From Livestock Keepers‘ Rights to Practical Livestock Development

The final highlight of 2010 was the palpable support that was given to “Livestock Keepers’ Rights” (LKR) during an International Technical Expert Workshop on Access and Benefit Sharing in Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture that was held in Wageningen, Netherlands, in early December. The meeting had been convened by the government institutions of The Netherlands, Norway and Switzerland to analyze the consequences and implications of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS) for the international exchange of animal genetic resources. To recap: The Nagoya ABS protocol is an internationally binding agreement that regulates in more detail the procedures involved in the exchange of genetic resources and traditional knowledge. It is noteworthy for the consideration it gives to the customary laws of indigenous and local communities and prescribes the need for prior consent, involvement and approval of communities before any of their resources are accessed (see box).

During the Wageningen conference, Prof. Carlos Correa and Dr. Ela Martyniuk, National Coordinator from Poland strongly recommended to address the issue of Livestock Keepers’ Rights. The European organisation SAVE with whom LPP presented a joint paper about “Civil Society perspective on ABS” of course also emphasized the need for LKR and the development of Biocultural Protocols.

The recommendations of the meeting include addressing LKR and will be submitted formally at the 13th meeting of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA) in June 2011. It thus seems that LKR are well on their way towards official acceptance by governments and FAO.

This may seem like the achievement of our long pursued aspirations, but it also raises new apprehensions. For if we consider the fate of Farmers’ Rights – which were the model from which the idea for Livestock Keepers Rights was derived –, we must concede that they have not had much of an impact on the ground nor changed the lot of farmers much to the better. And, in retrospect, this is not really surprising, given that more control over seeds is only one aspect that strengthen the position of the small farmer – for him or her to make a living many other factors are equally important, and they cannot be addressed through a legal framework that focuses only on plant genetic resources.

We can conclude that enshrining LKR merely in an agreement that concerns itself only with the conservation and sustainable use of animal genetic resources is not really sufficient to achieve our wider goal of supporting small-scale livestock keepers and conserving their biodiversity conserving practices and lifestyles.

The “beauty” of LKR is that they are a much more comprehensive concept than Farmers’ Rights. Developed over an extended series of grassroots level consultations with a large number of livestock keeping communities from all over the world, this bundle of rights goes to the heart of the needs of the small-scale livestock keepers that persist in raising farm animals in an ecologically sustainable manner, usually with some respect for animal welfare and making an important contribution to food security. As we know, current policies and trade agreements within the EU and worldwide strongly support and subsidize live-
stock keeping on an industrial scale. Despite growing concerns about the environmental impacts, animal welfare issues, human health threats and general sustainability, it is these systems which receive support and which are carried forward by the prevailing paradigm of maximising output of livestock production. On the other hand, the small-scale livestock keepers who conserve biodiversity and pursue an ecological approach to livestock keeping are progressively losing crucial rights such as their rights to graze, to breed, to sell their products, and to keep their animals.

This is the challenge before us: To take Livestock Keepers’ Rights out of the narrow context of animal genetic resource conservation and apply the principles and cornerstones of Livestock Keepers’ Rights together with other basic human rights to livestock development in general. In practice this means fostering rights-based approaches to livestock development that secure small-scale livestock keeping a place in the future. If livestock keepers in North and South join together in this struggle, then this will be achievable in the long-term.

International Activities

February, 22.-27th: International LIFE Meeting held at Khaba near Jaisalmer (Rajasthan, India)

