

LEAGUE FOR PASTORAL PEOPLES
AND ENDOGENOUS LIVESTOCK
DEVELOPMENT



Annual Report 2017



LIFE NETWORK MEMBERS ELIZABETH KATUSHABE AND DR. BALARAM SAHU DURING THE WRITESHOP ON GUIDELINES FOR BCPS AT LPPS IN SADRI

International Activities

ATREE@20 conference on Conservation Science and Sustainable Development, 24-25th January in Bangalore

At this international conference celebrating 20 years of ATREE, Ilse Köhler-Rollefson was invited as a panelist in a discussion on *Empowering local communities for conservation and development* moderated by Dr. Nitin Rai.

<http://www.atree.org/atree%4020>

February, 1

Side Event at CGRFA, Rome

Side-event during CGRFA 16 on 1st February about Access and Benefit-Sharing of Animal Genetic Resources: Community Protocols and Other Perspectives

We organized a side-event in collaboration with GIZ's ABS Capacity Building Initiative in which Bioversity's Platform for Agrobiodiversity Research also participated and which was chaired by the Ambassador of Switzerland to the FAO, IFAD and WFP, Francois Pythoud. The following presentations were made:

- *Toby Hodgkin and Dunja Mijatovic*, Platform for Agrobiodiversity Research: Landscapes for agrobiodiversity: Documenting the livestock perspective
- *Hartmut Meyer*, ABS Capacity Building Initiative: The Nagoya Protocol and national ABS frameworks – Implications for animal genetic resources
- *Ilse Köhler-Rollefson*, LPP: Beyond MTAs: The need for thinking out of the box on ABS of AnGR

Pastoralist Knowledge Hub Partners' Meeting on 3rd April, 2017

LPP is a partner of the FAO's pastoralist Knowledge Hub and together with over 40 participants from 18 institutions, including pastoralist representatives, practitioners, technical experts and government representatives, joined this meeting. In a panel on *Understanding tools to secure pastoral land tenure and mobility*, Ilse Köhler-Rollefson presented on Biocultural Community Protocols at the invitation of the PKH coordinator.

More information at <http://www.fao.org/pastoralist-knowledge-hub/news/detail/en/c/879944/>

9th April TEDX Talk

TEDX Talk on “The nomads that nourish us”

Ilse Köhler-Rollefson was invited to give a TEDx Talk at Rajasthan Technical University in Kota on 9th April with the title “The Nomads that feed us”.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f45NakX2I0s>

April, 29th: SOAS (School of Oriental and African Studies at University College London) Presentation on “Camel Cultures and how the past determines the future”.

May, 24th , Vienna

Presentation: “Dromedary ecology and culture of the Raika people in India”

On 24th May Dr. Ilse Köhler-Rollefson gave a presentation about “Dromedary ecology and culture of the Raika people in India” at the University of Veterinary Medicine in Vienna. This talk provided an overview of the biocultural aspects of Raika dromedary pastoralism.

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July 2017:

Study visit to camel dairies in Kenya

Dr. Ilse Köhler-Rollefson visited Kenya at the invitation of Anne Bruntse, a Kenyan based agriculture and cheese making expert who has helped LPPS in India with cheese making expertise and dairy hygiene training. This provided the opportunity to understand the Kenyan camel economy and the role of women in camel dairying. There was interaction with Piers Simpkin, FAO’s representative in Kenya, as well as Somali women of the Anolei camel milk cooperative, providing some lessons for the development of the camel dairy sector in India.

19-24th July Malgadda/Brela camel BCP – Follow-up, Pakistan

In 2016, LPP had initiated a BCP process with the Malgadda Nomads from Cholistan in Punjab of Pakistan. This had been in cooperation with the University of Agriculture at Faisalabad and CAP, the Camel Association of Pakistan and had been a very fruitful exercise. Unfortunately, the key-person in the whole process, Abdul Rao Qadeer was tragically killed in a traffic accident earlier this year. From 19-24th July, Dr. Ilse Köhler-Rollefson therefore travelled to Pakistan with the dual purpose of condoling his family and investigating

opportunities for a continuation/ follow-up of the BCP work. The tour included a visit with Rao Abdul Qadeer's family in Lahore, as well as attendance of the CAP annual meeting at the UAF, and a meeting with the Vice Chancellor of the university. In order to encourage a participatory research approach, LPP had offered to sponsor a student award for research on pastoralists/camels. While this proposal was taken up with enthusiasm, the chances for completing the Malgadda BCP do not seem too rosy, unless another person like Abdul Qadeer gets involved. Possibly, long-time LPP associate Dr. Raziq Kakar who is currently posted in Abu Dhabi with a camel dairy company, may move back to Pakistan.

