

MAKING RANGELANDS SECURE

News, views and experiences of policy-makers, practitioners, academics, and communities on making rangelands secure for local users

PASTORAL LAND RIGHTS AT THE GLOBAL LAND FORUM, DAKAR, SENEGAL

The Interational Land Coalition's [Global Land Forum](#) took place in Dakar, Senegal between the 12th and 14th May 2015. Home to 3.2 million Fulani pastoralists (around 23% of the population), over 12 million cattle, sheep and goats, and increasing [land conflicts](#), Senegal was a particularly appropriate setting for discussing pastoral land rights. Opened and

welcomed by the Minister of Agriculture Senegal, Pape Abdoulaye Seck, and Ms Joan Kagwanja, Chief of the AU's [Land Policy Initiative](#), the Forum brought together over 500 CSOs, activists, local and international NGOs, researchers, multilateral agencies and government organisations from around the world.

Convened under the theme "Land Governance for Inclusive Development, Justice and Sustainability: Time for Action" the Forum provided room for participants to interact debate, exchange, strategise, build linkages, and learn. This was certainly what the [ILC Global Rangelands Initiative](#) aimed to achieve in a session on 'making rangelands more secure'.

Here, government representatives from the Rural Land Administration and Use Directorate-Ethiopia, the National Land Commission-Kenya, and the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Development-Tanzania, shared experiences on processes that they are leading, with support from the **ILC Rangelands Initiative**. This includes the [Sustainable Rangeland Management Project](#) (SRMP), Tanzania and *woreda* participatory land use planning currently being piloted in pastoral areas of Ethiopia.

Further sessions at the Forum provided opportunities to learn about land issues in rangelands from other parts of the world including...

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Permanent Secretary of the Rural Code, Niger, Mr Alhou Abey Bazou called for more mapping of pastoral areas and livestock routes as a first step in securing them, GLF, Senegal May 2015 (Credit: Swadhina)

RECENT EVENTS

Pastoral land rights at the GLF

(continued from Page 1)

Latin America, India and Mongolia. An inspiring key-note speech by Ikal Angelei, Founder and Director of [Friends of Lake Turkana](#), urged participants to engage on critical issues such as the development of Kenya's [LAPSSET](#) (Lamu-Port-South Sudan-Ethiopia growth corridor). And Niger's Permanent Secretary of the [Rural Code](#), Mr Alhou Abey Bazou, called for more mapping of pastoral lands and livestock routes as a key first step in securing them.

Experience sharing did not stop with the formal sessions and often continued late into the night. An Ideas Fair on the final day provided an opportunity to share some of the other work that the Rangelands Initiative has been involved in, including the mapping of livestock routes in Tanzania.

Members of the Rangelands Initiative met after the Forum to plan next steps, which included making a formal agreement to work more closely with ILC's Semiarid Lands Platform in Latin America – [Plataforma Semiáridos América Latina](#) – coordinated by ILC member [Fundapaz](#).

WORLD BANK CONFERENCE ON LAND AND POVERTY, MARCH 2015

The 16th Annual World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty was held from March 23 – 27, 2015 at the WB HQ in Washington DC. Over 1200 participants attended from 123 countries. Under the theme 'Linking land tenure to land use', participants discussed land governance issues in more than 100 sessions.

A Policy Roundtable was held on "Scaling up strategies to secure indigenous and community land rights," coordinated by Oxfam, ILC and the Rights and Resources Initiative. A report of their contributions during the session can be found [here](#) and the film of the roundtable [here](#).

IGAD, LPI & PARTNERS LAUNCH LAND GOVERNANCE PROJECTS

Two regional projects supported by the Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC), FAO and other partners, kicked off in February 2015. The first is a three-year project that will enhance the capacity of IGAD (Inter-Governmental Authority on Development) and LPI Secretariats to facilitate the implementation of the [AU Declaration on Land Issues and Challenges in Africa](#) and mainstream land

governance issues across IGAD projects.

The second is the joint 'EU-SDC-FAO-LPI Transversal Support Program on Land Governance in Africa.' The EU-SDC is providing € 33 million in direct funding to the 10 countries participating in the project, which include Angola, Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Niger, Somalia, South Sudan and Swaziland. The goal is to mainstream the [VGGT](#) (FAO Voluntary Guidelines on Good Governance and Tenure) and the [Framework and Guidelines on Land Policy in Africa](#) (F&G) into national policies, laws, institutional processes. FAO and LPI are providing support for country-level activities that include awareness raising, capacity building, technical facilitation, strengthening of partnerships, and M&E.

