

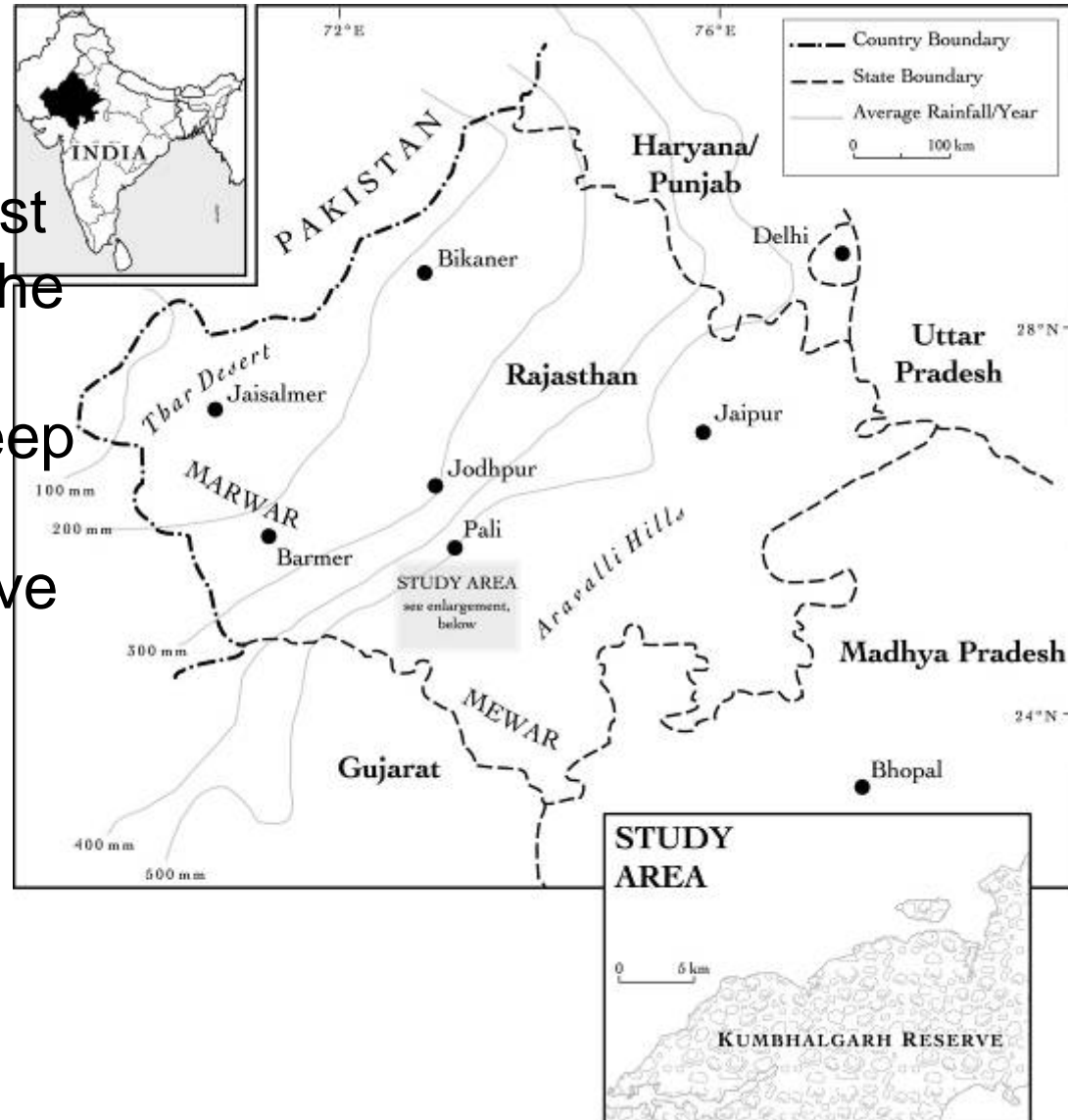
Rajasthan's Livestock Breeds



Rajasthan

“The main wealth of the desert lands of the west and north consists in the vast herds of camels, horned cattle, and sheep which roam over the sandy wastes and thrive admirably in the dry climate”.

