workshop, we hosted the Director of CEMIRIDE, Mr Korir Sango'ei at our offices and discussed possible collaboration on issues of pastoralism. **(Report by Ronald Owuor Athoo)**

Inaugural Kenya Pastoralists Week is Celebrated

In our last issue, we carried an item on plans to organise for the first time the Kenya Pastoralists Week. We are happy to report that the event organised by CEMIRIDE in partnership with Pastoralist Parliamentary Group and the Pastoralists Hunter-Gatherers Ethnic Minority Network was celebrated between 1st and 6th December 2003.

The weeklong event took place in Nairobi, but brought together pastoralists from all over Kenya, with participants from Uganda and Tanzania. It was both a celebration of pastoralism and the pastoral way of life and an opportunity for serious reflection on the challenges facing pastoralists in Kenya. Throughout the week, experts presented papers on different aspects, concerns and challenges to pastoralism, while pastoralists celebrated their life in song, drama and dance, fashion shows and exhibitions.

Papers were presented on different topics covering the situation of pastoralists, their problems and challenges, opportunities and constraints. Different pastoral groups

presented their traditional songs and dances, which they used to articulate their reality and celebrate their culture and traditions.

Participants used the opportunity to articulate the pressing problems that constrain development in pastoral areas, and made proposals and suggestion for the way forward. They also recognised the need for pastoralists to speak with one voice if they are to stake their rightful claim to the nation. Among the major recommendations at the end of the event included the need for a sector wide approach to pastoral development planning, and the need for a 'Marshal Plan' for the pastoral areas to bring them at par with the rest of the country.

For more details about the week and plans for similar events in the future, contact Yobo Rutin of CEMIRIDE, Email: yobo_cemiride@hotmail.com. **(Report by Nickson Ochieng Orwa)**

Tanzania

Conflicts between Pastoralists and Farming Communities in Morogoro Region

Conflicts between farmers and pastoralists in Kilosa district, Morogoro region have resulted in the death of more than 40 in recent times. They have also led to damage to property including cattle, houses and crops. Kilosa District Council concerned about the impact of these conflicts on the livelihoods of the residents, recently commissioned a study to find out the magnitude of the problem and develop strategies for addressing it. The study was conducted in October 2003 by a team of three experts, Alais Ole Morindat, Dr. Eamon Brehony and Alfred Sakafu. Alais is the Training Coordinator for the *Programme on Reinforcement of Pastoral Civil Society in East Africa* and is based at the MS-TCDC.

The study established that a major problem relates to the privatisation of pastoral commons through the establishment of ranches and farms. A case in point is the

ongoing efforts relating to Mkata ranch which will deny pastoralists access to major pasturing grounds, especially during the dry season.

The study found that there is a major problem of governance, which is manifested in a credibility gap on the part of government officials. Both farmers and pastoralists have no faith in government officials and structures to resolve conflicts. This coupled with the misconceptions that both groups have about each other enhances the opportunities for conflict in the district.

The study has made a number of recommendations on the way forward. In particular the study recommends the establishment of conflict management frameworks that will among other things undertake comprehensive awareness creation campaigns among both farming and pastoral groups.

For more details and a copy of the report, please contact Alais Ole Morindat, email MorindatA@mstcdc.or.tz.
(Report by Alais Ole Morindat)

Regional: West Africa

Praia+9: what next?

After months of preparations, the Praia +9 Forum on Land Tenure and Sustainable Development in West finally took place in Bamako from the 17th to the 21st of November 2003. Delegates from 16 West African countries, including MPs, local councilors, government officials, donors, NGOs, researchers and civil society groups attended the meeting.

The Forum started with a plenary meeting, which discussed the degree to which the CILSS member states had implemented the recommendations adopted nine years ago in Praia, capital of Cape Verde. On the second and third days of the Forum, participants split into five thematic workshops, where they discussed key challenges concerning land tenure in West Africa. Among the topics discussed were tenure security, equity, decentralization and regional

integration. Participants also reflected on new policy recommendations following up those adopted in Praia. "Interest groups" such as MPs and elected local governments met separately to discuss their position on land relations in the region. After the workshops and the "interest group" meetings, a final plenary adopted a declaration to be submitted to the next Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the CILSS.

Among the recommendations issued by the Forum is the elaboration, over the next few years, of a Regional Land Tenure Charter, stating the fundamental principles for secure and equitable land tenure systems in West Africa. The policy recommendations and all the other documents discussed at Praia+9 will soon be available on CD-ROM.

So, what next? Much will depend on whether the Praia+9 process will receive a strong political mandate from the CILSS Summit, as well as from other regional organisations such as UEMOA and ECOWAS, to work on the implementation and monitoring of the policy recommendations, including the development of the proposed Regional Charter. In order to discuss how to take the process forward, the CILSS and its partners will meet again in February 2004.

For more information on the Praia+9 process, visit the official web site of the Forum at www.cilssnet.org/praisia+9.
(Report by Lorenzo Cotula)

Looking ahead to 2004

Towards a Pastoralism Communication Strategy in East Africa

The Programme on Reinforcement of Pastoral Civil Society in East Africa plans to host a regional workshop on Pastoral Communications Strategy during the first quarter of 2004. The workshop will build on the studies on perceptions of pastoralism among policy makers and non-pastoralists undertaken in early 2003 and a workshop

held in Arusha thereafter at which the report of the study was discussed. The need for a comprehensive strategy to confront the myths and perceptions that hinder the development of appropriate policies and processes for pastoral development was recognized in the workshop. The planned workshop shall bring together pastoral development policy practitioners and communications experts to work out such a strategy.