Source: <http://nr.iisd.org/news/igad-lpi-and-partners-launch-regional-land-governance-projects-in-africa/>

RANGELANDS INITIATIVE FORUM FOR EXPERIENCE SHARING ON LAND USE PLANNING IN KENYA, NAIROBI

RECONCILE with support from ILRI, [DLCI](#) and the National Land Commission organised a national stakeholders workshop on Experience Sharing in Land Use Planning in Rangelands on 11-12th February 2015. The meeting brought together 40 participants both state and non-state actors working on land use planning issues, with a key objective of improving linkages and developing a more strategic and coordinated process of engagement between them. Working groups focusing on different aspects of land use planning were established to take forward further activities. This includes working closely with both national and county-level governments and providing input to processes currently underway of developing structures and tools and methods for land use planning at different levels.

Papers on pastoral issues presented at the WB Conference including contributions from ILC members CEPEDES, IIED, ULA and ILRI:

1. Land Security as an issue for Livestock Keepers in the Sudano-Guinean Savannas of West Africa
2. Agricultural Investments in Ethiopia's South Omo Zone Widening the Perspective on Regional Externalities
3. Enhancing Tenure Security on Customary Land through Communal Land Associations, Uganda
4. Civil Unrest and Land Governance in Sub-Saharan Africa Land Tenure and Sustainable Development in the Bamenda Grassfields, Cameroon
5. Harnessing Pastoral Knowledge for CCA in Drylands
6. Pastoral Land Tenure at the Margins of Extensive and Intensive Use (Ethiopia)
7. An Approach to Securing Pastoral Land Rights in Ethiopia
8. The Impacts of Externally Forced Property Institutional Reforms in the Pastoral Region of China and Further Improvement
9. A Review of China's Rangeland Household Contract Policy after 30 Years of Implementation
10. Grassland Tenure, Livelihood Assets and Pastoralists Resilience: A Case from Western China.

If you would like copies of these papers please download [here](#) or contact f.flintan@landcoalition.info

RECENT EVENTS

LEARNING ROUTE - CHACO REGION, BOLIVIA, DECEMBER 2014

Last December, 25 people participated in a Learning Route across the Chaco Region of Bolivia in Tarija and Chuquisaca Departments. Members of the ILC's [Plataforma Semiáridos América Latina](#) (see back page) and leaders of indigenous people and peasant families took part in the Route. The group visited communities working with two Bolivian NGOs –CERDET and CIPCA CORDILLERA.

The first stop on the Route was Pananti Community, 20 km from Yacuiba City. Here a woman's group has developed a business growing vegetables for sale in the local market. The women work as a collective dividing up 200 ha of land that they have secured between families (between 2-4 ha per family).



Learning how women have established a vegetable business that helps see them through dry periods

The next stop was Yembiguasú Community, Chuquisaca Department. Here the indigenous people have fought for 20 years to gain access to land and other resources. This community, members of the Guranies group, has now secured 90,000 hectares of land in order to develop a livestock centre and more permanent water sources. It is anticipated that there will be new work opportunities, including for the youth.

The third community visited was Lapachal, a Wenhayek group living near the Pilcomayo River, ten km away from Villamontes city in Tarija Department.

Recently the area had experienced a serious drought, which resulted in the dying of fish in the river. For the community who relied on fishing for their food and livelihoods this was a disaster. Three years later the community is only just recovering. The community is now diversifying their livelihoods to include crops and livestock, in order to be better prepared for the next drought.

Semi-arid Platform Database and Innovation Plans

All these cases have been documented in the Semi-arids Platform Database. Following the completion of the Learning Route five innovation plans were selected from the participants for funding. These focused on the improvement of access to water, livelihood diversification and the building of infrastructure for livestock.

INTERNATIONAL AGROECOLOGY FORUM TO ADDRESS FOOD SOVEREIGNTY, MALI, FEBRUARY 2015

The International Agroecology Forum was organised by IPC ([International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty](#)), and hosted by the CNOP (Confédération Nationale des Organisations Paysannes) at the Nyéléni training centre in Mali. The main objective was to reach agreement and understanding of the fundamentals of agroecology through discussion between the many organisations attending. There were over 300 representatives of small-scale food producers and consumers, including peasants, indigenous peoples and communities, including hunter-gatherers, family farmers, rural workers, herders and pastoralists, fisher folk and urban people. The Forum produced a Declaration, which amongst other things stated: policies promoting agroecological production should be

developed including those that “ensure pastoralists’ access to pastures, migration routes and sources of water as well as mobile services such as health, education and veterinary services that are based on and compatible with traditional practice.” The Declaration can be downloaded from: <http://www.foodsovereignty.org/forum-agroecology-nyeleni-2015/>

TRAINING ON LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCE GOVERNANCE, KENYA 20-21 January 2015

FAO and Marsabit County Land Department held a training workshop on land governance in Loyangalani on 20 -21 January, 2015. Ken Otieno, Technical Advisor-Coordinator of the **Rangelands Initiative** facilitated the workshop.