(Imperial Gazetteer of Rajasthan, 1908)

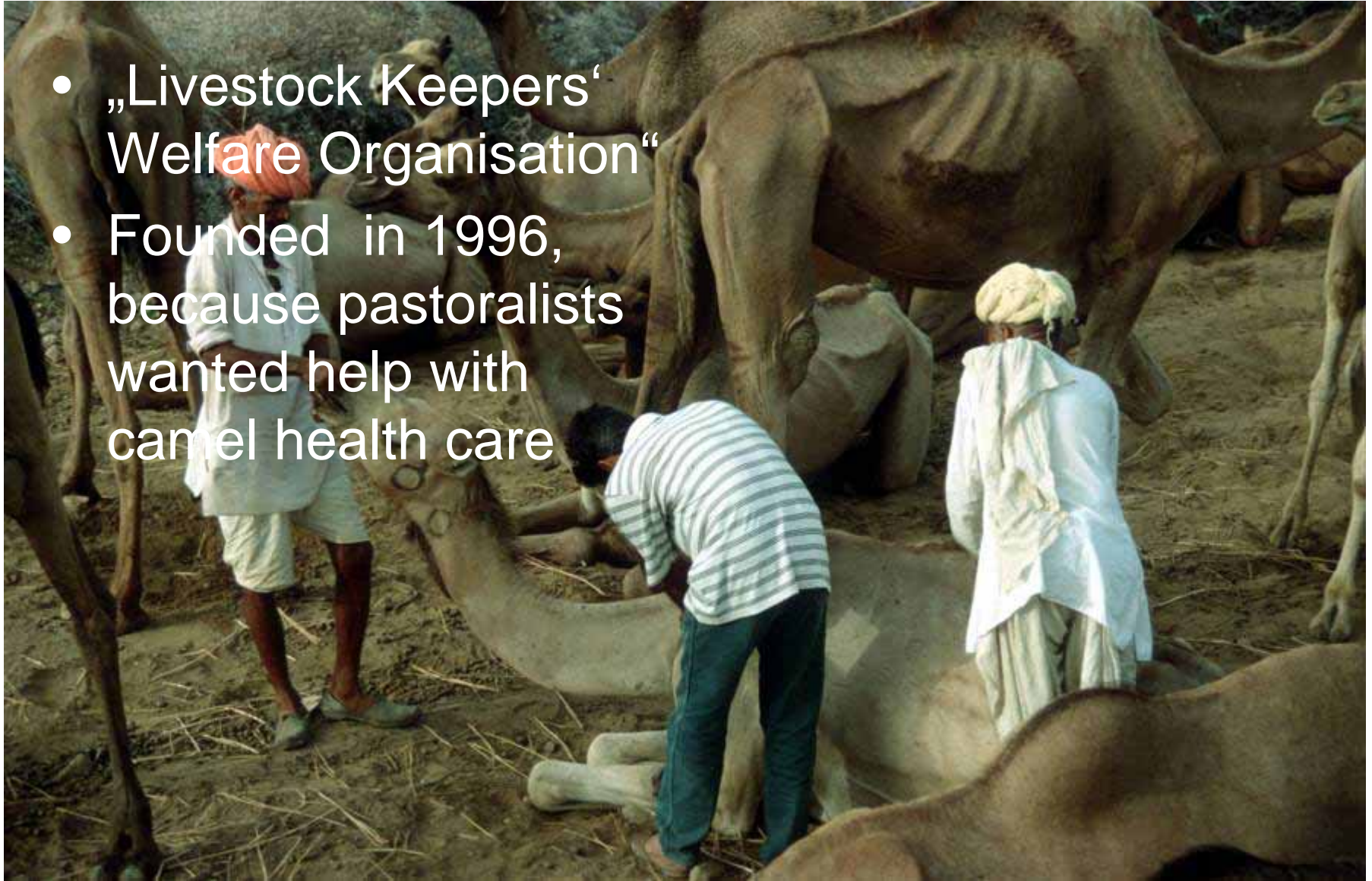


- Livestock breeds originating in Rajasthan form basis of livestock industry in other countries. (Example; Tharparkar, Kankrej, Gir cattle)
- Have even proven superior to exotic breeds (Example: Sirohi goat versus exotic Swiss goats)



Lokhit Pashu-Palak Sansthan

- „Livestock Keepers‘ Welfare Organisation“
- Founded in 1996, because pastoralists wanted help with camel health care



Raika pastoralists



Raika also keep Nari Cattle

- Undocumented breed
- Kept in large migratory herds
- Immune to diseases, except FMD
- Dual-purpose breed

