

LEAGUE FOR PASTORAL PEOPLES
AND ENDOGENOUS LIVESTOCK
DEVELOPMENT



ANNUAL REPORT 2024



Summary of main events and activities

- Managed an international workshop on camelid pastoralism, January 5-10 in Sadri, Rajasthan.
- Managed a workshop on camel conservation and well-being from a cross-cultural perspective, February in Nagaur, Rajasthan.
- Co-published the dossier *With camelids into a sustainable future*.
- Continued work on projects to map pastoralists and camelids worldwide.
- Published two more *Accounting for Pastoralists* studies, for Pakistan and Afghanistan.
- Held a webinar on ethical camel dairying.
- In Kenya, LPP collaborator Jacob Wanyama developed a policy brief for IGAD on *Camel Husbandry in the IGAD Region: Use of Indigenous Knowledge, Practices and Local Innovations*
- Gave presentations on camel pastoralism in virtual and in-person meetings for the International Year of Camelids in Vienna, Turkmenistan, Iran, Rome, Lisbon and India
- Initiated and supported the foundation of a German group to support the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists.
- Conducted external evaluations of livestock projects.

International activities



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January

5–10 January. LPP, Lokhit Pashu-Palak Sansthan (LPPS) and the Godwar camel pastoralist milk producers organized the first international event of the International Year of Camelids in the form of an **International Workshop on Camelid Pastoralism**, held in Sadri, Rajasthan, India. Participants included Raika camel herders and other camel pastoralists from Rajasthan and Gujarat in India, camel herders from Mongolia and Kenya, and researchers and practitioners from India, Iran, Kenya, UK and Germany. They were joined online by scientists and practitioners from Peru, Pakistan, UAE and USA. The workshop participants saw the International Year of Camelids is an opportunity to understand and value the work and knowledge of camelid-herding communities. These must be at the centre of the activities during the Year. Mobile camelid pastoralists plan to unite their voices globally and to work in alliance to promote and adopt a development model that is good for camelids, people and the planet.

<https://www.pastoralpeoples.org/international-workshop-on-camelid-pastoralism/>

February

5 February. Ilse Köhler-Rollefson's book *Hoofprints on the Land* was highlighted at the Jaipur Literature Festival in a conversation between her and Yuvan Aves in a session dubbed "Hoofprints of the Camel".

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0BzVIRjYF6s>

7 February. The German Ambassador to India, Dr Philip Ackermann, met with Ilse Köhler-Rollefson and Hanwant Singh Rathore on the campus of LPPS in Sadri, where he learned about our camel conservation work.

<https://twitter.com/AmbAckermann/status/1755256900780965949>

16–17 February. At the invitation of Princess Shivranjani of Jodhpur, we organized a **Workshop on camel conservation and well-being from a cross-cultural perspective** in the historic Nagaur Fort. This was a collaboration between LPPS, the North American Camel Ranch Owners Association, and Jodhana Heritage.

The purpose of this workshop was to discuss the status quo and the factors that currently undermine camel well-being and conservation in Rajasthan and identify possible solutions, taking advantage of the presence of a team of North American camel ranchers during the Nagaur Cattle Fair. It brought



together these experts with the Raika and other camel herders of Rajasthan who are the holders of traditional camel knowledge, for sharing knowledge about the conditions under which camels thrive and how to create these conditions, analysing the issue from a cross-cultural perspective. The results were shared widely with the government, businesses, and the media in order to get one step closer to successful camel conservation in Rajasthan.

<https://www.fao.org/camelids-2024/events/event-detail/cross-cultural-exchangeon-camel-well-being/en>

28 February – 2 March. Panellist at a meeting of the Rainfed Livestock Network in Bangalore. (IKR)¹

March

11–12 March. Meeting with the teams of Al Nassma Chocolates and Nomadic Nutrition in Abu Dhabi und Dubai, as well as the organic farm Al Mazara. (IKR)

April

19–20 April. Ilse Köhler-Rollefson and Hanwant Singh Rathore participated in the International Camel Parade in Paris.

