



LEAGUE FOR PASTORAL PEOPLES AND ENDOGENOUS LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT

Liga für Hirtenvölker und nachhaltige Viehwirtschaft e.V.

Annual Report 2013

www.pastoralpeoples.org

IS EFFICIENCY THE RIGHT PARADIGM FOR LIVESTOCK ?

Efficiency is the current mantra in livestock development, more precisely “natural resource use efficiency”. On first glance this may make sense, but if one looks a bit deeper it looks no longer appropriate. For one, livestock is not a “user” but also a recycler of natural resources, i.e. nutrients that then contributed to plant growth. By contrast, in the so-called highly efficient livestock systems manure has changed from a coveted resource to a menace that is poisoning our water supplies – both groundwater and surface water bodies. The highly efficient systems of the US and Europe that are held up as models for developing countries have a terrible record in terms of rural livelihoods – they eliminate jobs and make rural areas uninhabitable. And isn’t efficiency at loggerheads with other desirables, such as animal welfare and pleasure in food?

The sector is supposed to both feed the masses and sustain the rural poor in developing countries. And it is supposed to also have a positive impact on the environment. These divergent goals are to be achieved by producing “more with less”, according to the stated goal of the Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock (GASL), formerly GAA (Global Agenda of Action towards sustainable livestock development). LPP is a member of this initiative and has been trying to provide inputs to the process over the last several years. We are delighted that one of our aims has been fulfilled: the recognition of pastoralists and small-scale livestock keepers as a separate stakeholder group and provision for their systematic participation and representation in GASL. We are also pleased that the rhetoric of GASL has changed and that the social angle of livestock development is now explicitly recognised as being equally important to environmental issues. But concrete pointers on how this is achievable are missing.

LPP Board Members

- Silke Brehm
silke.brehm@gmx.de
- Günther Czerkus
czerkus@eifel-lamm.de
- Dr. Christiane Herweg
christiane@pastoralpeoples.org
- Dr. Ilse Köhler-Rollefson
ilse@pastoralpeoples.org

Contact address

Pragelatostr.20, 64372 Ober-Ramstadt, Germany.
Tel. +49-(0)6154 53642
+49-(0)6154-630357
Email:
info@pastoralpeoples.org
Web:
www.pastoralpeoples.org

Bank account

Account no. 28004893,
Sparkasse
Darmstadt, Bank Code
508501 50. Donations are
taxdeductible.

Registration

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

But we increasingly wonder whether “efficiency” is really the right lens of looking at livestock and whether its is congruent with the long-term sustainability of the sector – which after all deals with living organisms and not just inanimate objects.

Plenty of things to think about.....

One of the goals of LPP in the coming years will be to develop an “alternative paradigm” for livestock development that . We dont think that “efficiency” alone can do it. As always, we welcome suggestions and inputs to these

But is this really appropriate – given the many competing purposes that livestock is supposed to fulfil?

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

January, 21st - 24th

Participation in 3rd Multistakeholder Platform of the GASL in Nairobi, 21st-24th

Participation of five livestock keepers in Third Multistakeholder Platform in Nairobi, January, 2013, paid for by FAO. Elizabeth Katushabe (PENHA-Uganda), Adam Ole Mwarabu (Maasai, Tanzania), Nilkanth Mama (Kuruba shepherd, India), Raziq Kakar (Pakistan) and Karthikeya Sivasenapathy (India) were sponsored by FAO to attend. Nilkanth Mama, a shepherd leader from Karnataka was given an opportunity to address the plenary, as was Elizabeth Katushabe from the Ankole long-horn breeders in Uganda. The group was supported by Kamal Kishore and Ilse Köhler-Rollefson and did its best to make inputs to the discussions.