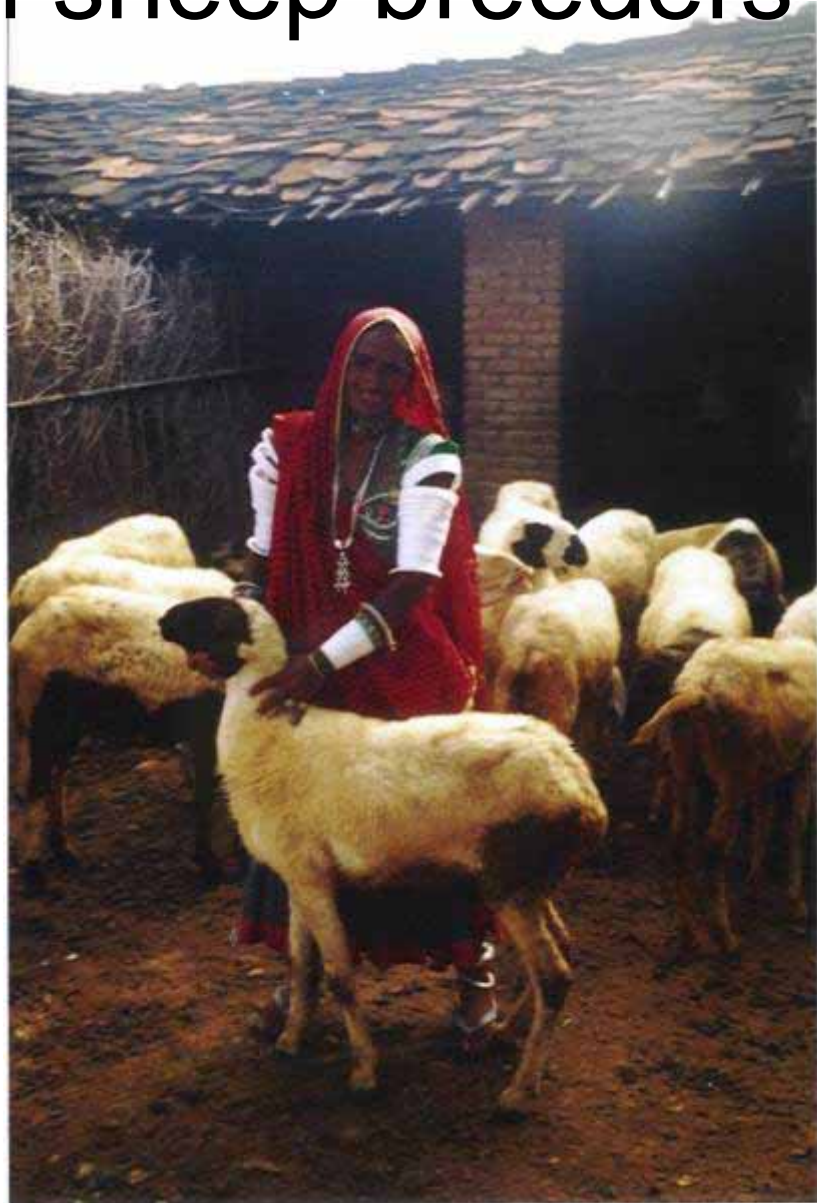


Raika are main sheep breeders

Local sheep breed concepts

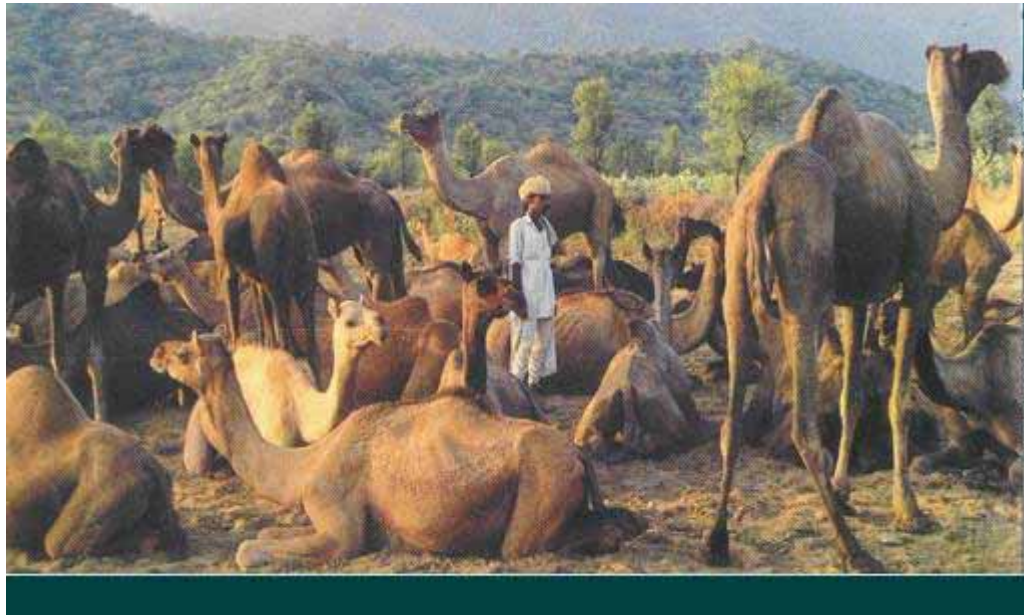
- Boti
- Bhagli
- Dumi

Intensive cross-breeding in order to achieve mix of productivity and drought resistance