At the occasion of the International Year of Biological Diversity, LIFE Network member LPPS hosted a national level consultation on “Saving the Camel” which was attended by around 250 camel breeders, as well as 50 LIFE Network members (both Indian and international – Argentina, Philippines, Kenya, Uganda) and decision makers (including from the National Planning Commission). The first day focused on the camel and introduced participants to the progress made with the development of various camel products, including ice cream, wool, camel dung paper and camel milk soap. A competition was held for local women (mostly widows) to showcase their artistic skills in embroidery, drawing and “sculpture” in camel design. A camel race was organized, and in working groups the camel breeders discussed their problems with national and international guests and experts. On the second day, the LIFE Network members discussed issues around Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) on Animal Genetic Resources, including the Code of Conduct and the potential, value and possible pitfalls of Biocultural Protocols. While the implications of IPRs and patents are not yet completely understood and there were widely divergent views about patenting of animal genetic resources, there was consensus that Biocultural Protocols are a logical response to patents and should be widely promoted and adopted. On the third day, an internal LIFE meeting was held in which information about individual activities was exchanged and a long discussion was held about the structure and rules of the LIFE Network was held. In a follow-up to this meeting, the National Planning Commission invited the LIFE Network and livestock keepers’ representatives to a Workshop about the National Strategy for Conservation of Indigenous Breeds of Livestock that was held at Yojana Bhavan (Planning Commission) in New-Delhi in September.

May, 4-5th: Livestock week at IFAD in Rome.

Dr. Evelyn Mathias represented LPP during the 11th Inter-Agency Donor Livestock Group meeting on livestock research organised by IFAD in Rome. The meeting focused on "Critical Needs for Livestock Research over the Coming
Decade”, Dr. Evelyn Mathias was asked to participate in an ad-hoc panel and present prepositions and views on livestock research from the non-government perspective. She stressed the great importance of including community livestock keepers in the planning and implementation of research projects affecting their breeds and other local resources to ensure that the research outputs are relevant to communities and meet their needs. She also pointed out that national- and global-level data often do not reflect the realities at the field level and that the gap between these levels needs to be overcome.

May, 18th: Meeting with German Parliamentary Group on Agriculture in the Bundestag in Berlin

Pastoralists from India, Pakistan, and Tanzania, together with Kabir Bavikatte from South Africa and Dr. Ilse Köhler-Rollefson traveled to Berlin to meet with the agriculture committee of the Bundestag (German parliament) to discuss their situation and request support for Livestock Keepers Rights. Above is a group photo of herders and parliamentarians, as well as Rudi Buntzel from EED who organized the meeting, as well as a press conference.

May, 19th: International Conference: “Livestock Keepers’ Rights and Biodiversity” in Lichtenberg Castle in the Odenwald, Germany

At this conference Pastoralists from India, Pakistan and Tanzania discovered commonalities with German shepherds and dairy farmers. Representatives of German ministries also expressed their sympathies with Livestock Keepers’ Rights. The photo below shows Raika leader Mrs. Dailibai holding the demonstration experienced cow of farmer Sven Hehn and some of the participants. The proceedings of the workshop are available at http://www.pastoralpeoples.org/docs/lichtenberg_tagung.pdf.
June 5th, Berlin: Kick-off of the German Shepherd Trek

To raise awareness of the contributions of mobile livestock production and fight for their recognition, European shepherds rallied their sheep in 2010 some 1400 kilometers across Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands – starting in Berlin on 5 June and ending at the “Green Land Day” (Grünlandtag) in Trier on 16-17 October. One of the main organizers and resource persons was LPP member Günther Czerkus, who is also the spokesman for the German shepherds association.

The trek was organized as a kind of relay walk, with each flock and shepherd covering a certain distance and then handing over to another flock for the next stage. Special events along the route highlighted the contributions of shepherds.
The German shepherds started their several month long rally through Germany by driving their sheep through the center of Berlin and through the Brandenburg Gate. It was the kickoff of the most astounding publicity exercise by the European shepherds under the slogan “We take care of the landscape that you love” that lasted through the whole summer. As an expression of solidarity by the Indian shepherds, LPPS Director Hanwant Singh honoured, Günther Czerkus with a turban from Rajasthan.

Dr. Evelyn Mathias visited the trek together with LIFE partner Dr. Chanda Nimkar of the Nimkar Agricultural Research Institute, India, during an event in Paderborn, gave a presentation on international collaboration of pastoralists during an event in Brussels, joined with LIFE partner Dr. Julieta van Thüngen of the National Institute of Agricultural Technology, Argentina, and her colleague Ms. Elizabeth Aguilera the trek for a day’s walk in the Eifel.