The twenty-three trainees were drawn from the County Land Technical Department and County Land Management Board, members of the County Assembly, paralegals and community members as well as local CSOs. The training deepened their understanding on the constitutional policy foundations to address land governance and introduced them to effective mechanisms for engaging in legislation, technical support, and more effective strategies for stakeholder engagement.

The training was organised in such a way as to create an environment for exchange of ideas and experiences and to help participants to reflect on policies and policy processes, with a focus on how these influence land and natural resource governance and drylands-based livelihoods.

The training contributes to the FAO-supported *Improved Food Security and Resilience for Vulnerable Communities in Kenya* project.

More news on Recent Events can be found on page 9.

PASTORALISTS DO PLAN! EXPERIENCES OF MURSI LAND USE PLANNING, SOUTH OMO, ETHIOPIA

Mursiland (*baa Munuin*) is situated in the Lower Omo Valley of southern Ethiopia, South Omo Zone. When discussing land use and land use management in Mursi three types of land are important: grazing land (*missa iwony*), cultivated land (*baa gunyang*) and sacred land or ritual places (*baa barrara*). Sustainable and productive use requires all three types, as the saying goes in Mursi, 'If you have only two cooking stones, you will never cook anything.'



Decisions to improve production

The land is used to herd cattle and to cultivate mainly sorghum and corn. The cattle need the most resources and space in order to graze during the rainy and dry seasons. Since the cattle need to move, the people must decide where and when they should move. All Mursi people have access to grazing land and watering points. Land management decisions are made by the Mursi themselves, young and old.

Some of the decisions made are highly significant for the greater Mursi population: one of the biggest decisions regarding land use came in the 1980s when a number of Mursi men decided to migrate to the northeast of their territory to settle along the Mago River whilst still continuing pastoral activities. Since this time there has been a permanent settlement here.

Different land use practices

Livestock are of central importance to the Mursi, who, by tradition, are agro-pastoralists. Cattle have both social and economic value. They are a store of wealth and an important means of exchange, especially during marriage. Cattle are transferred as bridewealth and blood money; that is, they are important for everything from maintaining long-standing cultural traditions to resolving disputes. Lending and borrowing of cattle is not only important for building and maintaining social relationships, but for securing livelihoods. Cattle are a means of insurance – a large feed

storage on the hoof - especially during times of famine and disease. In the event of drought or illness the Mursi sell their cattle in local markets outside of Mursiland (in Jinka, Balamer and Hanna).



Mursi elders 'reading' animal guts as a contribution to land use planning

Cultivation sites, which are mainly under the management of women, are called *baa gunyang*. These fields are where the Mursi cultivate sorghum and corn, collect honey, a large variety of edible wild leaves, and where they go to hunt wild animals for meat. The *baa gunyang* are critical to Mursi livelihoods and are found along the Omo, Moizo, Mago, Mara and Elma Rivers (depending on the time of the year), as well as many other rivers that are vital for Mursi survival. They are also home to numerous sacred (and protected) trees, which are used for various ritual purposes.

The ancestral places are called *bade*, which are important sacred sites. These are certain trees or forested areas found throughout Mursiland. The *bade* are

where ancestors are buried and where important ritual rites are performed by the *komoru* (ritual leaders or 'priests'). For the Mursi they are the most sacred and powerful places in all of Mursiland, comparable to a temple, a church, or mosque. They are so sacred to the Mursi that one is not allowed to cut any tree or collect firewood from these areas, as the consequences are severe. The cattle are the only ones who can break all the rules and freely enter and browse within these sacred areas. The most important aspects of Mursi land use, then, as discussed above, are in relation to herding, cultivating and ritual practices, all of which require local management and knowledge of the land.

Governance and management

The *komoru* is a key player in land governance and management issues. The *komoru* together with Mursi elders can formally decide to ban the use of a watering point or grazing area. If the *komoru* makes such a decision, nobody will move to that area or interfere with his decision. He might also decide that a certain area should not be burned or order that the cattle have to go and live in a particular area. However, the *komoru's* main job is to perform rituals that bring wellbeing to the land, the cattle and people. When the cattle have disease or are moved to a new place the *komoru* must first carry out a ritual called *biyo lama* (blessing the cattle) and *rossen uro ma* (milking by the river). When the cattle graze and drink in that place, the cattle will be healthy.

