



LPP

LEAGUE FOR PASTORAL PEOPLES AND ENDOGENOUS LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT

Liga für Hirtenvölker und nachhaltige Viehwirtschaft e.V.

Annual Report 2012

www.pastoralpeoples.org

LIVESTOCK FUTURES

Almost everybody agrees that the current course of livestock development is unsustainable. But ideas could not be much more divergent on how to change this situation. There are those that believe the existing systems only need to be tweaked and better regulated to achieve improvement. They believe that we must continue to increase production in order to make cheap livestock products available to everybody. Others promote vegetarian and vegan lifestyles to reduce the need for animal products and livestock keeping. In Germany, and other European countries, there is a strong movement against industrial farming and in favour of family farms. Many farmers feel threatened by this movement and say that we can not turn back the wheel and that the old times were much worse for farm animals. It is a fact that the number of farmers and livestock keepers has been drastically reducing in developed countries and that the same process is now being replicated in developing countries, leading to larger and larger conglomerations of farm animals – with negative side-effects for livelihoods, the environment and animal welfare.

LPP believes that we should neither go back in history nor follow the current trajectory that is leading us towards concentration of the whole business in the hands of a few large actors and companies, including banks, as has been shown in our publication *“Livestock out of balance: from asset to liability in the course of the Livestock Revolution”*. Instead we need to carve out a “third way” that is both socially and ecologically sustainable and lessens dependency on expensive inputs – genetics, feed, pharmaceuticals. This will require more regionalism and livestock breeds that achieve optimal rather than maximum performance and can make use of locally available resources. It is the role and duty of governments to create a more level playing field so that smaller farmers and livestock keepers can also survive. This can be done by means of payment for ecological services and by forcing large scale operations to internalize their environmental and genetic costs, rather than externalising them. Awareness also needs to be raised about the higher nutritional value of livestock products from animals raised on bio-diverse vegetation.

2012 was an extremely busy year, but LPP has made progress in highlighting many important issues, in mobilizing the LIFE Network about the Global Agenda of Action towards sustainable livestock sector development (GAA) of the FAO. However, the struggle will continue in 2013 and we need all the support we can get!

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taxdeductible.

Registration

LPP was registered as a
non-profit
society at the Darmstadt
County
Court (VR 2337) on 15
March
1993.

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

April, 5-6th

LIFE Network India Meeting in Delhi to discuss GAA and preparations for CBD COP 11 in Hyderabad



In collaboration with our Indian partner Lokhit Pashu-Palak Sansthan (LPPS), we organized a two day meeting in Delhi for the purpose of informing LIFE Network partners about the GAA (**Global Agenda of Action towards a Sustainable Livestock Sector**). This meeting also benefitted from the presence of the FAO's Country representative, Dr. Peter Kenmore, who attended at short notice and provided tips about how to influence the GAA at the occasion of the upcoming Commission on Agriculture (CoAg) in Rome at the end of May. The second day of the meeting was devoted to discuss strategies and coordinate preparations for the upcoming CBD COP XI in Hyderabad. One of the decisions made was to undertake these activities as the "Pastoralist Alliance" led by Nitya Ghotge from ANTHRA.

April, 16th – 18th

13th IADG Livestock Donors Meeting held at the World Bank in Washington D.C.

The IADG (Inter-agency donors group) meeting is an annual event, initially only for donors in the livestock sector to coordinate their activities and interventions. In the last couple of years, other livestock

actors, incl. some NGOs have also been invited to participate. The meeting provides an important networking opportunity that facilitates interaction with representatives of the big agencies, incl. World bank, ILRI, FAO, IFAD, etc. and to understand and influence their priorities and thinking. At this meeting it became evident that the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is gearing up to become a major player – and probably the largest donor – in the livestock development sector.

During the meeting, LPP shared its recently concluded study entitled “Livestock out of balance” and raised the issue of current mainstream livestock development approaches leading into a debt circle in the discussion groups. Several other groups were on the same wavelength, including VSF Europe and also a representative of the EU. Concern was expressed by some of the other stakeholders, such as GIZ and EU about the spate of livestock related global initiatives in which the same mainstream organisations collaborate. LPP kept reiterating the need for including livestock keepers in such platform and policy making processes, especially in the GAA. The director of ILRI seemed open to the idea and indicated interest in following up on the discussion which could not be completed due to lack of time.