The concluding “Grünlandtag” in Trier consisted of a symposium and an action day. This brought together shepherds, scientists and government representatives to discuss the impacts and economics of mobile herding and the support that shepherds need to continue their profession. Co-organizer Günther Czerkus presented a paper on “Costs and benefits of mobile herds”. The distribution of LPP materials and a stand run by the German NGO Freunde des Altai (Friends of the Altai) exhibiting handicrafts of Mongolian pastoralists highlighted the international dimension of pastoralists’ contributions and possible ways to support their efforts. All in all, the trek proved a good example of how shepherds can successfully make politicians and the public aware of their contributions.

September, 28th: Workshop on National Strategy for Conservation of Indigenous Breeds of Livestock held at Yojana Bhavan, New-Delhi, India

Ilse Köhler-Rollefson and several Indian LIFE Network members attended this meeting that was chaired by Dr. M.S. Swaminathan and provided inputs to defining strategies for conserving India’s domestic biodiversity.
October, 13th: Conference „Wer ernährt die Welt? Die Europäische Agrarpolitik und Hungerbekämpfung in Entwicklungsländern- ein Widerspruch?“

Aisha Rollefson attended the conference “Who feeds the World? The European Agricultural Policy and combating hunger in Developing Countries- a contradiction?” in Berlin, Germany. The following topics were discussed: Which contribution is the European Agriculture Policy able to give for combating hunger?; the EU Agriculture Policy and their effects on developing countries- milk as example; the old and new answers of EU’s Common Agricultural Policy; concepts of the german development policy for combating hunger.

October, 18-26th: COP 10 of the Convention on Biological Diversity in Nagoya (Japan)

LPP organized and supported participation of 8 LIFE Network members from India, Kenya and Pakistan. The delegation included Dr. Devinder Sadana (Senior Scientist, National Bureau of Animal genetic Resources, India), Perumal Vivekanandan (LIFE India Coordinator and Director of SEVA), Benitto Paulraj (Malaimadu Cattle Breeders Association, Tamil Nadu), Karthikeya Sivasenapthy (Kangayam Cattle Research Foundation, Tamil Nadu), Sivasenapatty (Bargur Hill Cattle Breeders Association, Tamil Nadu), Dr. Pat Lanyasunya (Samburu Community In Kenya), Hon. Chachu Ganya (M.P. Kenya and Gabbra community), and Dr. Abdul Raziq Kakar (SAVES, Pakistan). The delegation was supported by Dr. Ilse Köhler-Rollefson of LPP. The delegation attended the meeting from 19-24th of October, participated in numerous side-events, established contacts especially with Indian government officials, and took home new insights and information about the workings of the Convention on Biological Diversity that will be useful in the longer term and in developing a strategy for raising pastoralist interests in the next COP.

The group participated in a meeting about Biocultural Community Protocols that was organized by Natural Justice and aimed at identifying some of the problems inherent in this approach. During a session facilitated by Dr. Gudrun Henne, Dr. Raziq presented his perspective on biodiversity management in drylands, while Kabir Bavikatte elaborated on the concept of Biocultural Protocols.
November, 21-26th: 11. Women Pastoralists Gathering India

LPP was a co-organizer of the Global Gathering of Pastoralist Women that took place in Mera (Gujarat) and was hosted by the NGO MARAG. Ilse Köhler-Rollefson attended together with a delegation of three Raika woman and Uttra Kothari, the Vice-President of Lokhit Pashu-Palak Sansthan. LIFE Network member Elizabeth Katushabe was also invited. Carlo Petrini of Slow Food gave an inspiring speech, pastoralist women discussed constructively for several days and capped it all with a rally in the center of Ahmedabad. The event made headlines in national newspaper and several TV channels.

December, 6-10th: World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in Geneva (Switzerland)

Aisha Rollefson participated at the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore: Seventeenth Session in Geneva, Switzerland. WIPO’s work addresses the role that intellectual property (IP) principles and systems can play in protecting Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions from misappropriation, and in generating and equitably sharing benefits from their commercialization and the role of IP in access to and benefit-sharing in genetic resources.


