

# Pastoral Civil Society

## Quarterly Newsletter of RECONCILE/IIED Programme on Reinforcement of Pastoral Civil Society in East Africa

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April - June

### **Editorial**

We are pleased to present to you the 14<sup>th</sup> issue of Pastoral Civil Society, the quarterly newsletter of RECONCILE/IIED Programme on Reinforcement of Pastoral Civil Society in East Africa.

In this issue we have included a report on our own programming, featuring the ongoing training programme on Pastoralism and Policy Options in Arusha, Tanzania. We have also provided information on the programs of our partner organizations, relevant events and forums, and a profile of the Pastoralist Development Network of Kenya (PDNK).

RECONCILE would like to thank all of you for your support of our program and our newsletter. As always, your contributions to this issue are appreciated and we hope to continue to include your valuable input in upcoming issues. It is through your support that we have been able to provide you with this newsletter since our organization was founded.

We hope that you find this issue informative and invite you to continue to contribute to Pastoral Civil Society in the future.

### **Overview of Programme News**

The quarter under review has seen a number of programme activities implemented. In April, the programme conducted the 2<sup>nd</sup> test training of Module II on Pastoralism and Policy Options in East Africa at MS-TCDC Arusha, Tanzania. The eleven participants attending the training were asked to gauge the pertinence of the materials, which were presented in an accessible, participatory and lively manner using the pedagogic approach (i.e. visuals, question and answer sessions, small-group work among others). These were the same participants who had attended the 1<sup>st</sup> test training of Module II in June 2005 and thus were tasked with assessing and confirming whether the revised training had addressed to their satisfaction some of the issues/filled up the gaps raised in the previous test training.

In June 2006, from the 19<sup>th</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup>, the programme further trained 17 participants on Module II of the generic policy course on pastoralism which has now officially

been rolled out as part of MS-TCDC's regular training programmes. Earlier in the year from 5<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> march, the same participants had attended Module I of the course.



*Participants attending Module II of the Generic Training Course in June.*

During the week-long course, the participants were taken through the training template (which includes the history of evolution of the policy environment in EA, land policy and other sectoral policies) so as to understand the policy making cycle, overall and sectoral policies and their impact on pastoral livelihoods.

We are happy to report that the programme has signed a partnership agreement with SNV Northern Portfolio in Tanzania to assist TAPHGO with a poverty audit of its pastoral civil society organizations partners. Areas of collaboration with SNV will be clarified in the next meeting, which will be held in October this year.

The programme continued collaborating with like minded organizations in the region in undertaking joint projects and engaging in various activities with its partners within the region. Key among them was the OSILIGI stakeholders meeting to brief the organization's members and stakeholders about current activities following resumption of operations. The Kenya Land Alliance and RECONCILE are holding several public forums on the draft National Land Policy in Kenya in order to elicit comments and suggestions from stakeholders on the draft document.

Below is a detailed description of these activities.

### **Programme runs Module II of Generic Training Course on Pastoralism and Policy Options in East Africa.**

During the quarter the programme conducted two trainings of Module II of the generic policy course on pastoralism at MS-TCDC Arusha, Tanzania. In April this year, RECONCILE conducted the 2<sup>nd</sup> test training of Module II for participants who had participated in the 1<sup>st</sup> test training in June 2005. The objective of the test training was to invite stakeholders from the pastoral civil society, researchers and development practitioners to give professional/technical input on the content of Module II, including the pedagogic approach, the pertinence of the materials so far developed, and how the training session can be presented in a more accessible, participatory and lively manner, using similar approaches to those of Module I (e.g. visuals, question and answer sessions, small-group work, etc).

Following the test training, the Core Training Group worked on the conceptual framework and training template as well as additional materials to complete the training manual.

In June 2006 the programme conducted module II of the first regular generic training course to 17 participants who had attended module I in March 2006. During the week, participants were taken through the training template (i.e. the history of evolution of the policy environment in EA, land policy and other sectoral policies) to understand the

overall and the sectoral policy making cycle, and their impact on pastoral livelihoods. Future initiatives were discussed, among them, the following:

1. The knowledge gap of participants has been reduced. The importance of consulting the people at the local level was noted, the argument being that the community/local level has a better understanding of their problems as compared to development workers. It was also appreciated that they, to a large extent, contribute more in informing the policy-making processes.
2. Need to initiate policy working groups, i.e. zonal policy working groups which will later inform the national working group. This can be done through organizing workshops and inviting stakeholders to attend.
3. Having the objectives of the training in mind facilitators should aid the participants to create awareness by using the knowledge and skill acquired in building the voice of the pastoralists.
4. Start a programme website for exchange of information.
5. Developing a simple manual which can be used as a tool for lobbying policy makers and to build community awareness.