Overall, this was an extremely useful networking event that made it possible to become friendly with ILRI Director Jimmy Smith and the Gates Foundation representative.

The programme also included a field trip to the **Beltsville Agricultural Research Institute** of the US department of Agriculture which provided opportunity for interaction with the scientists and commenting on some of their international research programmes.

Also an interview was given to the **Worldwatch Institute** about the goals and activities of LPP which was to be published on-line later in the year.

May, 7th-11th

Focus group 2 of Global Agenda of Action towards sustainable livestock sector development (GAA) in Brasilia at EMBRAPA

Despite the costs and time involved, Ilse Köhler-Rollefson participated in this meeting. However, it turned out to be extremely important to be present, as it proved possible to influence the results of some of the working groups in favour of livestock keepers that depend on common property resources. Prior to the meeting, a group of NGOs, incl. LPP and CELEP (European Lobbies on East African Pastoralism) had written a letter to the GAA Secretariat which had also been submitted to the Dutch government, criticizing the lack of livestock keeper participation and the “sustainable intensification” livestock development paradigm. This letter had certainly had an impact on the GAA Secretariat that indicated its openness and willingness to engage with small-scale livestock keepers. Informal discussions with members of the GAA Secretariat led to the idea of joint fund raising to enable systematic and organised representation of livestock keepers in the GAA process – and not just sporadic and one-off measures. In fact, due to the earlier advocacy of LPP, several representatives of pastoralist organisations had been invited and funded by the GAA Secretariat to come to Brasilia. This indicates that sustained and constructive pressure is likely to lead to full recognition of small-scale livestock keepers as a stakeholder group – a move that is actually long overdue!

With respect to the theme “restoring value to pastures”, it became evident that the GAA Secretariat is envisioning a global programme to support carbon sequestration by means of mobilizing “carbon finance for pasturelands”, analogous to the REDD approach. While the idea is interesting, there are several problems with the implementation of such a scheme. Existing experiences with similar financing mechanisms have only worked out with respect to privately owned land. For pastoralists that use common property resources, no success stories seem to be available. However the approach may have potential to stop conversion of privately owned pastureland in countries such as Brazil and Argentina into soybean plantations.

The experience in Brasilia confirmed the urgency and need of providing inputs to the GAA, as the atmosphere is quite constructive and the GAA Secretariat seems to be open to some extent to discussion and new ideas. In some cases, lack of experience in working at the grassroots level and knowledge of the situations that exist there seem to be responsible for the opinions of scientists and GAA Secretariat. At the moment, we are optimistic that we can influence the process in a positive way that is beneficial to livestock keepers, however the pressure from the grassroots needs to be sustained for this purpose.

Before the conference, we had examined whether to combine it with visits to Brazilian NGOs working at the grassroots with livestock keepers, for instance IRPAA. However, the plans to visit had to be cancelled due to time constraints and the difficulties of getting affordable flights.

May 21st

Statement at CoAg (Commission on Agriculture) at FAO in Rome

Ilse Köhler-Rollefson and Kamal Kishore, representing the LIFE Network India, participated in the Commission on Agriculture's Session held at FAO in Rome, with the specific purpose of making an official statement on behalf of LPP, LIFE Network and the Coalition of European Lobbies on East African Pastoralism (CELEP) with respect to the GAA which was an official point on the agenda and to be approved by governments.

They also had a meeting with Jeroen Dijkman of the GAA Secretariat in which he assured his support for raising funds for the participation of livestock keepers as an official stakeholder group in the GAA. He committed to preparing a concept note for such a project to be submitted to possible donors by both FAO and LIFE Network. A possible donor mentioned was the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Furthermore, Kamal and Ilse met with other NGOs to discuss possible joint actions, with Dr. Irene Hoffmann of the FAO's animal genetic resource group, with other livestock experts, as well as with Dr. Ajit Maru who is in charge of the Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR).