The governments of the Netherlands, Norway and Switzerland organized a multi-stakeholder expert meeting about the implications of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing for animal genetic resources which Dr. Ilse Köhler-Rollefson participated and presented a joint-paper with SAVE about Civil Society perspective on Access and Benefit-Sharing for animal genetic resources. One of the undisputed conclusions: the Global Plan of Action needs to be amended to address Livestock keepers’ Rights, and Biocultural Protocols are mentioned together with Material Transfer Agreements as tools for complying with Access and Benefit-Sharing requirements!
Regional Activities

Establishment of Camel Dung Paper Unit on the LPPS Campus in Sadri, Rajasthan, India

Turning camel dung into paper is an innovation that was developed by LPPS in the course of its project on adding value to the camel, in collaboration with handmade paper experts from Jaipur. When the first samples became available, they got an excellent response from customers and deeply impressed the Raika camel breeders. Setting up a dungpaper unit in Sadri became a dream for the women’s Self-help groups that have been built up by us over the years. It would create jobs for the women from untouchable castes that have few other income earning options in this area. Through a grant from the government of Hessen, LPP provided support to set up such a unit. The process of establishing and constructing it involved several unexpected hurdles, but however in the end of the year all problems had been solved and the first paper has been produced!

February, 3rd: Ankole breed documentation and book launch

On 3 February 2010, Ms Elizabeth Katushabe of the Pastoral and Environmental Network in the Horn of Africa (PENHA) launched the booklet “The Ankole Longhorn cattle sustain our life and livelihood: We have to conserve them” in Sanga, Nyabushozi Kiruhura District in Western Uganda. About 100 persons participated in the launch, including herders, local opinion leaders, veterinarians from the National Animal Genetic Resources Center and Data Bank, government conservation farm managers, PENHA staff and the LIFE Network Africa coordinator, Dr. Jacob Wanyama.

The launch was the conclusion of a series of activities conducted in 2009 under the leadership of Elizabeth with the support of Dr. Jacob Wanyama and Dr. Evelyn Mathias of the League for Pastoral Peoples and Endogenous Livestock Development. The project had the goal to make stakeholders aware of the value and strength of the Ankole cattle and thus stimulate the conservation of this local breed whose numbers are decreasing due to indiscriminate crossbreeding and other factors. The Ankole longhorn cattle have a relatively high milk production and are well adapted to dry conditions, so this breed may become an important resource when rainfall pattern become more irregular and droughts increase due to climate change.
As part of the activities, groups of Bahima pastoralists – the original breeders of this breed – and other local stakeholders discussed Ankole cattle and documented its history, characteristics and management from their point of view. After transcribing the outputs into both English and Runyankore, Elizabeth – herself a member of the Bahima – verified the document during a follow-up meeting with a group of 11 herders and integrated their feedback into the manuscript. The final publication presents the information in both languages. Several senior government officials emphasized during the launch the importance of the book and activities. For more information on the Ankole project, see www.penhanetwork.org/home/details.php?id=34.

May, 28th Launching of the Samburu Biocultural Protocol in Maralal, Kenya

In September 2009, a team consisting of Dr. Pat Lanyasunya and staff of Natural Justice and the League for Pastoral Peoples and Endogenous Livestock Development had helped some Samburu communities to develop a Biocultural Protocol (BCP). The document provides a brief outline of their history, culture, knowledge and resources of the communities. It also describes the role the pastoralists play in the maintenance of the sheep, and their rights, responsibilities and the support they need to continue keeping the breed. As with the Ankole cattle book, a draft of the protocol in Samburu language was shared back to the herders for their feedback before finalizing and publishing the document.