Camel: on the way to extinction

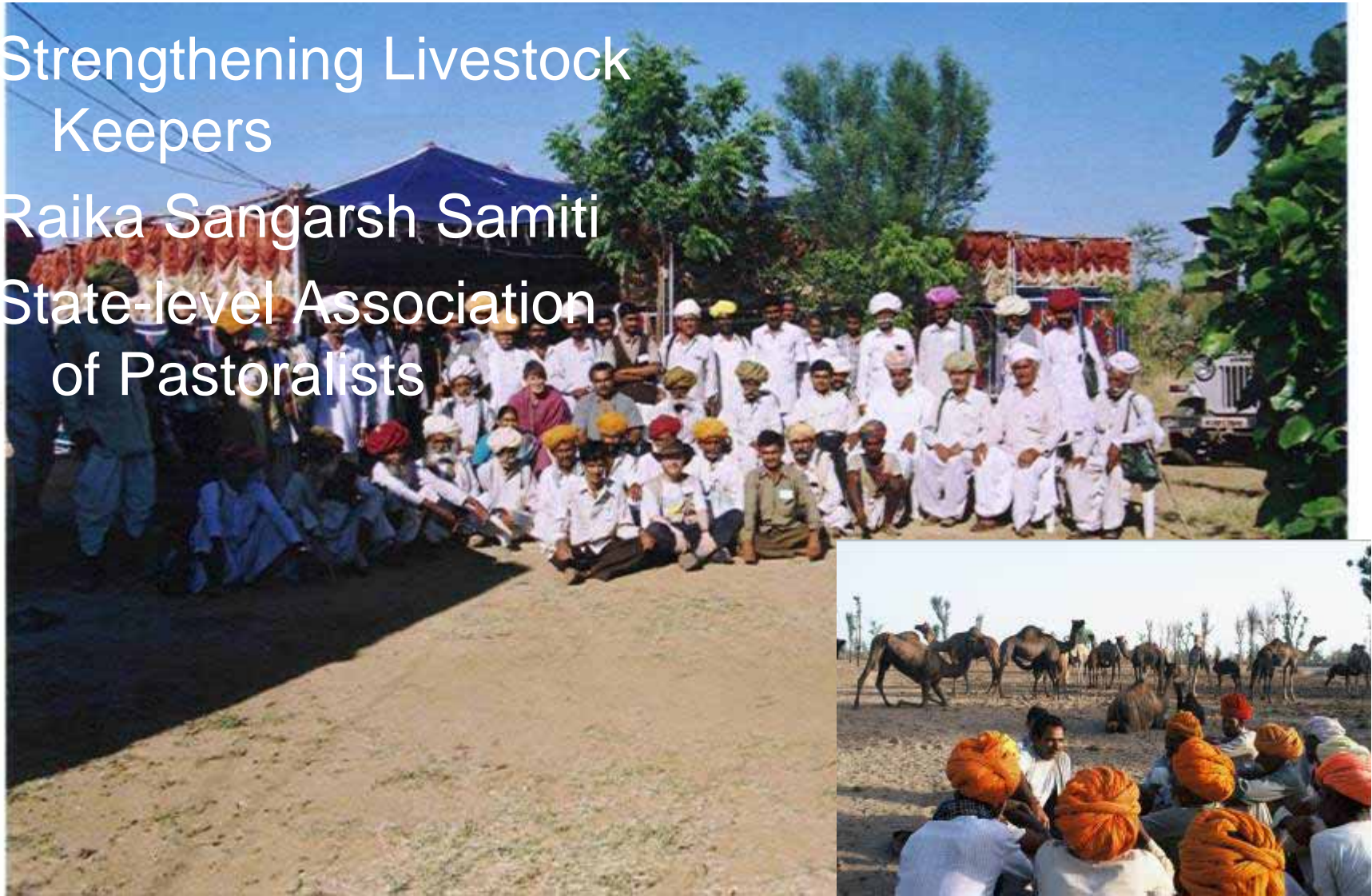
- Camel population is on rapid decline; thousands of female camels are being sold for slaughter at Pushkar market.



LPPS Approach

Strengthening Livestock
Keepers

Raika Sangarsh Samiti
State-level Association
of Pastoralists



Camel Yatra to raise awareness



Camel Yatra to raise awareness



New camel products

- Camel milk icecream
- Camel milk as health food (against diabetes)
- Camel eco-safaris



Way forward:

- Livestock breeders have to be recognised as main stakeholders – bottom-up development !
- Participatory approaches must be adopted
- Rajasthan needs a grazing policy that recognises dependence of livestock and common property resources