September, 1st-4th, and 7th-9th

LIFE Network Planning and Conference Preparatory Meeting

Prior to the Livestock Futures Conference, from 1st-4th of September, 10 members of the LIFE Network, as well as Katrien van't Hooft of the Endogenous Livestock Network met at LPP headquarter in Ober-Ramstadt Wembach and discussed about future joint activities as well as inputs to the conference, arriving at a joint philosophy.



The very inspiring interaction continued on a field trip after the conference to the National Shepherding competition in Duisburg-Valsum from 7th-9th September. However, institutional issues still need to be discussed more intensively and this will be done electronically in mid 2013.

September, 6th and 7th

Livestock Futures Conference in Bonn

About 80 people from 15 Countries participated in this interactive conference which had the goal to impress on policy makers the importance of small-scale livestock keepers for sustainable livestock development and also vice versa. After two lead papers, participants divided into five working groups and presented their results to a panel of decision makers on the next day, representing the BMZ, BMELV, FAO, EU, DAFA (German Agricultural research Alliance) and the Environment minister of Rhineland-Palatinate.

The results are captured in the conference documentation; a photo-story, as well as a short German video are available on our website (<http://www.pastoralpeoples.org/conference/>)

Results of the conference were also widely publicized by specialist agencies, for instance <http://www.donorplatform.org/livestock-and-pastoralism/latest/799-sustainable-solutions-need-smallholder-systems-.html>

<http://www.rural21.com/english/news/detail/article/livestock-futures-conference-about-powerlessness-and-hope-0000466/>

The recommendations of working group 5 were submitted to the Ad hoc Working group on Access and Benefit Sharing and the Nagoya Protocol that was about to have its first official meeting at Svalbard in Spitsbergen.



October, 7th to 13th October

Participation in the CBD COP 11 in Hyderabad

LPP organised a side-event entitled “Caravans of Biodiversity: India’s Livestock Keepers, their Breeds and Products” which was attended by about 50 people, including Francois Pythoud from Switzerland (Chairman of Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture), Ela Martyniuk (National Coordinator of Animal Genetic Resources for Poland), etc. During this side-event, the results of the “Ark” project were shared by Dr. Jacob Wanyama of LIFE Network Africa. LPP also supported LIFE Network through preparation of a press release (see Appendix II) and editing/lay-outing of a brochure about India’s pastoralists and the Forest Rights Act. Ilse Köhler-Rollefson was invited to participate in several other side-events, organised by IIED and by the Deccan Development Society. She also participated in a press conference organised by DDS, together with Frances Moore Lappe.



October, 24th to 26th

Participation in side-event about Access and Benefit-Sharing of Animal Genetic Resources held at ITWG-AnGR at FAO in Rome.

A side-event about the emerging issue of Access and benefit-Sharing of Animal genetic Resources was hosted by the governments of The Netherlands and Brazil during the Intergovernmental Working group on Animal genetic Resources. Ilse Köhler-Rollefson was invited to share the results of the working group 5 at the Livestock Futures Conference. Other speakers were from governments and the private

sector, so it was important to present the livestock keepers' perspective and lay out some basic principles. There is hope that the ABS concept can be leveraged to create a more level playing field between diversity eroding livestock industries and the diversity conserving livestock keepers.

Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS) is a concept that is enshrined in the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). It basically entails the idea that holders/nations that are rich in biodiversity and traditional knowledge are entitled for benefits in return for providing access to genetic material and traditional knowledge. ABS has been discussed much in the context of plants with pharmaceutical value, but is only just now begun to be looked at from the perspective of genetic resources for food and agriculture. ABS has so far mostly been an issue at national and inter-governmental levels, i.e. between countries from the bio-diverse global South and the – in this respect – much poorer countries of the North. However, in 2010, the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing was agreed upon which also provides for the rights of communities by mandating the development of community-protocols.