The programme has scheduled a 2<sup>nd</sup> regular training on a cost recovery basis in September and October 2006 and is receiving applications from the pastoral civil society, development partners and researchers who have developed strong interest in the course as a result of its impact on those who have gone through the training.

**For more details on the training contact Alais Ole Morindat: e-mail: [morindata@mstcdc.or.tz](mailto:morindata@mstcdc.or.tz) or John Letai: e-mail: [jletai@wananchi.com](mailto:jletai@wananchi.com)**

### **Programme Signs Partnership Agreement**



*Participants at the Generic Training with the lead trainer.*

## **with SNV-Tanzania**

On 24<sup>th</sup> June this year the programme on Reinforcement of Pastoral Civil Society in East Africa signed a partnership agreement with SNV-Tanzania, Northern Portfolio to assist TAPHGO undertake a poverty auditing of its member organizations within pastoral areas. This signing up of the agreement was in honour of two other meetings which were held early this year to discuss the process of the partnership between the two organizations setting out specific tasks and roles to be played by each of them.

The result of the poverty audit will be fed back into the national poverty assessment processes for the purpose of influencing policies and to compliment SNV's ongoing activities in the districts under the Capacity building programme for local governance actors.

A meeting setting out more elaborate and specific organization tasks is set for October 2006. One of the things to be discussed in the meeting shall be the existing poverty audit models such as the family portraits which shall be discussed in details for possible adoption or use during the audit.

*(Report by John Letai)*

## **News from Our Partners**

### **OSILIGI Holds Stakeholders Meeting**

On May 6<sup>th</sup> 2006, OSILIGI convened a one day meeting to brief the members and stakeholders of the organization about the status of its activities following resumption of operations. The meeting was also attended by representatives of Action Aid Kenya and MS Kenya, the latter also representing IWGIA.

The purpose of the meeting was to provide an opportunity for the staff and trustees to brief osiligi members on the current situation, and for members to agree on the way forward, especially during the transition as the organization designs a strategic plan. The meeting was therefore seen as a brainstorming session for the stakeholders of OSILIGI to brainstorm on the organizations way forward. Members used the meeting to reflect on experiences of the organization for the past two years and lessons learned from the incident.

A review of the events surrounding the crisis in OSILGI showed that the organizations problems started in July 2004 when the Maasai community in Kenya started agitating for their land rights, and after letting the Kenyan government know that the Maasai were optimistic that the land would revert back to them at the expiry of the period in the so-called Maasai Land Agreement of 1904.

A situation analysis and lessons learnt with reference to the secretariat, board, and partners/donors was also done.

In conclusion the stakeholders agreed on a number of issues, which include the following:

1. The crisis at OSILIGI has been disruptive to the activities of the organization, and has rolled back many of its achievements, but there were no regrets as the crisis had arisen from a commitment by the organization to the interests of its members. It has provided major lessons for the organization, which should inform the way it undertakes its advocacy work in the future.
2. It is important that the same kind of meeting be held with all the members of the organization across the division so that they may get to understand the current situation of the organization and its new identity as a trust. This will be done ahead of the Annual General Meeting so that members will be able to make informed decisions when they attend.
3. Community outreach meetings will be held at the locational level over the next two months to help reconnect the organization with its members and stakeholders. Participation at the meetings must take into account the diversity of the community, including gender diversity. The feedback from the community will inform the strategic plan.
4. It is important that OSILIGI develops a strategic plan, since the previous one lapsed in 2004. A new strategic plan should be in place by September 2006, or before the end of this year.
5. An Annual General Meeting shall be held in early December 2006 after members have been thoroughly acquainted with the new status of the organization. The AGM shall adopt the strategic plan and formally launch the organization in its new form.
6. The organization should be aware of the problems associated with sectionalism. In this regard, any conflicts which may arise between the members or between them and the staff of the organization should be addressed at the earliest opportunity.

The secretariat shall engage in dialogue with partners to secure support for the running of the office during the transition period pending the drafting of the new strategic plan.

For more on information, contact John Ole Tingoi: e-mail: [oletingoi@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:oletingoi@yahoo.co.uk) or [osiligi@africaonline.co.ke](mailto:osiligi@africaonline.co.ke).