On 28 May 2010 the Samburu BCP was released in form of a printed booklet in two languages in Maralal, Samburu. The occasion was chaired by Mr. Cleopas Okore, the Deputy Director of Livestock Production Service and attended by more than 30 Samburu livestock keepers, as well as the District Livestock Production officer of Samburu District, Mr. Maurice Ouma. The Livestock keepers expressed their gratitude for seeing their information finally published and agreed to start conservation activities of the Red Maasai sheep. More information is available at the African Science News Service website: http://africasciencenews.org/asns/. Dr. Wanyama also gave presentations about the whole process during the SBSTTA meeting in Nairobi in May and during a meeting of Representatives of African Indigenous and Local Communities and Community-Based Organizations on Biocultural Community Protocols held in Cape Town in September 2010. The protocol can be downloaded from the publications section of www.pastoralpeoples.org.

Additional Activities

LPP also undertook additional activities, partly at the request of partners (marketing of products), partly for its own capacity-building (junior researcher):

- Commissioning of an independent study on the subject of financing opportunities and partnerships for the marketing of products from local breeds, with special reference to camel products. This study led to contact with a German business partner (Hess-Natur) interested in building a value chain for Indian dromedary wool. The business subsequently applied for a public private partnership with GIZ (Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit).

- Meeting with German Ministry of Economic Cooperation to discuss the need for a renewed focus on sustainable livestock keeping as a means of poverty alleviation and rural development
**LIFE Network**

Maasai in Tanzania struggle for their rights and livelihoods

The Ngorongoro Brotherhood Mission project run by LIFE Network member Mosses Ndyaine in the Ngorongoro Conservation Area in northern Tanzania helps indigenous peoples to

- seek control over developments affecting them, their lands, territories and resources
- maintain and strengthen their institutions, cultures and traditions; and
- promote their development in accordance with their aspirations and needs.

LPP supported this project through enabling seven Maasai elders to travel to a Parliament session in Dodoma on 7 February 2010 and conduct a side event highlighting the value of pastoralism and the concerns of the pastoralists about ongoing developments in their area. But despite these and numerous other efforts, the Maasai could not stop the demarcation of their land for lease to an Arab firm as a hunting ground. This poses a big threat to their livelihoods as the Maasai depend on these lands for dry season grazing. Furthermore some pastoralists have been forcefully evicted from their home area. But despite of this, the pastoralists and other civil society groups in Tanzania continue to press for their rights.

February, 7th: Maasai in Tanzania struggle for their rights and livelihoods

The Ngorongoro Brotherhood Mission project run by LIFE Network member Mosses Ndyaine in the Ngorongoro Conservation Area in northern Tanzania helps indigenous peoples to seek control over developments affecting them, their lands, territories and resources; to maintain and strengthen their institutions, cultures and traditions; and to promote their development in accordance with their aspirations and needs. LPP supported this project through enabling seven Maasai elders travel to a Parliament session in Dodoma on 7 February 2010 and conduct a side event highlighting the value of pastoralism and their concerns about ongoing developments in their area. But despite these and numerous other efforts, the Maasai could not stop the forceful demarcation of their land and its lease to an Arab firm for hunting. As these lands are crucial to the Maasai for grazing their animals during the dry season, these developments threaten the livelihoods of the area’s Maasai.

August, 13-15th: LIFE-Network Meeting at Kuttupalayam in Tamil Nadu (India)

At the occasion of the International Year of Biological Diversity, LIFE Network organised a meeting in Kuttupalayam near Erode in Tamil Nadu which was hosted by the Senaapathy Kangayam Cattle Research Foundation. Its purpose was to highlight the importance of traditional knowledge and lifestyles for the conservation of biodiversity and to prepare for the 10th Conference of the Convention on Biological Diversity in Nagoya. The first day of the meeting was devoted to discussing the significance of traditional herding cultures for the conservation of biological diversity. International presenters included Fernando Garcia from the Spanish Federation of Shepherds and Dr. Saverio Krätli, a UK based researcher who introduced a recent publication about nomadic livestock.
An important focus of the day were the Biocultural Community Protocols established by livestock keeping groups, such as the Raika, Bargur cattle breeders, Banni Maldhari in India and the Samburu pastoralists in Kenya to document their breeds and their role in biodiversity conservation. Mr. Kabir Bavikatte, a lawyer with the South Africa based NGO “Natural Justice” spoke about the legal meaning of these community protocols under the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to which India is a signatory.