During the Livestock Futures conference organised by LPP in Bonn on 6-7th September, one of the working groups discussed possible modalities for applying ABS to create incentives for and reward livestock keeping communities that conserve biological diversity. The participants noted that livestock in traditional communities has both private and public goods characteristics. They also concluded that livestock breeds represent specific combinations of genes and represent the result of collective breeding. Therefore benefits should be shared on one hand, but not be linked to direct access to genes. They came to the following conclusions:

Small-scale livestock keepers provide a collective service by maintaining breeds and stewarding eco-systems. These services can be rewarded monetarily at national level through payments for environmental services, such as carbon sequestration and biodiversity conservation. Furthermore, they can be rewarded through the provision of an enabling environment that supports them to continue their livelihood and breed conservation activities (livestock keepers' rights, grazing rights, services, branding, etc).

At international level, a benefit sharing fund/pool should be established to support communities which maintain and use local breeds. The Benefit-Sharing fund could be financed by the following means:

- Request livestock sector input companies to pay genetic erosion tax.
- Compensatory payments by genetic companies after a biodiversity audit. (These payments could be made in the context of an international agreement or voluntarily in the context of corporate social responsibility.)
- The GPA (Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources) funding strategy could be developed into a benefit sharing fund, with condition for receipt of funds being that the beneficiaries have a BCP (Biocultural Community Protocol) in place. Furthermore, communities should have direct access to the Benefit-sharing fund (no obligatory government involvement)
- The Benefit-sharing fund could be used for activities such as
 - Education and awareness raising about local breeds, fairs
 - Product development and marketing, including under a special label
 - Research on local breeds and production systems
 - Women empowerment, food security and breed management
 - For conservation breeding
 - Legal support for rights (grazing, breeding, etc.)

December, 2nd-4th

Experience-Sharing about Biocultural Community Protocols at LPPS in Sadri (Rajasthan)

LPP helped its partner LPPS to organise a two-day workshop for community representatives to share and exchange their experiences with respect to developing Biocultural Community protocols (BCPs).

The meeting took place at the LPPS campus in Sadri and was attended by representatives of five communities. A report is available on the blog ikrweb.wordpress.com



"ARK-PROJECT"

The purpose of the project "Biocultural Protocols to the Ark of Livestock Biodiversity" that is conducted by LPP in collaboration with its LIFE Network partners in India, Pakistan and Kenya is to identify incentives for bio-diversity conserving livestock keepers to continue in this livelihood strategy and thereby act as "guardians of biodiversity". A specific goal is to examine the scope and viability of a special label ("Ark of Livestock Biodiversity") to signal to the consumer that a product derives from such a production system and thereby increase revenues for livestock keepers. The hypothesis was to be tested by identifying traditional livestock products and analysing their nutritional composition and other "unique selling points". A special website has been set up for this project at <https://arkbiodiversity.wordpress.com/>. An overview study of the interrelationship between livestock nutrition and the quality of products was undertaken by Ms. Kanika Chandel from India

In **India**, livestock products from the Thar Desert in Rajasthan were researched by LPPS in terms of production system, processing, local beliefs, chemo-physical characteristics, and potential marketability:

Ghee from Tharparkar cows

Ghee – clarified butterfat – has enormous cultural, religious and nutritional importance and meaning in India. Among the desert communities of Rajasthan, offering ghee to guests is part of the hospitality ritual, and it would be extremely impolite to provide “luki” (dry) chapattis (unleavened bread) without ghee to a visitor. In temples, ghee is essential for rituals (puja), and ghee is also extremely important as a source of nutrition and energy, especially for pregnant and nursing mothers and for people recovering from illness. The ghee from indigenous cows is considered the best and most preferred, buffalo ghee is less popular.



The ghee that is available is a premium product for which urban people would be ready to kill. However, only very small amounts appear to be marketed and most of it is used either domestically or sold to other people in the village. Village people are paying Rs. 500 for a kg of cow ghee from Jaisalmer although packed, factory made ghee is available for half that price in the store.

Jaisalmeri meat

“Jaisalmeri meat” is famous – we hear about it all the time. But why? In the course of numerous interactions with goat rearers, butchers, hotel owners and other local experts, it turns out that Jaisalmeri goat is not available in the hotels and restaurants – these establishments buy goat meat in bulk from Jodhpur at a cheaper rate than the meat is available locally. Jaisalmeri goat can only be had at home. For local people it is self-evident that the goat meat is so tender and tasty because of the 36 plants that it eats. This is the standard statement in the villages. The way of cooking does not seem to be that crucial.