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PASTORALISTS DO PLAN!

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New land use challenges

Increasingly outside interventions are having an impact on the ability of the Mursi to plan effectively – today the Mursi must manage land and resources keeping in mind two National Parks, a hunting area, and a wildlife reserve. The newest and most challenging by far however, is the development of large-scale agricultural schemes in the area.

The Lower Omo is due to become the largest irrigation complex in Ethiopia. In 2011, the state-run Ethiopian Sugar Corporation set up the Omo-Kuraz Sugar Development Project. Those who will lose land to the project will be resettled in villages being built by the government. It is believed that this is in the interests of national development and the local population. However, past experiences show that ambitious large-scale and life-changing projects like this have often had tragic consequences for those they were intended to benefit. To date, community participation in decision making processes related to the projects has been poor. This is despite the fact that (as this article has shown) the Mursi are proficient and effective land use planners and managers, and are not adverse to change. In order to optimise the benefits of land use changes taking place, the Mursi should be better included in the decisions relating to the development of their lands, and their in-depth knowledge built upon. A more equal partnership in this regard would benefit all.

Olisarali Olibui, pastoralist and consultant on Mursi issues, Mursiland, Ethiopia and Shauna LaTosky, Research Fellow, Max Planck Institute, Germany

Photos: Shauna LaTosky

These issues and experiences from other pastoral areas are detailed in the forthcoming Rangelands Initiative Issue Paper 6: *Pastoralists Do Plan! Community-led Planning Processes in the Pastoral Areas of Ethiopia.*

PROGRESS OF THE COMMUNITY LAND BILL, KENYA

Kenya has been undergoing a comprehensive land reform process for some years. Agenda No.4 of the National Accord Reconciliation and Agreement signed in 2008 identified land as the primary source of post-election conflict due to the absence of a policy framework to guide its use, development and general administration. Subsequently a Land Policy was developed in 2009, the contents and salient features of which were embedded in Kenya's 2010 Constitution. Of particular importance is the attention given to communal lands.

Article 61(2) of Kenya's Constitution classifies land as private, public and community. Community land is further defined as that which is collectively and communally held and managed, based on ethnicity, culture or a similar community of interest. The inclusion of 'ethnicity' as a criteria for ownership, has added complexity to the definition that was not there previously.

Moving forward

In order to implement these aspects of the Constitution and Land Policy a Community Land Bill (CLB) is being developed. In fact, at one stage two different draft Bills were proposed – one produced by a national Task Force assigned to the job by the Ministry of Lands and established in September 2012 including representatives from CSOs such as RECONCILE; and a second draft developed by Senator Prof. Kithure Kindiki who had grown tired of waiting for progress. It is now agreed that the Bill proposed by the Task Force will be the one taken forward. Indeed, positive progress has now been made and the Bill is currently at the State Law Office waiting submission to the National Assembly by the Attorney General.

So what for communal lands?

The CLB (on passing) will facilitate the direct engagement of the communities through their county leadership in decisions on resource allocation, management and revenue sharing especially that accruing from natural resources including oil, gas, minerals etc. The process of securing the collective

rights of land users should be defined, including who belongs to the collective 'group'. The draft bill seeks to;

Part II Art. 7 (a) specify measures established to document existing forms of communal tenure and map the boundaries of such lands whether customary or contemporary, rural or urban; and

b) Include the development of an inventory of all community land in Kenya.

As such the CLB would give authority for community land administration to three institutions: community land boards, community land management committees, and community assemblies. While the first two are administrative bodies the latter will have power to ratify decisions and transactions.

Gains for the rangeland users

Rangeland communities can gain from the Bill through a clearer definition of 'group' rights and improved participation in decision making processes including at county level, and through greater protection of grazing areas. Part VI clause 44 of the Bill provides for grazing rights in pastoral communities while clause 45 provides for other land use rights as part of community land. It is hoped that the Bill will be approved by 27th August with implementation starting immediately after including the development of accompanying regulations. It is anticipated that the Rangelands Initiative will support the piloting of the Bill from early next year.