### **Pastoralists and Hunter Gatherers Debate Draft National Land Policy**

One of the greatest threats to pastoralism, both as means of livelihood and land use system has been the lack of secure land tenure for pastoral communities. Most of the lands in Kenya that have traditionally been grazing areas for pastoralists have been appropriated by the government, individuals, organizations and companies for the expansion of agricultural, conservation and mining activities, and infrastructural development. It is against this background that pastoralists, hunter gatherers and other stakeholders attended a public forum in Nanyuki, Kenya, to debate the Draft National Land Policy, particularly on its provisions on community land tenure, pastoral land tenure and natural resource utilization and benefit sharing. The Kenya Land Alliance, Resource Conflict Institute, Kenya Human Rights Commission, Federation of Women Lawyers, Shelter Forum and Institution of Surveyors of Kenya jointly hosted the forum. The Draft National Land Policy aims at addressing critical land issues in Kenya.

The participants at the forum were informed of the policy provisions of the Draft National Land Policy on land and land based resources in pastoral areas and in areas inhabited by hunter-gatherers. Some of the provisions related to pastoralism include the application of community tenure to land and land-based resources in pastoral areas, recognition and protection of pastoral women's rights to land and land based resources, use of flexible and negotiated cross boundary access among groups as opposed to actual demarcation of boundaries and the establishment of a legislative framework to regulate dealings in community land in pastoralist areas. The participants were also informed that in regard to natural resource utilization and benefit sharing and the significance to resource dependent communities, particularly hunter-gatherers, the Draft National Policy has several provisions. These provisions include the recognition and protection the rights of forest dependent or other natural resources dependent communities, use and protection of indigenous knowledge in conservation of land based resources, participatory identification, mapping and gazettelement of critical wildlife migration dispersal areas and corridors, restitution of destroyed property and lost cultural habits, and the review of the law on the gazettelement of forests.

***The participants were able to identify key policy gaps, which they believe have not been adequately addressed by the Draft National Land Policy. They include the following,***

- The policy should provide for the conducting of an audit of the absentee landlords in Pastoralist areas.
- Policy needs to address the diversion and excess abstraction of water by large-scale farmers in rivers, which support the livelihoods of pastoralists. It should clearly outline strategies on how water resources, including streams and ground water, will be beneficially and equitably

used by all. No one should be allowed to own or privatize water catchment areas.

- It should discourage private land tenure in pastoral areas.
- The draft policy should be able to clearly define what constitutes community land so as to avoid overlapping claims by individuals, government and community over ownership, use, access and control over community land.
- The policy should provide for the recovery of all land fraudulently acquired in pastoralist areas and these include holding grounds, stock route and migratory corridors.
- Trust Land regime should be abolished and such lands should revert back to local communities.
- While the draft policy has proposed the devolution of land administration to the communities, it should also consider putting provisions that will guard against corrupt practices in dealings on community land.
- Local communities should have unhindered access to historical and sacred sites, particularly those of cultural significance. Why are the historical and cultural sites designated as public land?
- The draft should provide for the protection and patenting of traditional medicinal herbs and value systems.
- Best practices and institutions that have been successfully used in pastoralist areas should be incorporated into the proposed district and community land boards.
- Redress of historical injustices, particularly restitution for land taken away from pastoralists.

**For more information on the Draft National Land Policy contact Brezhnev Otieno: Email – [brezhnev@reconcile-ea.org](mailto:brezhnev@reconcile-ea.org)**

### **Pastoralism: Policy, Governance and Conflict Perspectives**

Pastoralists Members of Parliament (MPs) have a difficult job. Their Constituencies lag behind the rest of Kenya in most standard measures of quality of life. Most of their Constituencies are the size of small countries. They border even more marginalized areas wrought with insurgents and bandits. Transport and communications infrastructure in the vast tracts is poor or non-existent. Civil servants and other staff working in these areas exhibit attitudes. Due to the high levels of poverty and decades of social exclusion MPs are constantly inundated by their constituents for assistance on basic needs in form of food and handouts.

However, Members of Parliament play a critical role in the improvement livelihoods and welfare of the people they represent. To be able to play their role more effectively,

they need to have a clear understanding of on-going initiatives and policy processes. This would in turn enable them not only to mobilize their constituents but also lend direct support in the development of these processes.