Preparation of a policy brief for the Third Multistakeholder Platform entitled “Capitalizing on pastoralism to feed people and achieve livestock sector sustainability” that was endorsed by all major networks working with pastoralists and small-scale livestock keepers (WAMIP, ELD-Network, etc.) see: <http://www.pastoralpeoples.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/policy-brief.pdf>

January, 25th

Ark project meeting

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

April, 13th - 14th

LIFE Seminar “Towards Green and Equitable Livestock Development in India” on 13th April in Hyderabad

This meeting was held at Aalankrita Resorts in Hyderabad and co-organised and co-hosted together with WOTR and Rainfed Livestock Network. It had the purpose of bringing together NGOs and representatives of herders’ associations from all over India that promote sustainable and equitable livestock development (based on locally adapted indigenous livestock breeds). It aimed at informing about and discussing recently completed projects and on-going international processes that are setting the course for the future of livestock development in India and globally. A major point on the agenda was to share the results of the LPP led project “From Biocultural Protocols to the Ark of Livestock Biodiversity” that was funded by the Fondation d’entreprise Hermès and looked into the nutritional benefits of biodiversity based livestock keeping. Other important points were the sharing of experiences with Dutch livestock development by Dutch veterinarian Katrien van’t Hooft and with the participation by five Indian livestock keepers/NGOs in the FAO led Global Agenda of Action towards sustainable livestock sector development (GASL).

On the second day, an internal meeting of the LIFE Network India took place to discuss how to take the common agenda forward and get it formally registered. A previous process initiated more than one year ago had not been successful. The objectives of the network were brainstormed and certain ground rules established. Then an interim board was elected, consisting of Dr. Datta Rangnekar (president), Kamal Kishore (vice-president), Hanwant Singh (secretary), Bhavana Rao (treasurer) and others. The registration papers have been signed by all board members and are being processed by an advocate in Jodhpur.

May, 22nd - 23rd

14th IADG Livestock Donors Meeting

This meeting was held at the GIZ office in Berlin. Ilse Köhler-Rollefson presented a paper entitled *Public-Private Enterprise from the Perspective of Small-Scale Livestock keepers*

<https://www.donorplatform.org/load/13837and> at slideshare <http://de.slideshare.net/IlseKoebler-Rollefson/public-private-partnerships-from-the-perspective-of-smallscale-livestock-keepers>

June, 7th

Biodiversity and Traditional Knowledge: How can they be protected?

Conference of IDDRI, Fondation d'entreprise Hermès and the Bibliothèque Nationale de France in Paris

This conference is devoted to reviewing and assessing ongoing efforts aiming at protecting biocultural heritage and traditional knowledge that relates to biodiversity. Its main objectives are: to help clarifying the important role that biocultural diversity and TK play in biodiversity conserving production systems; provide a critical assessment of the tools that can be used to enhance their potential contribution to the livelihood of indigenous and local communities and to conserving biodiversity. Ilse Köhler-Rollefson presented a paper on the results of the Ark project. See

http://www.iddri.org/Evenements/Seminaires-reguliers/130607_Conf%20Biodiversite-savoirs-traditionnels_Koehler%20presentation.pdf

June, 18th

Participation in GASL Guiding Group Meeting

Ilse Köhler-Rollefson was subsequently elected by the members of Focus area group 2 as their representative in the Guiding group of the GASL and participated in a Guiding Group Meeting held in Rome on 18th June, 2013.

July, 4th - 6th

Training on Biocultural protocols in Darewadi (Maharashtra/India)

At a training programme on Biocultural Protocols (BCPs) organized by WOTR and LPPS, Ilse Köhler-Rollefson served as resource person and facilitator. The rationale of BCPs is that communities that are managing their resources traditionally are entitled to support under various international and national legal agreements, such as the CBD (Convention on Biological Diversity), the Right to Food, the Global Plan of Action on Animal Genetic Resources, the Nagoya protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing, and many others. By establishing a BCP, a community documents and makes visible its role and contribution in biodiversity conservation. India's indigenous livestock breeds are also the product of the traditional knowledge of their keepers. They can only be saved if two conditions obtain: livestock keepers that take care of them and their secure access to the land/environment in which the breeds were developed. BCPs can achieve two things: making visible the connection between livestock breeds and particular communities, as well as identifying the resource base and customary rights and practices that sustain the breed.



BCPs can also be oriented to indicating the potential of breeds for specialty products and new income and business opportunities.

The programme was supported by the Rainfed Livestock Network (RLN) and also represented an activity of LIFE Network India.

August-ongoing

Training/capacity building of women in the Thar desert

With support from the Erbacher Foundation, LPP is helping LPPS to train and build the capacity of marginalized women in the Thar desert to make products from camel raw materials. They are receiving training and design inputs to spin camel wool, weave dhurries and to make products from camel poo paper (bookbinding). This approach has considerable potential for generating additional income and is extremely popular with the house-bound women residing in isolated villages.