Oxfam's Regional Pastoral Programme has agreed to support the workshop and the strategy development process, and there are ongoing discussions with PANOS and other pastoralist and media organisations to involve them in the planning process.

For more information on this initiative, contact Michael Ochieng Odhiambo, email ekmoo@africaonline.co.ke

Privatisation and Livelihoods Conference

Plans are under way to hold a regional conference on Privatisation and Livelihoods in East Africa during the first half of 2004. The conference, which was first mooted at a consultation hosted by Tanzania Pastoralists and Hunter-Gatherers Organisation (TAPHGO) and attended by MPs from Northern Tanzania towards the end of 2003, shall provide a forum for practitioners to better understand and address the impact of privatisation on resource-dependent livelihoods.

Privatisation of land and other natural resources is taking place all over East Africa, with serious implications for livelihoods of resource dependent communities. Pastoralists are perhaps the ones whose livelihoods are most directly affected, since pastoralism requires access to vast commons for it to be sustainable. However pastoralists are not alone in this as fisherfolk, forest dwellers and small-scale farmers are equally threatened by the impact of privatisation. If privatisation is a reality that resource dependent communities must live with, how can it be made to work for

them? How can these communities best take advantage of the opportunities provided by privatisation and avoid its negative impacts?

It is these and other issues that shall be canvassed at the planned conference, which shall bring together governments, NGOs, CBOs, researchers, donors and intergovernmental organisations across East Africa.

For more details about the planned conference, contact Michael Ochieng Odhiambo at RECONCILE. Email, ekmoo@africaonline.co.ke.

Meetings

World Herders Council Meeting in Niger

The World Herders Council will host a meeting in Niamey, Niger from 12th to 16th January 2004 on the theme Access to natural Resources for Herders: Pastoral Code-Official recognition for the Herders or a Permanent Combat without Sustainable Solution? Reflections of Herders.

The Programme on Reinforcement of Pastoral Civil Society in East Africa is pleased to be sponsoring participants from East Africa to attend the meeting and exchange ideas and experiences with herders from across the globe. Our new Programme Manager is leading a delegation of four participants to the meeting, and we expect reports from them in the next issue of the Newsletter.

For more details about the meeting, send an email to Hedy Buhlmann at condial@bluewin.ch, or visit www.condial.org

KADP, a profile

The Karamoja Agro-pastoral Development Programme (KADP) is a transited Programme from the Lutheran World Federation (LWF). LWF has been in Karamoja since 1979 when Church of Uganda seconded it to distribute relief food to the people of Karamoja during the unprecedented famine, which is referred locally to as *Lopyaar*, meaning the famine that sweeps. The LWF handed over the ownership of the Programme to KADP as a local NGO in December 2002. This means that KADP is a legal entity in its status and therefore reports directly to its donors

KADP implements an agro-pastoral development programme in Moroto and Nakapiripirit districts in Karamoja, North East Uganda. The region is both semi-arid and arid land. The most viable economic activities are extensive livestock keeping and growing of seasonal crops to supplement livestock and livestock products. The target beneficiaries of the Programme are the livestock keepers and the cereal cultivators.

The activities undertaken by KADP are

- Water resource development and maintenance
- Food security, (which include cereal banking, livestock development, organic farming, goat project for women)
- Peace and reconciliation among the communities in the area
- Promotion of good governance and human rights
- Gender and culture
- Promotion of common property resources
- Research, advocacy and lobbying for and on behalf of the marginalized pastoralists

The Programme runs a resource center, to remedy the ignorance on Karamoja. The center is semi-autonomous in its operation to research and document information of relevance to the programme, the district, and other NGOs operating in Karamoja. The resource centre is manned by a group of researchers in the thematic areas of water, livestock, peace and reconciliation, food security, natural resource management and more recently HIV/AIDS. The resource centre provides technical support to the field centres and the secretariat. The Resource Centre also seeks to learn from outside and replicate the lessons to the Programme.

The Programme is governed at the top by the Board of Directors, which is composed of 9 people of high integrity who meet twice in a year to discuss the issues related to the plans, budget, finance and personnel policies. The day-to-day management of the Programme is done by the senior management team at the secretariat in Moroto Town, which is chaired by the Programme Manager and includes centre coordinators, the personnel officer, gender desk officer, the accountant and the coordinator of the Resource Centre. The Programme is manned by 80 regular staff, but assisted by community helpers and the student interns when need arises.

At the community level the field activities are directed by the Centre Development Committees (CDCs), which are composed of 9 representatives of the communities at each field centre. The CDCs participates in the centre's review, planning monitoring meetings. In this way, the priorities and needs of the respective communities are attended to and integrated in the centre plans.

KADP has received funding from DanChurchAid since 1979 when LWF started to distribute relief food in Karamoja. More recently, ICCO and Cordaid also started to fund KADP. The programme is grateful to the Lutheran World Federation for the roles it played to initiate and support the KADP and to the donors for the long-term commitment to fund the Programme.

Contact

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