Ken Otieno, Coordinator-Technical Advisor for the ILC Rangelands Initiative, RECONCILE



DEVELOPING SILVOPASTORAL SYSTEMS FOR MORE SECURE ACCESS TO LANDS IN THE CHACO REGION OF SOUTH AMERICA

The Chaco region covers approximately 1,000,000 km sq in South America. More than half of this area is located in Argentina, with the rest contributed by Bolivia and Paraguay. Much of the [region](#) is semi-arid receiving around 500 mm of rain, with only 300 mm per year in the arid areas. The region is of great geographical diversity: vast plains predominate the area but there are also hills, large rivers, and extensive forests. This results in a high diversity of animals and plants that make Chaco an international biodiversity hotspot.

Throughout the Chaco region, the raising of cattle, goats, sheep and pigs is widespread, under varying systems of production. Forests compete with herbaceous forage species for water, soil nutrients and land. Droughts are common resulting in high livestock mortality rates. The Chaco region in Argentina is home to the highest number of indigenous and peasant communities in the country: despite this their rights to their territories and resources are not fully recognised and they live in extreme poverty.

Management issues

Large parts of the Chaco are covered with dry forests. Removing these forests has a negative impact on the Chaco ecosystem as a whole – not only does this result in increased evapotrans-

piration, soil degradation and released carbon, but also unused land quickly reverts to scrubby bushland. Yet more pastureland is required as rangeland in the Chaco is converted to agriculture and populations of both people and livestock grow.

In response to this ILC member Fundapaz together with partner organisations and communities has been developing mixed land use systems that provide for the coexistence of both woody and herbaceous species, and in a manner that is beneficial to both. This silvopastoral management has achieved significant increases in forage supply, whilst also preserving forest trees. *Quebracho* spp. and *Prosopis* spp - both important for the region - have increased. Silvicultural treatments pruning and thinning bushes have

maintained the forest ecosystem structure and increased forest coverage whilst modifying them to increase forage production in scrublands. degradation of ecosystems such as the Chaco has grown. The clearing and destruction of natural resources does not go unnoticed by society in general and particularly by peasant and indigenous organisations. A favourable legal framework for protecting natural resources has also grown in the last fifteen years in the region, with numerous laws and support programmes being established.



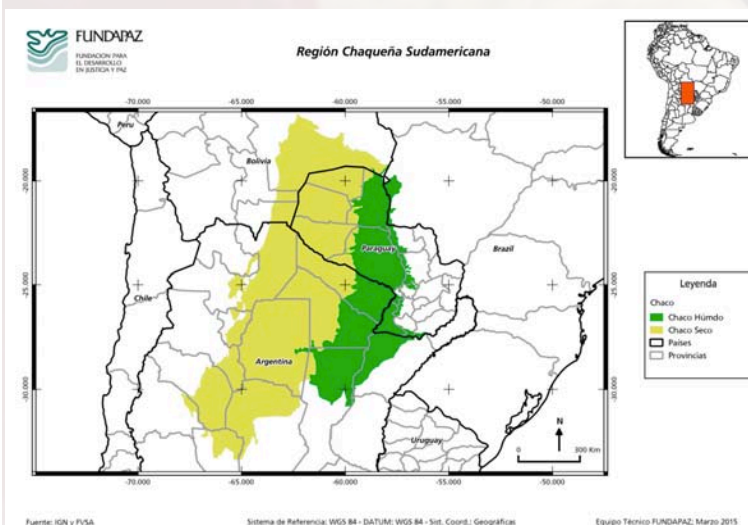
Cattle prosper under a silvopastoral system

The rights of indigenous peoples were incorporated into Argentina's Constitution in 1994 as well as in provincial constitutions and laws that followed the 1985 Law on Indigenous Policy and Aboriginal Community Support. Other countries in the Chaco region have similar provisions. An emergency law was enacted in 2006 to halt evictions of indigenous peoples from their territories. However though some reconnaissance, land surveying and registration of real estate were carried out, instead of providing comprehensive and definitive solutions the survey.....

Future action needed

Throughout the region of Chaco awareness on

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ONGOING CONFLICTS IN LOLIONDO, TANZANIA

In the [Rangelands Bulletin No. 3](#), June 2013, it was described how Maasai women had protested against the plan of the Government of Tanzania (GoT) to appropriate village land, and more specifically dry season grazing, for a Game Controlled Area as part of a 4,000 km sq hunting block held by OBC (Ortello Business Corporation). The women's protest helped to overturn the decision, with a statement from Prime Minister Pinda in September 2013 promising that the Maasai would be able to keep the land. This promise however was never put in writing. Here is a short update on the situation.