The central theme of the second day were the cornerstones of a national policy for the conservation of India’s diverse livestock breeds – which cannot be achieved without sustaining the cultures and communities that have developed and conserved these breeds. Ms. Antje Feldmann, secretary of the German Society for the Conservation of Old and Endangered Livestock Breeds gave the lead lecture and shared experiences with various successful approaches to saving endangered breeds. Indian scientists from various institutions, including the Indian Council of Agricultural Research in New-Delhi, Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources and others presented and prepared the ground for a deep discussion about the policy and legal requirements for conserving India’s myriad livestock breeds which are so important for ensuring food security and adaptation to climate change in the long run.

The results of the meeting were subsumed in the Kuttupalayam Confirmation on which all participants agreed.

Papers presented at scientific conferences and meetings

International Conference on Ethnoveterinary Practices, Tanjavur, Tamil Nadu, India, on 4-6 January 2010 and visits to Indian NGOs

The conference was organized by the Centre for Ethnoveterinary Research and Training of Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Sciences University and the Foundation for Revitalization of Local Health Traditions (FRLHT). Conference sessions and posters focused among other things on the value of local breeds as “ethnovets” consider them an integral part of communities’ traditional animal health care systems. P. Vivekanandan of SEVA who is India’s LIFE Network coordinator, presented SEVA’s work on breeds and information on the LIFE Network. Dr.
Evelyn Mathias gave a keynote on “Mainstreaming ethnoveterinary medicine in veterinary education and research.”

After the conference, Dr. Evelyn Matias visited together with Dr. Katrien van’t Hooff of ETC NL the following organizations:

- FRLHT in Bangalore where they had meetings with Darshan Shankar, Dr. B. Nair and G. Hariramurthi re further steps in expanding the use of ethnoveterinary medicine in India and outside.

- Basix, an NGO founded in 1996 to provide microfinance to rural areas. Basix is developing an innovative banking and livelihoods project, presently operating in 1630 villages in three provinces of Mahabubnagar District and rapidly expanding. To improve milk marketing, they make available credit for animals and livestock insurance to individuals and provide animal healthcare services and training to producer groups. They also link the producers to Reliance who is building up a milk collecting systems equipped with simple milk testing equipment, transport and cooling storage facilities. The system is efficient and transparent, and farmers can see how their milk is tested and get a kind of income voucher when they deliver the milk. However, if the project continues to expand with the present speed, Basix is going to replace local breeds at a massive scale without even knowing what they are replacing. Dr. Evelyn Mathias and Katrien van’t Hooff expressed these and some other concerns during a meeting with the head of the Basix Livelihoods Programme in Hyderabad.

- LIFE Network partner Anthra in Hyderabad for an information exchange.

---

Annual Symposium of SIVtro VSF Italia, Bologna, 29 October 2010

SIVtro VSF Italia, the Italian branch of the Veterinarians without Borders, invited Dr. Evelyn Mathias as a speaker to their annual symposium co-organized with the Veterinary Faculty of the University of Bologna, Italy. The 2010 symposium on 29 October 2010 focused on Ethnoveterinary medicine: Tradition, science, cultural richness. Dr. Evelyn Mathias gave a presentation on “Recognising ethnoveterinary medicine and community rights: An investment in our future”.

---

Publications 2010

**Evelyn Mathias**

**Evelyn Mathias**

**E. Mathias, P. Mundy and I. Köhler-Rollefson**

**Ilse Köhler-Rollefson and Evelyn Mathias**
Ilse Köhler-Rollefson, Evelyn Mathias, Hanwant Singh, P. Vivekanandan and Jacob Wanyama

Ilse Köhler-Rollefson and Evelyn Mathias

Ilse Köhler-Rollefson
2010. Biocultural Community Protocols: A tool for Pastoralists to secure Customary Rights to the Commons?

Ilse Köhler-Rollefson

Ilse Köhler-Rollefson

Ilse Köhler-Rollefson

Ilse Köhler-Rollefson

Ilse Köhler-Rollefson

Ilse Köhler-Rollefson
March 2010. Women Livestock Keepers of South India prefer local to global breeds. LEISA India 12(1): 8-10 (with Karthikeya Sivasenapathy). In: LEISA- India – Special Issue on Livestock for sustainable livelihoods.