September, 20th

Presentation about GASL process to the European Veterinarians without borders (VSF_Europe) group, 20th September, 2013.

At the side-lines of World Veterinary Conference in Prague, on 20th September, Ilse Köhler-Rollefson has been requested to provide an introduction to the VSF Europe group about the GASL and the need to get involved and influence this process.

September, 27th - 29th

GASL Civil Society meeting in India

The FAO, together with MARAG and the International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty (IPC), hosted this meeting to discuss a mechanism for the systematic and coherent participation of livestock keepers and Civil Society in the "Agenda". LPP, LIFE Network, Rainfed Livestock Network and livestock keepers were present and participated actively in the working groups. A regionally representative system was agreed upon and a number of livestock keepers participated in the next GASL Multistakeholder Platform in Ottawa.



THE SOUTH ASIA GROUP DURING THE GASL-CIVIL SOCIETY DIALOGUE HELD IN AHMEDABAD.

14th - 15th November

Planning Meeting of the Rainfed Livestock Network in Delhi,.

LPP participated in a meeting of the core group of the Rainfed Livestock Network held in Delhi, at the invitation of the Ford Foundation to discuss further activities to influence livestock development policies in India. A continuation of the on-going project was agreed upon, with LPP and LPPS being theme leader on Biocultural protocols.

29th - 30th November

Meeting on Access and Benefit-Sharing called by India's National Biodiversity Authority.

Ilse Köhler-Rollefson was invited to this meeting by the chairman of India's NBA which was attended by about 40 resource persons that discussed how to implement the Nagoya Protocol and other aspects of the CBD.

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

This project funded by IFAD and conducted in collaboration with Odessa Centre was concluded.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

January, 29th - 30th

QRT Meeting in Bikaner

Ilse Köhler-Rollefson had been requested to serve as member of the Quinquennial review team (QRT) of India's National Research Centre on Camel (NRCC) and participated in several meetings. At her suggestion, one of the meetings was held at the LPPS campus in Sadri to expose the committee members to the realities and challenges of camel breeders on the ground. These experiences and inputs are reflected in the recommendations of the QRT.

January to April

Documentation of migratory shepherds in Rajasthan

From the January to April, LPP supported its partner organisation LPPS in documenting the migratory route and experiences of a group of migratory shepherds in Southern Rajasthan that spend most of their time grazing their animals on harvested fields. Important insights have been gained. Some of the impressions and information are highlighted in Ilse Köhler-Rollefson's blog – www.ilse-koehler-rollefson.com



April, 6th

Meeting of the Veterinary Forum for Responsible Agriculture, Hessen

The Veterinary Forum for Responsible Agriculture is a group of veterinarians that work for policy change towards truly sustainable and more animal friendly livestock production and has published a position paper on this issue. Ilse Köhler-Rollefson is a member and attended this meeting of a regional subgroup.

June, 22nd

Meeting with Rajasthan Patrika

Study on Access and Benefit-Sharing commissioned by GIZ's

PUBLICATIONS 2013

- **Animal Cultures Blog**
- **Camels of Kumbhalgarh. A biodiversity treasure.**
- Article about Livestock keepers' Rights commissioned by the Kritische Agrarbericht 2014 and prepared by Evelyn Mathias and Ilse Köhler-Rollefson. It is entitled "*Anerkennung von Nutztierhalterrechten: Schlüssel zur Ernährungssicherung besonders in Randgebieten*".

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 2013 was about € 106.218,34 and expenditures amounted to € 101.405,51. Details are given below. The accounts were audited by a professional chartered accountant in Darmstadt.

Sollen die Zahlen noch in diese Tabelle?

Euros	Funds at end of 2012	Income 2013	Expenditure 2013	Income – Expenditure 2013	Funds at end of 2013
Society	8.607,18	22.286,50	18.212,08	4.074,42	12.681,60
Projects	25.641,99	83.931,84	83.193,43	738,41	26.380,40
Total	34.249,17	106.218,34	101.405,51	4.812,83	39.062,00

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 2013

- Misereor
- IFAD
- Fondation d'entreprise Hermès
- Brot für die Welt
- Erbacher Stiftung
- ETC
- HIVOS