International condemnation

Since this time, and despite the PM's good words, the harassment of local communities (and NGOs supporting them), and contesting claims over the land has continued. Last year the conflict caught [international attention](#) [though the eviction notice referred to in this article never existed nor were the Maasai told to move off their lands by the end of the year]. In July, Mr Nyalandu the new Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism was said to renew the land alienation threat at several ministerial meetings in Arusha. However in an interview with a [BBC journalist in November](#) he stated that the GoT would not evict the Maasai from Loliondo.

On the 12th March of this year the [European Parliament passed a resolution](#) strongly condemning the practice of 'land grabbing' in Tanzania. It called for the launching of an independent investigation into the land disputes in Loliondo. It called on the Tanzanian government to immediately implement FAO's [Voluntary Guidelines on Good Governance and Tenure](#). It asked the EC to align its land policy guidelines with the VGGT and for programmes related to land governance to promote human rights. [CELEP](#) (the Coalition of European Lobbies for Eastern African Pastoralism) helped develop the text. [Note however that there are some inaccuracies in the figures used in the resolution.]

New questionable interventions

Now a different tack is being taken. Attention was turned to [Kenyan traders](#)

[and pastoralists](#) who regularly visit the area, as do Tanzanian traders and pastoralists go to Kenya. In April the Kenyans were imprisoned and fined for illegal entry and stay in Tanzania. In retaliation Kenyans stopped 'Tanzanian' Maasai from accessing livestock markets and water in Kenya. This is despite the fact that historically, greater Maasailand featured no such boundaries, and strong trade links and reciprocal grazing arrangements still exist between the two groups. Agreement now seems to have been reached with movement occurring across the border with permits or passes, though some harassment of visiting grazers still continues.

On the 19th May a new [water project](#) consisting of 33 wells donated by the United Arab Emirates was unveiled by Mr Nyalandu who stated: "Ngorongoro has many NGOs working in the district and if they invested in service provision instead of only engaging in advocacy, most of our problems would have been solved a long time ago." The project is said to benefit nearly 70,000 people and over 800,000 livestock in Loliondo division – a timely intervention given the UAE OBC's interests in the area.

Related incidences

In a separate but related situation Thomson Safaris are in a dispute over 12,617 acres of land close to but outside the 1,500 km sq OBC concession. On the 8th February 2015 it was reported that over 8000 cows were impounded by TANAPA (Tanzania National Parks) and SENAPA (Serengeti National Park) rangers close to the border of Serengeti

NP under the threat of being sold, until the herders had raised a fine of 15 million TShs (approx. US\$7,000). Then between the 10-14th February the SENAPA rangers set fire to 114 bomas in an area that they argued was within the park boundaries, though this is still being contested. The communities were left homeless and without help.

On another note, in March 2015, a settlement was reached between Thomson Safaris and the creators of the website 'Stop Thomson Safaris' who Thomson had sued for 'defamation and tortious interference with prospective economic advantage' – the website has now been closed down.

The court hearing against Thomson Safaris' claim over the 12,617 acres started on the 11th May but due to an absence of the government lawyer the hearings were adjourned until July. Bad feeling and conflicts have been stirred up between neighbouring villages – further whipped up by the [media](#) with talk of a 'state of emergency, 'the infiltration of weapons and 'tribal' fighting.' A team of human rights organisations and journalists visited the area on the 18th May, but their report has not yet been released. Local protests against Thomson have been held. The state of affairs remains tense and will likely escalate unless properly resolved.

Many thanks go to Susanna Nordlund an avid blogger on the subject, for confirming the correctness of information provided here. If you would like to follow the past and developing situation in Loliondo in detail, visit Susanna's blog: www.termitemoundview.blogspot.com

EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN THROUGH THE PASTORAL WOMEN'S ALLIANCE, INDIA

Traditionally, pastoral Maldhari women of Gujarat play a significant role in economic and cultural lives of the region. They are highly skilled crafts persons and robust family managers. The decision making power for most issues related to a family household is with the women. Women manage livestock, make milk products, sell them in the market, negotiate prices and manage money. However, the establishment of formal dairy cooperatives has shifted power relations and the role of women is changing.

Such changes are due to a number of factors – elites are consolidating land, the cooperatives promote a patriarchal structure giving limited space for women, and the value of traditional products (and women's role and skills in producing them) is decreasing. Additionally the increasing trend of selling milk to a dairy rather than locally, means that women have less control over pricing. As a result power is being consolidated in the hands of the men. Women's skills are gradually declining. They have lost their access to business opportunities and their status in society is reducing.