Again, “doing a goat” is also part of desert hospitality that happens when honoured guests arrived. For the purpose the whole goat is cut up into pieces and then fried and stewed with spices. It is eaten with roti (unleavened bread) and enjoyed with some home distilled spirits.

Dromedary wool

The wool of the one-humped camel has traditionally been used to make a variety of items for household use, including rugs, rough blankets, ropes and charpoys (string beds). It was however never marketed and is not available on the world market either. Some analyses of dromedary wool samples indicated that there is a great degree of variation in fibre thickness, and a significant proportion of high quality fine wool. One of the samples had an average thickness of 23 micron, but with the majority of fibres being in the 17-20 micron range, which is equivalent to Cashmere quality. The length of the fibre was 5.9 cm in this sample. Sample 2 had an average fibre thickness of 26 micron and an average length of 5.4 cm.

With the help of local designers a number of samples of new products (shawls, caps, etc.) were created and received a good response. In order to access additional technological inputs and even develop an international market, LPPS decided to collaborate with a German based eco-textile company which expressed interest in dromedary wool because it represents a world novelty, and also because they were intrigued by the ecological and cultural “story” as well as the romantic “desert” connotation of the material.

Nutritional analyses:

Six goats were provided to the Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute in Avikanagar (Rajasthan) to do various analyses and compare with other breeds of goat.

For the ghee, three samples were sent to Institute in Delhi for comparison with store bought ghee. The results are available, but are still being analysed. The small sample size causes limitations. In terms of statistical significance.



In **Pakistan**, the study by SAVES focused on dried meat (Persenda) and a dried milk product (Qourath).

Persenda

The animal selected for persenda is called landi. Preference is for sheep because of the juicy and tasty meat, although the meat of goat, steers and camels are also used for making persenda. The white colored sheep breeds like Kakari, Musakhaili and Bybrik are preferred for this purpose, as their meat is considered juicier than that of other breeds. Such meat also lends itself to drying because the muscles are not double and thick. The animal is usually bought in July or August and kept on free grazing for almost 5 months, before being slaughtered in the month of December.

After slaughtering, the wool is plucked from the carcass by hand. Then the viscera are removed and the abdomen is closed with the fresh stick of the tree. The carcass is singed by the flame produced by burning locally available bushes. The carcass is then washed to remove dirt and ashes. After washing, the bones are removed from the carcass without cutting the skin. The skin remains intact so that the carcass absorbs salts during a curing stage. The deboned carcass is then kept in the shade for 2-3 days. After this stage the carcass is cut into pieces and hung on wooden sticks in an aerated and sunny place for drying that lasts 10-15 days. The dried meat is then stored in an airy room on a mat made from plant leaves (*pizzie*). Such dry meat is called persenda.

Qourath

Qourath is usually made from the milk of small ruminants, especially sheep, but sometimes also from camel and cow milk. The milk is boiled and a culture is used to turn it into curd. The curd is then diluted with water and churned, either in the skin of a small ruminant or in a churning machine. Butter is removed and the remaining fluid is called *shlombey*. Shlombey is consumed as such by the family, but the surplus is converted into qourath. For this, shlombey is poured into a semi-permeable polythene bag to

drain the water. The residuals are then fortified with salts for preservation. After adding the salt, the substance is cut into pieces which are then dried in an airy and shady place.

Analysis of the products

Persenda and Qourath were analyzed sensorically as well as for chemical composition. For the former, a panel of 20 local people tested Persenda for color, texture, flavor and taste.

In **Kenya** the research by LIFE Africa Trust focused on the meat of the Red Maasai sheep, a threatened but very parasite resistant local breed, and it investigated local perceptions as well as marketing channels. This field survey used participatory community data collection to collect information from two districts of Samburu county, namely North (Baragoi) and Central (Lorroki) and produced an inventory of the traditional products made from these breeds, processing methodologies, and perceptions about the nutritional and medicinal value of the products.