22 April. Meeting with Joana Roque de Pinho, pastoralist researcher in Kenya and Mongolia about a planned workshop on pastoralism and spirituality in Portugal. (IKR)

June

1 June (World Milk Day). Organization of a webinar on ethical camel dairying – Why camels should not go the way of the cow! (IKR)

www.pastoralpeoples.org/webinar-on-ethical-camel-dairying/

6 June. Webinar in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, on *The importance of camels: Opportunities for improving the sector's efficiency and sustainable development*. Presentation on camel pastoralism. (IKR)

9 June. Presentation at the FAO/International Atomic Energy Agency's Camel Conference in Vienna. International Networking Meeting with Ursula Windberger, Lulu Skidmore, Maria Wurzinger, Bernhard Faye und Pamela Burger about an FAO publication on camelids. (IKR)

19 June. Zoom meeting with Natasha Maru of the International Land Coalition about a possible event with Rebari camel herders in Gujarat. (IKR)



¹ IKR: Ilse Köhler-Rollefson

22 June. Sabine Poth participated in the webinar of *Animals' angels: Camel welfare: Towards sustainable camel husbandry* (www.animals-angels.de)

26–28 June. Presentation at the Regional Conference of the International Dairy Federation in Cochin, Kerala, India, about nomadic camel dairying. (IKR)

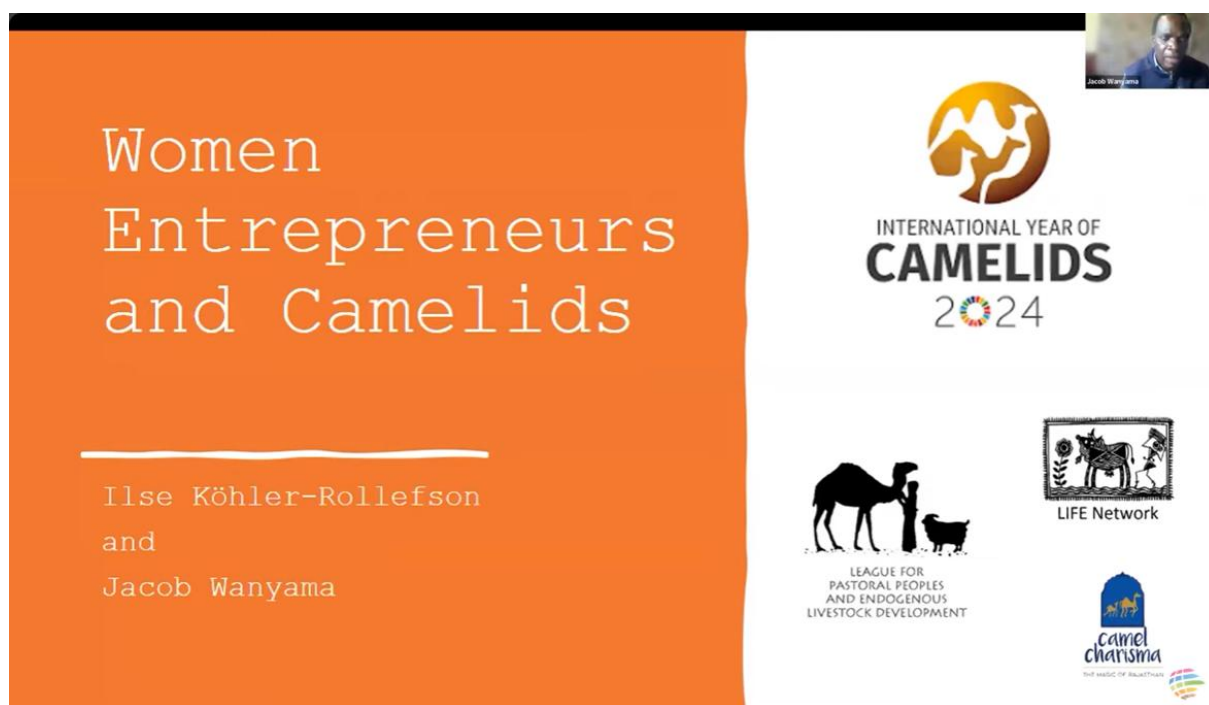


July

3 July. Zoom meeting with Anil Agarwal Foundation about a “camel shelter” project in Rajasthan. (IKR)

5 July. Online guiding group meeting for the FAO-coordinated initiative Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock. (IKR)

16 July. Jacob Wanyama made a presentation at FAO’s Committee on Agriculture side-event on *Gender, women entrepreneurs and camelids*. <https://www.fao.org/partnerships/livestock-dialogue/news-events/events/detail/gender-and-livestock-production---side-event-at-the-second-session-of-the-coag-sub-committee-on-livestock-2024/en>



26 July. Zoom meeting with FAO Nutrition Department about camel milk and the work of Camel Charisma in India. (IKR)

August

27–29 August. Panellist and presentation at Commons Convening in Delhi. (IKR)

September

3 September. Online meeting with Sonum Sumaria to discuss her film about Jat pastoralists in Gujarat. (IKR)

October

Contribution to an FAO volume on the sociocultural roles of camelids. (IKR)