During the last six months or so, Kenya has witnessed considerable changes in the political, social and economic scene, especially in the pastoralists' areas. For instance out of the 3 million Kenyans who are under threat of starvation today, more than 90% of them are pastoralists. Most of the conflicts that Kenya has experienced during this period have involved pastoralists. The pastoral districts of Marsabit and Moyale lost all their Members of Parliament who were on a peace mission to these areas. Undoubtedly, it is now apparent that pastoralists are increasingly becoming crisis prone.

Despite efforts by various stakeholders to intervene on conflicts in Northern Kenya, their efforts have been frustrated by the seemingly intractable levels of conflicts. Discouraged by failure of interventions, international development agencies are becoming less and less involved in pastoralist areas leading to a progressively declining annual investment in pastoral areas. On its part, the Government, through partnership with civil society, has initiated a number of draft policies in an attempt to address maladies afflicting pastoralists and other Kenyans. Chief among these are the conflict transformation and peace building policy, the ASAL policy, land policy and others.

It is against this backdrop that the Centre for Minority Rights in collaboration with the World Initiative for Sustainable Pastoralism (WISP) amongst other partners held a Consultative Forum with the Pastoralists Parliamentary Group (PPG) to be at the Great Rift Valley lodge, Naivasha from the 5<sup>th</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> May 2006.

*For more information and a copy of the report of the workshop contact Yobo Rutin at [yobo\\_cemiride@hotmail.com](mailto:yobo_cemiride@hotmail.com)*

## Other News

### **Millennium Development Goals: Any reason for pastoralists to celebrate?**

Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) have been touted as the solution to global poverty, with promises of seeing the end of poverty and making poverty history in the next ten years. Derived from the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted and signed by all member states of the UN at the dawn of the New Millennium in September 2000, MDGs constitute the current framework for the global fight against poverty under the auspices of the United Nations. Their greatest appeal lies in the fact

that they consist of quantified and time-bound targets for reducing poverty by 2015. It is not clear why 2015 was selected as the target year, or how it is conceivable that these goals can be met in 15 years when they have not been met over the half century development work since the Second World War.

The claims made by the MDGs are most ambitious given that poverty is not a new thing on the global agenda. Despite the huge investment in its eradication, poverty continues to rise in most parts of the world. For the poor of Africa, little appears to change in their lives even when their governments boast impressive economic growth rates.

Pastoralists across East Africa constitute some of the poorest groups in terms of modern development, with very low scores on key development indicators, including the goals and targets set out in the MDGs. The levels of poverty are high, the proportion of children in school is low, gender relations are constrained by traditions that perpetuate patriarchy, mortality rates are high among children while maternal health care is deficient, and there are increasing incidences of HIV/AIDS and other diseases. Pastoral livelihoods depend on the use of environmental resources, which are increasingly degraded as a result of climate change and inappropriate land use practices, resulting in greater vulnerability and conflicts.

#### ***Millennium Development Goals***

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender equality and empower women
4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Develop a global partnership for development

Kenya has been implementing MDGs since September 2002 when, following a national stakeholders workshop, a National MDGs Task Force was formed to spearhead the MDGs campaign. The Task Force was mandated to prepare a status report on MDGs in Kenya, which was officially launched in July 2003. The report highlighted the potential and constraints for realizing the MDGs in Kenya. It concluded that radical changes needed to be made to the policy environment if Kenya was to achieve the MDGs, and made recommendations on changes and actions the needed to be undertaken at the policy and

practical levels in that regard.

***Report by Michael Ochieng Odhiambo***

**“Livestock Production a Major Economic Activity”**

Emphasizing the livestock industry as a vital component of Kenya’s economy, the Daily Nation recently published a report by Joseph Konzolo Munyao, the Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Development, which summarized the importance of the livestock sub-sector and also highlighted some ongoing government initiatives regarding the industry.

The minister stated that 10 percent of the nation’s GDP is fueled by this sub-sector, contributing to nearly a third of all farm gate agricultural commodity revenue. The dairy sub-sector provides 3.5 percent of the total GDP, and represents 14 percent of the agricultural GDP. The article stressed the importance of the livestock industry in Kenya, particularly for those who live in high rainfall and arid and semi-arid areas (ASAL). More than 60 percent of Kenya’s livestock can be found in ASAL areas, where over 90 percent of the population is employed in the livestock sector, not including home slaughter and consumption.