3-8th September, LPPS Campus Butibagh



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The Writeshop to develop Guidelines for Biocultural Community Protocols was held from 3-8th September on the LPPS campus in Butibagh, near Sadri in Pali district, Rajasthan. The writeshop was facilitated by Dr. Paul Mundy and had the following participants:

- Elizabeth Katushabe (Uganda)
- Dr. Saverio Krätli (UK)
- Dr. Balaram Sahu (Odisha)
- Gopikrishna (Karnataka)
- SajjalKulkarni (Maharashtra)
- MahendraBhanani (Gujarat)
- GeethaNayak (National Biodiversity Authority and Indo-German Biodiversity Project)
- Vijay Sambhare (Maharashtra)

- Dr. Ilse Köhler-Rollefson (LPP)
- Hanwant Singh Rathore (LPPS)

During the five-day writeshop, participants, under the guidance of the facilitator, agreed on a structure for the Guidelines and then broke into small groups to write specific sections of the Guidelines with their contributions subsequently discussed and edited by the whole group. The book was edited and lay-outed by Dr. Paul Mundy and has been published on the website of LPP where it is available for free download and a 100 hard copies have been printed.

3-5th November BCP of the Camel Breeders of Rajasthan

The Biocultural Protocol of the Camel Breeders of Rajasthan was finalized and presented at the Marwar Camel Culture Festival held from 3-5th November on the campus of LPPS in Sadri to HH Maharaja of Jodhpur, and to the Rajasthan Ministers of Energy and Cattle keeping.

<http://www.pastoralpeoples.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/BCP-of-Rajasthans-camel-breeders-final-28-Oct-2017.pdf>

Marwar Camel Culture Festival, 3-5th November



The second edition of the Marwar Camel Culture festival was held from 3-5 November, 2017 on the Butibagh campus of Lokhit Pashu-Palak Sansthan at Sadri in Pali district of Rajasthan. It was attended by more than 120 camel pastoralists from all parts of Rajasthan and a small delegation from Kutch, as well as government representatives (two ministers of the state government; joint directors of Animal Husbandry Department, National Research Centre on Camel), a number of international camel scientists, crafts people, parents of children with disabilities, as well as students, and local, national and international journalists.

The final session had H.H. Maharaja of Jodhpur as chief guest, with two ministers of the Rajasthan government also present (Energy and cow husbandry).

The following activities were conducted:

PREPARATIONS/PUBLICITY

The festival website at www.marwarcamelculturefestival.org was designed by Kate Hardy and included a payment system for booking participation in camel herd visits (chai-fari), the camel cheese tasting and reception, as well as the full moon concert.

Festival posters had been printed with the kind support of Fabindia which put them up in their stores in the National Capital Region, Jaipur and Jodhpur. A press release was sent out to 50+ media people. The festival was well covered in the media, notably Rajasthan Patrika and Hindustan Times (live-streaming of interviews on Facebook with a combined total of over 35,000 hits to date). Articles about camel cheese will be forthcoming in a high end luxury magazine, as well as several inflight magazines (thanks to Cindy-Lou Dale) and the role and situation of pastoralists will be highlighted in an article by Christiane Grefe in the Christmas edition of "Die Zeit".

In addition, the Rajasthan Patrika organized an event around camel milk and reported extensively on the benefits about camel milk.

BIOCULTURAL COMMUNITY PROTOCOL OF THE CAMEL BREEDERS OF RAJASTHAN

The Biocultural Community Protocol of the Camel Breeders of Rajasthan was released during the festival, and together with a "Draft Camel Policy" for Rajasthan was presented to H.H. Maharaja of Jodhpur and the two ministers for onward submission to the Chief Minister of Rajasthan.

PANEL DISCUSSIONS

There were two panel discussions, one centering on "How to build an equitable camel market" with Reema Sathe of Happy Roots, Dr. Rajeshwaran of IRMA, Kate Hardy (U.K.), Dr. Sawal of the National Research Centre on Camel, Bikaner, and Dr. Ilse Köhler-Rollefson. The second panel looked into the question of "What can science contribute to save Rajasthan's camels?" with Dr. T.K. Gahlot, Prof. Pamela Burger from Vienna University, Dr. Juliane Bräunig of the German Federal Institute of Risk Assessment, Prof. Anil Chhangani of Bikaner University and Dr. Ilse Köhler-Rollefson (LPP).

SESSION WITH CHRISTINA ADAMS ON "CAMEL MILK AND AUTISM"

This session attracted a large audience, with some parents of special children, having come from distant places.

CAMEL CHEESE MAKING SESSIONS WITH ROBERT PAGET AND ANNE BRUNTSE

In preparation for the festival, Anne Bruntse had come ten days earlier to produce her range of cheeses and also to experiment with various formulations for making a camel yoghurt with longer shelflife than fresh milk. Her cheeses are exceptional, and we are sure they can find an upscale consumer base.

CAMEL MILK AND BEAUTY COMPETITION

Local camel breeders – of which there are not too many left – participated in these competitions and had the opportunity to learn more about milking hygiene.