Development of a pitchdeck for Camel Charisma for an impact investor. (IKR)

Development of a Powerpoint presentation on culinary aspects of camel milk. (IKR)

November

Video presentation for an ASRI conference in Iran. (IKR)

Preparation for a national seminar on the future of camels in India with LPPS and Bharat Krishak Samaj, to be held in New Delhi on 27 February 2025. (IKR)

Zoom meeting about role of women in camel dairy value chains with Fiorina Mugione for a possible World Bank project. (IKR)

6–8 November. Symposium at Iscte, the Instituto Universitário de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal, exploring the intersections of religious and environmental changes. She gave a presentation on *Raika religion and planetary boundaries*. (IKR)

Support for LPPS

In 2024 LPP supported the distribution of free camel milk to Bhil tribal children in Hirawas, near Ranakpur.

We supported the film by Sonam Sumaria about Jat camel pastoralists with 800 euro.

International Year of Camelids

The United Nations declared 2024 the International Year of Camelids. We undertook a number of activities to support this:

- We helped organize the first international event of the Year, the International Workshop on Camelid Pastoralism (see *January* above).
- We took part in the International Camel Parade in Paris (see *April*).
- We reviewed a draft of the FAO publication on *Camelid biodiversity, population trends and geographic distribution*. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cd5884en> (see *June*).
- We gave several media interviews (see *Media articles* and *Online presentations, interviews* below).
- We gave a presentation at an FAO side-event on *Gender, women entrepreneurs and camelids* (see *July*).
- We prepared a *World map of camelids* (see *Mapping* below).



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Activities in Germany

IYRP support group

The International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP, in 2026) is an important opportunity to raise awareness about the value of rangelands and the pastoralists who care for them not only internationally but also in Germany. We have initiated the formation of a support group for IYRP in Germany together with a number of German pastoralist groups and NGOs, including



Deutsche Umwelthilfe and Aktion Agrar. This group will plan and coordinate IYRP-related activities in Germany during 2026.

Misereor evaluation

We are very grateful for the support Misereor has given us for many years. This has made it possible for us to conduct a wide range of activities in support of pastoralists, mainly in India but also across the world.



Misereor naturally want to know if this is money well spent. Two external evaluators, John Rowley and Christina Schmalenbach, have studied our activities and impacts, checked our financial records, and interviewed our staff, collaborators and partners. We look forward to receiving their feedback in 2025.

Mapping

There are many maps of natural resources in pastoralist areas, such as vegetation, ecoregions and climate zones, often derived from satellite imagery and field observations. But how about the people who live there and make their living from herding animals in the world's arid and semi-arid lands, in its forests and tundra, as well as on common land, fallow fields, "waste land" and roadsides around the world? No maps exist. That leaves these pastoralists invisible, both to policymakers and to the public.

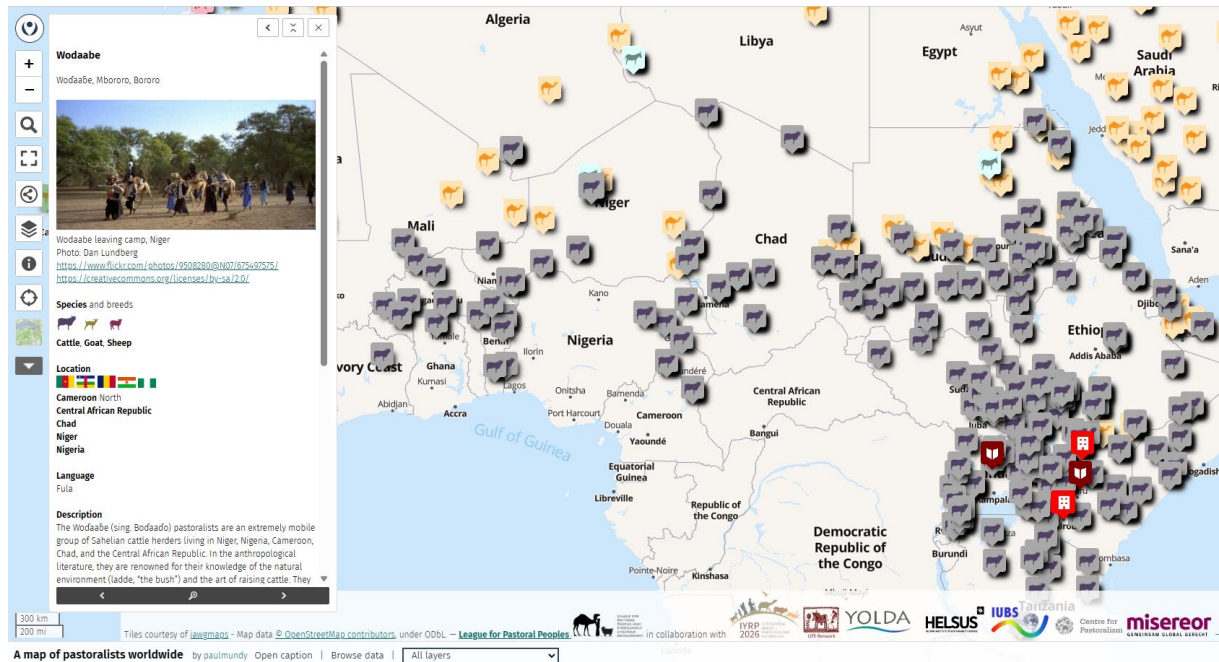
Our mapping work aims to fill this gap. We currently have two main outputs:

- The *World map of camelids*, prepared for the International Year of Camelids (2024), contained information on 241 groups of camelid keepers worldwide at the end of December 2024. <https://www.pastoralpeoples.org/world-mapof-camelids/>
- The world *Pastoralist map* prepared for the 2026 International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists, had information on 986 groups worldwide at the end of December 2024. Some 82 pastoralist groups were added to this map in 2024. <https://www.pastoralpeoples.org/pastoralist-map/>

We also plan to develop a map of grazing land and pastoralism in Germany in support of the German IYRP group.

We are discussing the possibility of integrating the Pastoralist Map with the *Rangelands Atlas* produced by the International Livestock Research Institute, <https://www.rangelandsdata.org/atlas/>

Our mapping work is guided by an international advisory group of experts on pastoralism. We are grateful for their inputs and expertise.



Behind the scenes

Our work in Germany is carried out largely by Sabine Poth. Sabine represents LPP at online meetings and seminars, coordinates our work with the German IYRP support group, and manages the advisory board of the Pastoralist Map. She also manages the office, accounts and evaluation process.

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Publications and media

Our publications and media work includes documents and maps we publish ourselves, collaborative publications, and articles, presentations and social media.

LPP and collaborative publications

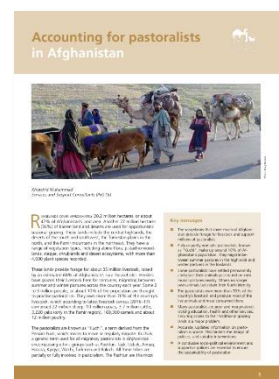
Muhammad, Khurshid. 2024. *Accounting for pastoralists in Pakistan*. Information brief, League for Pastoral Peoples and Endogenous Livestock Development.

<https://www.pastoralpeoples.org/documents/accounting-for-pastoralists-in-pakistan/>

Muhammad, Khurshid. 2024. *Accounting for pastoralists in Afghanistan*. Information brief, League for Pastoral Peoples and Endogenous Livestock Development.

<https://www.pastoralpeoples.org/documents/accounting-for-pastoralists-in-afghanistan/>

Mundy, Paul. 2024. *Camelids around the world*. Poster. League for Pastoral Peoples and Endogenous Livestock Development <http://www.pastoralpeoples.org/documents/camelids-around-the-world/>

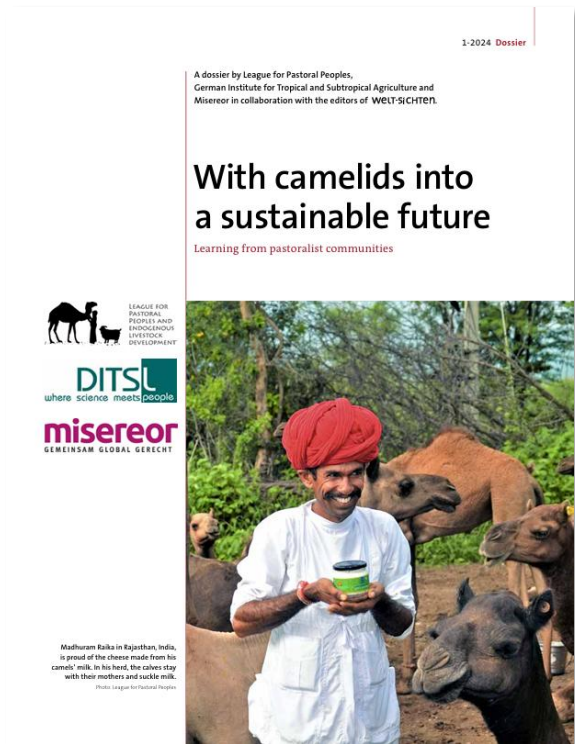


With camelids into a sustainable future.