In each of the two areas, two villages were targeted for a total of 16 Focused Group Discussion (FGD). Each group comprised of 8-13 people. The FGDs took a maximum of two hours each. In addition, key informant (KI) interviews were conducted on various persons involved along the chain from production, processing, marketing and consumption. These include butcher men/slaughters, hoteliers, traders and the consumers. Other key informants included representative of the Livestock Marketing Council (LMC), District Veterinary Officer (DVO), Livestock Production officer (DLPO) and the Public Health Officer (PHO). In both cases, the questionnaire used open ended questions to encourage discussion and allow for propping so as to collect as much information as possible.

In addition to conducting interviews, the enumerator observed and recorded (both by noting down and taking pictures) the details on various processes such as animal grazing, livestock market transactions, slaughtering procedures, selling of meat in butcheries as well as preparation and processing techniques.

- **Fat:** The red Massai sheep is fatty tailed and the meat is generally fatty. This fat is extracted, processed locally and used as medicine especially from small children. It is believed to heal whooping cough, tuberculosis, and chest pains. It can also be eaten by healthy individuals.
- **Hides and skin:** These are used for beddings, mats, attires as well as and are made to baby carriers.
- **Sheep** are used in all Samburu lifecycle events, e.g sheep are slaughtered when a woman gives birth, during marriages, elders' meetings, and when a boy is circumcised. At these occasions, sheep meat is distributed to guests.

PROJECT: INTER-REGIONAL LEARNING ON ANIMAL FINE FIBRE - PROCESSING AND NICHE MARKETS

The goal of the project was to increase the incomes of poor households that raise livestock with valuable animal fibres in Africa, Asia and Latin America, by inter-regional exchanges between animal fibre producers, national

and international organisations working with livestock keepers who produce animal fibres, and other key players. The aim was to gain information and best practices on processing and marketing of high-value animal fibres. The **Small Grant** for USD 200,000 from IFAD was awarded to LPP but it was implemented by Odessa Centre UK, through League for Pastoral Peoples (Germany).

Two week-long international workshops and study tours were held, one in Kyrgyzstan in June 2012 and one in Bolivia in July-August 2012, with 48 participants from 21 countries. Participants were from all five continents, and half were women. The workshops provided opportunities for exchanging information between the main actors of the animal fibre value chain.

PPP PROJECT WITH GIZ AND HESS-NATUR: DEVELOPMENT OF A VALUE CHAIN FOR DROMEDARY WOOL FROM RAJASTHAN

With high hopes, LPP had initiated a public-private partnership with GIZ and the German eco-textile company Hess Natur to build up a value chain for dromedary wool from India. However, because of conflicting goals of the partners involved, this project did not manage to progress.

ASIAN AND AFRICAN REGIONAL INITIATIVES ON BIOCULTURAL PROTOCOLS

LPP is a partner in the Asian Regional Initiative on Biocultural protocols (BCPs) that was initiated by Natural Justice, is administered by ETC and funded by The Christensen Fund. Within the context of this project, Ilse Köhler-Rollefson advised and backstopped Asian partners facilitating Biocultural protocols, especially with respect to the BCP of the Jaisalmer camel breeders from the Thar Desert in India. LPP also supported LIFE Network Africa administratively with activities regarding the Samburu BCP.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

March, 5th-7th

Pastoral Policy Workshop in Ahmedabad

This workshop was offered by WISP (World Initiative for Sustainable Pastoralism) to train Indian NGOs and livestock keepers in lobbying and advocacy skills and approaches. Ilse Köhler-Rollefson participated together with LPPS board member Mrs. Dailibai Raika. The meeting also provided opportunity to plan with other Indian NGOs a “Pastoralist Alliance” for the purpose of advocating for pastoralism during the COP 11 of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

7 April, 2012

Core group meeting of Rainfed Livestock Network in Delhi

On 7th April, Ilse Köhler-Rollefson, as member of the core group, attended a meeting of the Rainfed Livestock network (RLN) meeting to discuss and decide about project proposals for the future work of the network.

May, 23rd-24th

International Conference of the Society for Ethnobiology in Montpellier

Ilse Köhler-Rollefson was invited to give a presentation on Biocultural Community protocols for livestock keepers in a workshop organized by the Global Coalition for Biocultural Diversity.