Pastoral women play a key role in livestock production including in long migrations

Re-instating women's power

In order to address these problems, ILC member [MARAG](#) is assisting the women to establish village-level groups as part of a network forming the Pastoral Women's Alliance (PWA). The PWA provides a forum for women to re-empower so that they are once again capable and confident to participate in decision making in village, community and development initiatives. By increasing women's security to land, access to markets, revising traditional skills, the network helps women build their asset-base and be more financially independent. Awareness raising and

services improve access to education and health. Problems are solved collectively. The PWA also aims to improve women's role in local judiciary systems. MARAG builds the capacity of the women in this regard.

Achievements to date

There are 25,437 members of the PWA from diverse geo-cultural groups. These are divided up into blocks at state and district levels. Women who initially represented village level groups have now gained enough confidence to represent the groups at district level.

The groups take issues such as women's land rights and education for their children to community leaders and government officials. These women groups are an integral part of the Vistar Vikas Sangathans – a union comprising representatives of several youth and women groups from different villages. Events involving the women have included a traditional food festival in Gujarat, participation in ILC's Asia Land Forum and Regional Assembly in 2014, and the Global Gathering of Pastoral Women in November 2010.

The PWA also plays a role in consultations on the drafting of a state policy for grazing land, which will help communities access and use common land: to date thirteen memorandums to save grazing lands have been submitted to Gujarat State, and groups in other states are following suit. A memorandum opposing the existing Land Bill has also been submitted. In addition MARAG is supporting the regularisation of *vada*



(plots of land) – 2000 applications have been prepared of which 25% are from women's groups. Last November the PWA played a key role in the Gay-Gauchar Vikas Yatra (Campaign to Save the Livestock and Commons), organised in 100 villages in Gujarat State.



Celebrating the Pastoral Food Festival in Gujarat

Future plans

The PWA will continue to work at different levels to protect pastoralists and their livelihoods, and in particular to protect common lands. Plans are underway for the groups to contribute to the milk federation at various levels in order to generate marketing channels for milk and milk products. The PWA also plans to promote traditional pastoralist foods and related indigenous knowledge, which is being undermined and lost by new food processing methods.

A pastoralists' knowledge hub has been set up where pastoralists from different regions (including members of the PWA) come together and discuss pastoral issues and develop strategies for dealing with them. This includes influencing the development of a policy on livestock and grazing land, in which the PWA anticipates having a strong role.

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SILVOPASTORAL SYSTEMS, CHACO REGION

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....agitated existing conflicts and interests. Impositions, violations, obstacles, delays and challenges have developed due to insufficient indigenous participation. Rather than building on the strengths of indigenous institutions that already exist, government institutions have tried to assimilate indigenous ones in a paternalistic way.

Indigenous communities are seen as foreigners in their own native lands. The recognition of indigenous rights demands new strategies, with training and empowerment for the exercise and enjoyment of those rights. In addition there is excessive litigation and vulnerability among indigenous communities, and a lack of awareness of their situation among the greater Chaco population.

Strategies for future engagement

Land use changes continue with the increased expansion of the agricultural frontier and a continued destruction and degradation of forests. Laws, programmes and awareness-raising are not enough to preserve natural resources. Conflicts over access to land and resources will increase.

A growing global interest in climate change and ways to adapt to and mitigate impacts presents an excellent opportunity for developing the silvopastoral systems described here. This will not only achieve [higher productivity](#), but also maintain the roots of communities in their place of origin whilst contributing to the conservation of ecosystems. Developing land through silvopastoral investments as part of larger land use planning processes also improves tenure security.

Fundapaz Technical Team for the *Plataforma Semiáridos de América Latina* ILC ALC. Contacts: *Martin Simon* martin.simon@fundapaz.org.ar and *Gabriel Seghezze* gabriel.seghezze@fundapaz.org.ar

PUBLICATIONS ON RANGELANDS



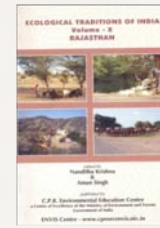
The Governance of Rangelands: Collective Action for Sustainable Pastoralism describes the nature of rangeland governance at different levels: community, state and international

governance, and the unique features of rangelands that demand collective action (issues of scale, ecological disequilibrium and seasonality). By exploring these issues in depth, this book improves our understanding of the importance of governance in rangelands, in particular how it can be strengthened and the principles that underpin good governance in order to ensure sustainability. A series of cases are drawn from Africa, the Middle East, Central Asia, Europe and North America.