During on-going drought, the government has released Sh.400 million to purchase emergency livestock, vaccines, dewormers, and hay in drought affected areas. Over 14,000 cattle have been purchased by the initiative, which is run jointly by the ministry, Agricultural Development Corporation (ADC), and Agricultural Finance Corporation (AFC). Training in weather forecasting is also to be provided to farmers and pastoralists in order to ensure they have the skills to predict environmental conditions which may affect their livestock.

In addition to weather forecasting education, the National Agricultural Sector Extension Policy (NASEP) has been established by the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Development, Ministry of Agriculture, and Ministry of Co-operative Development and Marketing. This policy aims to supply farmers and pastoralists with the necessary skills and technologies to improve the success of their industry. The ministry hopes to complete several other policies which are under consideration, including the National Livestock Development Policy and the Dairy and Animal Feeds Policy.

Disease is another challenge that the ministry claims they are working to address. Current plans include immunization programs and the establishment of a disease-free area with greater reporting, control, and licensing policies. The control of disease carrying tsetse flies is part of an ongoing government campaign, as is the issue

of trans-boundary diseases. As part of the creation of a disease-free zone, the government has applied to the World Animal Health Organization (OIE) for recognition.

Kenya’s livestock industry supplies jobs to nearly 50 percent of all agricultural laborers, making it an important aspect of the national economy. The contributions of pastoralists are particularly vital to this sector, making it imperative that government action is taken with the needs of pastoral communities in mind.

***Report by Alexandriah Muhanji***

**News**

The next training on Pastoralism and policy options in East Africa at MS –TCDC Arusha, Tanzania will be in September 2006. If you want more information on this, do not hesitate to contact us or you can visit our website for a copy of the brochure on the course.

## **THE PROFILE**

### **The Pastoralist Development Network of Kenya**

The Pastoralist Development Network of Kenya (PDNK) was launched on 23<sup>rd</sup> of October, 2003 following the collapse of the Kenya Pastoralist Forum (KPF). The network is comprised of the individual pastoralists groups, pastoralist NGOs and CBOs and non-pastoralist organizations and individuals supporting the pastoralist development process in Kenya.

PDNK was founded so as to provide a springboard from which pastoralist communities can take a lead role in articulating and advancing their developments, aspirations, priorities and social needs. The organization seeks to constantly engaging the government and other shareholders on these issues.

### **PDNK VISION**

Pastoralism is recognized and mainstreamed into all aspects of development in Kenya

### **Mission.**

PDNK exists to ensure that pastoralists have a voice and access to resources and services to promote their social, cultural, economic and political development.

### **GOALS**

1. Advocate and lobby for pastoralist issues at all levels i.e. local, national regional and international.

#### **Activities:**

- Advance and lobby for policies, laws and practices that advance the course/ position of pastoralists and pastoralist development
- To strengthen the institutional capacity of pastoralist organizations for effective advocacy and development.

2. Coordinate learning and sharing of knowledge skills and experiences between and among pastoralist organizations and key stakeholders through:

#### **Activities:**

- Working with pastoralists and pastoralist organizations in facilitating conflict management in order to create an environment conducive to sustainable development for pastoralist areas.
- Disseminate information and facilitate research on issues related to pastoralist development.
- Facilitate linkage between pastoralists and pastoralist organizations and donors or other sources of funding.
- Establish a data base of all organizations working with and in pastoralist areas.

3. To enhance gender equity/parity in all aspects of pastoralist development including access, ownership/ inheritance through:

#### **Activities:**

- Promotion of research in gender
- Promoting integration of gender in decision making process
- Gender mainstreaming

### **Governance**

PDNK has a constitution that provides for the:

#### **1. Annual General Assembly**

This is the network's members forum/platform. It gives members the opportunity to influence the direction and mandate of PDNK. It is the source of the PDNK legitimacy as the members elect or reject non-performing members of the board.

#### **2. Management Board**

The network is managed at the national level. The Board is comprised of 1 representative (delegate), elected by PDNK members at the district level, from each of the 21 pastoralists districts. All the elected representatives must be confirmed by the Annual General Assembly.

#### **3. SECRETARIAT**

The PDNK has a functional/operational secretariat based in Nairobi which is run and managed by a Coordinator. PDNK presently has a staff strength of four people, comprising of a programs officer, accountant and a secretary.

#### **5.0 Partners**

PDNK is collaborating with like minded partners in the region to undertake joint projects that fall with the networks' mission and mandates this are: Oxfam-GB, the Arid Lands Resource Management Project, SNV-South Rift Portfolio and Cordaid.

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