June, 28th

Shepherd Assembly at the dOCUMENTA (13), in Kassel, Germany, on Saturday, June 23, 2012.

LPP also supported, in a minor way, the “Shepherd Assembly”, organized by Spanish artist Fernando García-Dory that gathered 10 shepherd leaders from various pastoral organizations across Europe invited by documenta. The event provided an opportunity for exchange between shepherds and culture professionals.

The main problems faced by pastoralism were highlighted. This lifestyle is threatened by increasing difficulties, and there was overwhelming consensus on the importance of further recognition of shepherds’ contribution to society, which is not only economic but also environmental and cultural. A key issue is to give more visibility to shepherds participating in the European Shepherd Network, an organization created some years ago that gathers pastoralists from all over the continent.



Chus Martínez, Head of Department and Member of Core Agent Group of dOCUMENTA (13), said that “this project directly echoes theories developed by Donna Haraway and contributes to creating new artistic languages to rethink social sciences outside of constructed hierarchies between man and animal, culture and nature.”

The Assembly was also an opportunity to examine specific issues that all pastoralists are facing, such as increasing bureaucratic control (for example, the imposition of an Electronic Identification System for sheep and goats), as well as other aspects of the upcoming reform of the Common Agricultural Policy.

As one shepherd said, “we love what we do, we want to keep doing it, producing healthy food, keeping alive local breeds, maintaining landscape and being custodian of a way of living that is very necessary for the transition of our current agricultural model in crisis to a more sustainable one.”

July, 4th-6th

Agricultural Biodiversity Knowledge Programme (Thailand)

The Agricultural Biodiversity Knowledge Programme is managed by Oxfam-NOVIB and HIVOS and includes ca. 80 NGOs worldwide working on biodiversity issues. LPP is the only organisation among these that works on animal rather than plant genetic resources, so Ilse Köhler-Rollefson participated in this meeting.

July, 7th and 8th

National Conference “Native animals for the benefit of Mankind” organised by Vechur Conservation Trust in Kerala

This conference was organised by Professor Sosamma Iype and, supported by the National Biodiversity Authority, it was a preparatory event for the CBD COP 11 in Hyderabad. Ilse Köhler-Rollefson gave a keynote address and helped put together the Bharananganam Declaration, a strong statement against cross-breeding.

July, 29th to August, 3rd

Development Cooperation Focus Seminar “Biotrade and ABS for biodiversity conservation and development” on Vilm

Ilse Köhler-Rollefson was invited as a speaker to this training programme and shared experiences of LPP partner LPPS with building up a value chain for camel products, as an example of biotrade.

September, 12th-14th

Participation in IFOAM Conference on Organic Animal Husbandry, in Hamburg

Ilse Köhler-Rollefson and Hanwant Singh Rathore participated in this conference. IKR presented a joint paper with LIFE Network members Raziq Kakar, Kamal Kishore, Hanwant Singh Rathore and Jacob Wanyama about value addition to livestock products from pastoralist systems and the viability of a special label that would signal to the consumer that a product comes from a bio-diverse production system. She also chaired the Workshop 1.4: Organic grazing systems in dry areas.

September 15th

Symposium: Kühe, Klima, Kapital: Welche Zukunft hat die Tierhaltung in der Landwirtschaft? („Cows, climate, capital: what is the future of livestock keeping?“)

Ilse Köhler-Rollefson was invited at this annual event about responsible agriculture organised by the Hofgut Oberfeld in Darmstadt to present the position of LPP about the future of livestock keeping.

September, 26th to 28th

Workshop “New perspectives on climate resilient drylands development” held at Lake Elementaita Lodge, Kenya

As members/representatives of the Rainfed Livestock Network in India, Ilse Köhler-Rollefson and Kamal Kishore were invited by IIED to participate in this workshop, together with scholars from the University of Peking in China, the Revitalizing Rainfed Agriculture Network (India) and representatives of the Arid and Semi-Arid Secretariat of the Ministry of State for Development of Northern Kenya and other Arid lands in Kenya. The workshop was part of a project ***New perspectives on climate resilient drylands development*** that is funded by the Ford Foundation and aims to formulate a more progressive narrative of the drylands, to those currently articulated by many global and public institutions, based on sound scientific evidence and traditional local knowledge and experience. This workshop presented a welcome opportunity to raise awareness about the GAA, and as a result, a Chinese scholar will be participating in the launch in Nairobi. In addition, a policy brief about “Pastoralism and the GAA” was commissioned to Ilse Köhler-Rollefson.