Livestock Keepers’ Rights -An Important Concept for Food Security? (Discussion No. 53 from 8 March To 6 April 2010) with 43 contributions yielding some 40 pages of proceedings (published in English, French, Spanish); http://km.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/fsn/docs/PROCEEDINGS_Livestock.pdf

LPP and LIFE Network

LPP, LIFE Network, IUCN–WISP and FAO

Radio report: http://www.dradio.de/dlf/sendungen/umwelt/1206280/

The cow is no climate-killer.
Anita Idel, 2010.

Metropolis Verlag für Ökonomie, Marburg. In German.

This book by LPP member Anita Idel argues that cattle and other livestock are vital for food production and to use land that cannot be cultivated. But they must be managed in the right way. Feeding them with intensively cultivated maize and soybean indeed harms the climate: synthetic fertilizers require a lot of energy and release nitrous oxide - a greenhouse gas that is 295 times more potent than carbon dioxide. This book looks at the relationships between the soil, vegetation and animals. It argues that all depends on the sustainable grazing management of the livestock. Allowing them to graze on pasture converts vegetation into meat and milk, protects and enriches the soil, and minimizes the production of extra greenhouse gases. An English version of the book is planned for 2011.
About the League

The League is registered as a non-profit, tax-exempt organization under German law. Donations are tax-deductible.

Financial
The League’s income in 2010 was about €158,999.67 and expenditures amounted to €183,222.92. Details are given below. The accounts were audited by a professional chartered accountant in Darmstadt.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Projects</td>
<td>42.644,65</td>
<td>128.224,08</td>
<td>159.641,53</td>
<td>-31.417,45</td>
<td>11.227,20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>61.021,53</td>
<td>158.999,67</td>
<td>183.222,92</td>
<td>-24.223,25</td>
<td>36.798,28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mission
LPP provides technical support, advisory services and advocacy for pastoral societies and other small-scale livestock keepers to help them pursue their own vision of development and to stand their ground in the face of unfavourable policy environments and alienation of their pasture grounds. LPP is also a resource organization for holistic and people-centred livestock development and promotes the concept of endogenous livestock development relying on indigenous knowledge and institutions, local animal genetic resources and feed. The well-being of domesticated animals is a secondary but important focus of its work.

Background
LPP was established in 1992 by a small group of veterinary and other concerned professionals confronted with the crisis situation of camel pastoralists in Rajasthan. Efforts to alleviate their situation set into motion a mutual learning process and a series of measures such as action research, projects related to animal health (including ethnoveterinary approaches) and marketing, as well as training and capacity-building. This has resulted in the establishment of the independent local organization Lokhit Pashu-Palak Sansthan (LPPS) which now represents a key partner and provides infrastructural support for activities in India.

Philosophy
Taking our cues from pastoralists, we believe in the interconnectedness between the well-being of people and their domesticated animals. By conceptualizing animals as machines, industrialized animal production systems sever one of the few remaining links between humans and the natural world. We regard animals as fellow creatures on this planet and not as subjects. The ultimate goal of our effort is human well-being.

LPP Board Members
- Dr. Christiane Herweg
  c.m.herweg@t-online.de
- Silke Brehm
  silke.brehm@gmx.de
- Dr. Ilse Köhler-Rollefson
  ilse@pastoralpeoples.org
- Dr. Evelyn Mathias
  evelyn@mamud.com

Contact address
Pragelatostr.20, 64372 Ober-Ramstadt, Germany.
Tel. +49-(0)6154 53642
Fax +49-(0)6154-53642
Email info@pastoralpeoples.org
Web: www.pastoralpeoples.org

Bank account
Account no. 28004893, Sparkasse Darmstadt, Bank Code 508501 50. Donations are tax-deductible.

Registration
The League for Pastoral Peoples was registered as a non-profit society at the Darmstadt County Court (VR 2337) on 15 March 1993.