RECEPTION AND CAMEL CHEESE TASTING

This event in the temporary rooftop Camel Café really galvanized interest and amazement in camel cheese in its various forms (cream cheese, halloumi, feta) and in camel yoghurt drinks (sweet and savoury).

MAPPING OF CAMEL GRAZING AREAS

A team from the Foundation for Ecological Security interacted intensively with camel pastoralists from different regions to identify crucial and biodiversity rich camel grazing areas.

CAMEL FILM EVENING with Dr. Amelie Schenk about camel milking, camel healing, and camel transportation in Mongolia and Clara Wieck with her film about the Raika and camel milk.

CAMEL CRAFTS BAZAAR with camel bell maker from Kutch, Yussuf Yaseen block printer, Santosh Rathi (heritage textiles), and others.

FULL MOON CONCERT with famous vocalist Sumitra Gosh and Manganiyars from Jaisalmer singing camel songs and others.

IFOAM Animal Husbandry Pre-Conference, 7-8th November, in Delhi

Together with Indian co-authors, Ilse contributed two papers to this conference, with the purpose of raising awareness about pastoralism and its economic significance in India, and globally. They are entitled “Counting and Assessing the Status of India’s Pastoralists” (with Kamal Kishore) and “The significance of pastoralism for sustainable soil health in India” (with Suresh Reddy). See Appendix for the papers!

9-11th November, Delhi, Organic World Conference 2017

During the Organic World Conference held in Delhi from 9-11th November, IKR participated in a fishbowl discussion on “**The Global Food System and the Alternative Paradigm**”.

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Other Activities

January to December, Support for establishment of the Kumbhalgarh camel dairy on the LPPS campus

Due to an extremely generous donation by LPP founding member Bettina Bock and her family, LPP was able to support the establishment of the Kumbhalgarh Camel Dairy and various activities to promote camel milk as a source of income for Raika pastoralists. A new building has been built equipped with a state-of-the art pasteurizer and cooling unit. The dairy is reviving the camel economy in the vicinity and creating an example for the rest of Rajasthan to follow.

March, 8th, Global Peasants Rights Congress, Schwäbisch Hall

The members of the League for Pastoral Peoples and Endogenous Livestock Development Christiane Herweg, Bettina Bock and Sabine Poth participated in the international congress “Global Peasants Rights” in Schwäbisch Hall.

May, 8th, Fischbachtal, Panel discussion: “Wesen oder Ware? – Nutztierhaltung im Brennpunkt”

Together with the society Fischbachtal Kreativ LPP organized a panel discussion in Fischbachtal, near Ober-Ramstadt, where proponents of conventional agriculture, organic agriculture, pastoralism and veganism debated on ethical dimensions of livestock keeping..

July

Second LPP Newsletter

31st May, Agrecol meeting , Gersfeld in der Rhön

At the Agrecol Meeting, Evelyn Mathias made a presentation entitled “Tierhaltung – quo vadis?”

Publications 2017

Köhler-Rollefson, I. and D. Steane. 2017. Opinion paper: Are we on the right track toward livestock sector sustainability? *Animal*.Dec;11(12):2111-2112. doi: 10.1017/S1751731117001513.

Köhler-Rollefson, I. 2017. Purdah, purse and patriarchy: The position of women in the Raika shepherd community. *Journal of Arid Environments* 149, February 2018, Pages 30-39

Köhler-Rollefson, I. 2017. Shifting Camel Cultures Shifting Camel Cultures. *Seminar Magazine*, July 2017, Issue on livestock landscapes.

Köhler-Rollefson, I. and H. Singh. 2017. Essay on pastoralism in *Alternative Futures: India Unshackled*. Eds. A. Kothari and K.J. Joy). Authors Upfront, New Delhi.

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 2017 was about € 90.536,06 and expenditures amounted to € 83.103,87. Details are given below. The accounts were audited by a professional chartered accountant in Darmstadt.

Euros	Funds at end of 2016	Income 2017	Expenditure 2017	Income – Expenditure 2017	Funds at end of 2017
Society	19.144,01	29.630,65	34.209,19	-4.578,54	14.565,47
Projects	12.727,89	60.905,41	48.894,68	12.010,73	24.738,62
Total	31.871,90	90.536,06	83.103,87	7.432,19	39.304,09

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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

Silke Brehm; silke.brehm@gmx.de

Günther Czerkus; czerkus@eifel-lamm.de

Christiane Herweg; christiane@pastoralpeoples.org

Aisha Rollefson; aisharollefson@web.de

Contact

Pragelatostr. 20
64372 Ober-Ramstadt
Germany
Tel. 06154-53642; 06154-630357
Email: info@pastoralpeoples.org
Web: www.pastoralpeoples.org

Bank Account

IBAN DE23 5085 0150 0028 0048 93
BIC HELADEF1DAS
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 2017

- Misereor