November, 7th

ILRI-ICAR Dialogue Workshop in Delhi

This event was organized by ILRI (International Livestock Research Institute) and ICAR (Indian Council of Agricultural Research) to launch future collaborative efforts. Kamal Kishore and Ilse Köhler-Rollefson

attended. A comment on the event is published on our blog, which was subsequently picked up by the ILRI blog.

<http://ikrweb.wordpress.com/2012/11/12/a-bit-more-respect-for-livestock-keepers-please/>

November, 13th

Exhibition Euro Tier 2012 in Hannover

Sabine Poth from LPP visited the international exhibition „Euro Tier“ in Hannover and followed two podium discussions organized by the DLG (Deutsche Landwirtschaftsgesellschaft) about the future of livestock keeping and the current popular demand for more animal welfare and ecological awareness in the livestock production system.

PUBLICATIONS 2012

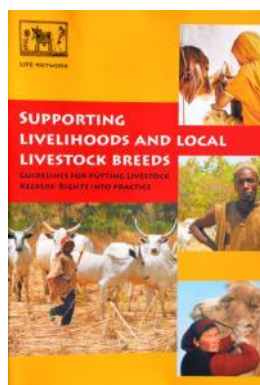
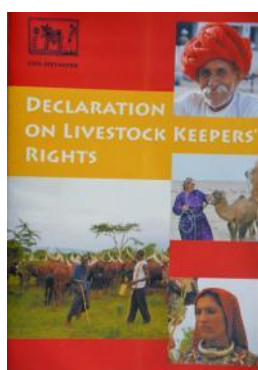
Discussion paper: Livestock out of Balance: from asset to liability in the course of the Livestock Revolution.

LPP member Dr. Evelyn Mathias took up the task to analyse the impacts of the Livestock Revolution on the economic situation of small-scale livestock keepers and came to the conclusion that growing numbers are drawn into the livestock revolution and the debt spiral.

The paper has been widely circulated, but while its content and conclusions were regarded as important by GRAIN, representatives of the mainstream sector have not made many comments.

Biocultural community protocols: tools for securing the assets of livestock keepers. **Biodiversity and culture: exploring community protocols, rights and consent (PLA 65)**, p. 109- 118. With Abdul Raziq Kakar, Evelyn Mathias, Hanwant Singh Rathore and Jacob Wanyama.

Printing of the Declaration on Livestock Keepers' Rights and the Guidelines for Implementing Livestock Keepers' Rights



“Invisible guardians - Women manage livestock diversity” by FAO.

This study about the role of women in animal genetic resource management prepared by Ilse Köhler-Rollefson was finally published by FAO in their Animal Production and Health series. It generated a good bit of publicity, with interviews recorded at FAO and aired by UN radio station in New York.

<http://www.unmultimedia.org/radio/english/2012/11/women-play-role-in-stopping-decline-of-indigenous-breeds-of-livestock/>

ABOUT LPP

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

Financial

The League's income in 2012 was about € 169.463,95 and expenditures amounted to € 197.680,38. Details are given below. The accounts were audited by a professional chartered accountant in Darmstadt.

Euros	Funds at end of 2011	Income 2012	Expenditure 2012	Income – Expenditure 2012	Funds at end of 2012
Society	21.525,32	20.079,31	25.258,20	-5.178,89	16.346,43
Projects	40.940,28	149.384,64	172.422,18	-23.037,54	17.902,74
Total	62.465,60	169.463,95	197.680,38	-28.216,43	34.249,17

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.

DONORS

LPP is extremely grateful to its donors supporting its work in 2012

- Misereor
- IFAD
- Fondation d'entreprise Hermès
- Brot für die Welt
- Swissaid
- The Christensen Fund (through ETC)