Misereor, League for Pastoral Peoples and DITSL.

This dossier Includes the following articles:

- Allies for a green future – Igshaan Samuels and Maryam Niamir-Fuller
- Camelid husbandry worldwide – Bernard Faye
- Where in the world are camelids? – Paul Mundy
- New market opportunities in the Andes – Cecilia Turin and Mariana Quiroga Mendiola
- Camels as far as the eye can see – Piers Simpkin and Jacob Wanyama
- Proud to be a camel herder – Interview with Shariin Juu
- Participatory research for diversity – Ilse Köhler-Rollefson and Cecilia Turin
- The future of camelid husbandry – Ilse Köhler-Rollefson, Ann Waters-Bayer, Sabine Dorlöchter-Sulser and Cecilia Turin



<https://www.pastoralpeoples.org/documents/with-camelids-into-a-sustainable-future/>
https://www.misereor.org/fileadmin/user_upload_misereororg/publication/en/foodsecurity/With_camelids_into_a_sustainable_future.pdf

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Maps

World map of camelids, by Paul Mundy. <https://www.pastoralpeoples.org/world-mapof-camelids/>

Pastoralist map, by Paul Mundy. <https://www.pastoralpeoples.org/pastoralist-map/>

Articles

Köhler-Rollefson, Ilse. 2024. Learning from pastoralists. *Rural 21: International Journal for Rural Development*.
https://www.rural21.com/fileadmin/downloads/2024/en-02/rural2024_02_S16-18.pdf

Mundy, Paul. 2024. World map of pastoralists. *Rural 21: International Journal for Rural Development*.
<https://www.rural21.com/english/search/detail/article/world-map-of-pastoralists.html>



Media articles, blogs

- *Darmstädter Echo*, 8.5.2024: „Angepasste Rassen sind zukunftsfähig“-Ober-Ramstädter Liga für Hirtenvölker weist auf die wichtige Rolle von Kameliden bei Ernährungssicherung und Klimawandel hin.
- *The Federal*, 22.7.2024. Interview with Ilse Köhler-Rollefson interview: 'The space for camel is running out everywhere in the world'.
<https://thefederal.com/category/features/ilse-khler-rollefson-interview-the-space-for-camel-is-running-out-everywhere-in-the-world-134523>
- *Times of India*, 7.7.2024. Is Rajasthan just years away from seeing its last camel?
<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/is-rajasthan-just-years-away-from-seeing-its-last-camel/articleshow/111549675.cms>
- *Livestock Futures*, 14.11.2024. Will science ever acknowledge that livestock can be both 'good' and 'bad'? <https://www.ilse-koehler-rollefson.com/?p=1680>



Online presentations, interviews

- Interview with BBC Nature <https://www.sciencefocus.com/science/camels-are-replacing-cows>
- Zoom Interview with Judith Schwartz for the Soil Centric website, <https://www.soilcentric.org/blogs/regeneration-in-action/moving-through-landscapes-an-interview-with-ilse-kohler-rollefson-by-judith-d-schwartz>
- Zoom interview with Abraham Abhishek 13th Man Video [YouTube]: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qa9i5TEXau0>
- Audio [Spotify]: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/1wX2irbn2jMQt9iwD6dD1H>
- Audio [Apple Podcasts]: <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/in-2024-wecelebrate-camelids-with-ilse-k%C3%B6hlerrollefson/id1662631951?i=1000643214142>
- Phone Interview with Chico Harlan, Washington Post

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 2024 was € 50,751.34.

Expenditures amounted to € 69,419,69. Details are given below.

The accounts of the Misereor funded project were audited by a professional chartered accountant from Heidelberg.

Euros	Funds at end of 2023	Income 2024	Expenditure 2024	Income – Expenditure 2024	Funds at end of 2024
Society	52,542.52	4,932.10	21,217.21	-16,285.11	36,257.41
Projects	22,986.68	45,819.24	48,202.48	-2,383.24	20,603.44
Total	75,529.20	50,751.34	69,419.69	-18,668.35	56,860.85

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.

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Donations are tax deductible.

Registration

LPP was registered as a non-profit society at the Darmstadt County Court (VR2337) on 15 March 1993.

Donors

LPP is extremely grateful to its donors supporting its work in 2024

- Misereor
- BC3 Basque Centre for Climate Change

We would like to express our gratitude to all other supporters of LPP.