A Brief on the Mama Ardhi Alliance has been produced by new ILC member Ujamaa Community Resource Team (UCRT), with Pastoral Women's Council (PWC),

Women's Legal Aid Centre (WLAC), Tanzania Women's Lawyers Association (TAWLA) and ENVIROCARE. It is a joint effort to advocate for enhanced gender-equitable land and property ownership policies and practices in Tanzania. This Alliance focuses on strengthening Tanzania's new 2014 Constitution, with UCRT and PWC responsible for representing pastoralist women's interests. The **ILC Rangelands Initiative** supported a staff member of TAWLA to participate in the 2010 Learning Route ([see Bulletin 1](#)) and then to work with UCRT in carrying out awareness raising and discussions on the new Constitution relevant for pastoral women and land rights. See: http://www.pastoralwomenscouncil.org/uploads/1/0/7/1/10710001/brochure_-_womens_land_rights.pdf



Ecological Traditions of India-Rajasthan by the CPR Environmental Education Centre, describes different types of Community Conserved Areas (CCAs) in Rajasthan.

The book collates the proceedings of a seminar with the same name hosted by ILC member Krish Avam Paristhitiki Vikas Sansthan (KRAPAVIS) and the CPR Environmental Education Centre, and advocates collective action to resolve insecure tenure and encroachment.

"Take anything, leave our land" (2015) is compiled by the Karamoja Development Forum about two cases of land acquisition by state agencies in Nakapiripirit and Napak Districts of the Karamoja Region, northeastern Uganda. They document events during 2013–14 that led to the eviction of Karimojong agropastoralists who had been living on what they regarded as communal land. The report documents the effects of such land acquisition on the local communities, and provides a platform for the voices of the evicted people to be heard. These two cases are examples of the "growing storm" over land resources in the drylands of Uganda.



Securing communal land tenure written by UCRT and Maliasili Initiatives is a brief that sets out the legal basis and process that facilitate the provision of Certificates of Customary Rights of

Occupancy to a group, provided for by Tanzanian land policy and legislation. UCRT is supporting this process in a number of villages, including under a grant from ILC. The full brief is available at: http://www.maliasili.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/CCRO_BRIEF.pdf

NEW INITIATIVES CONTRIBUTING TO MAKING RANGELANDS SECURE

A NEW DAWN IN ZANZONI, MALI - NRM CONVENTION FORMALISED

In April 2015 community members of Zanzoni village, southern Mali, gathered to formalise oral non-formal rules of natural resource management (NRM) as formal (written) local community conventions. Since September 2013, through the USAID-funded Africa RISING project, [ILRI](#) and L'Association Malienne d'Eveil au Développement Durable ([AMEDD](#)), a local Malian NGO, have worked with the community in Zanzoni to develop more equitable and sustainable approaches to NRM in their mixed crop-livestock systems.

Decentralisation reform empowers communities to manage their resources. A [study to document existing local rules and norms](#) was carried out by [Clarisse Umutoni](#), an ILRI PhD fellow. Then AMEDD worked with community leaders to write down the local rules and norms. These were then reviewed by a committee of elders in the village, followed by a consultation and validation by all the community. With the signature of the village chief and the mayor, the document was then presented to the administrative head of Koutiala province ('cercle') for review. Once approved, it becomes a legally binding set of rules for the community.

The mayor of the commune rurale Fakolo signing the local convention with village chief



The village chief and various community leaders in Zanzoni praised the achievement. "This convention will help

in reducing conflicts with pastoralists whom we share some of these natural resources with," said the chief. The success in Zanzoni has already spurred interest among leaders of neighbouring villages who have approached AMEDD for similar interventions. The full article can be downloaded at: <http://africa-rising.net/2015/06/29/a-new-dawn-in-zanzoni-mali-as-natural-resource-management-conventions-are-formalized/>

GHANA, TOGO AND BURKINA FASO SIGN PACT

Ghana, Togo and Burkina Faso have signed an agreement to foster trans-border relations between them. A communiqué signed by the heads of delegations from the countries encouraged member states to give priority to issues discussed, to realise the goals. The communiqué incorporated a framework to reinforce cross-border cooperation, peaceful coexistence and the optimisation of development action and decentralisation of the transborder zones of the three countries. Source: <http://www.ghananewsagency.org/politics/ghana-togo-burkina-faso-sign-pact-89381>

IDENTIFICATION OF GRAZING LANDS IN TANZANIA

In a move to put a stop to escalating land conflicts between farmers and pastoralists, the GoT has earmarked about 1.95 million hectares in 620 villages for pastoral grazing activities. The Ministry for Livestock and Fisheries Development (MLFD) identified the land with local government authorities and the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Human Settlement Development. Further Minister Dr Titus Kamani promised that in 2015/16 more land would be allocated including in Busega, Kiteto, Kilosa, Ngorongoro, Mvomero, Kilindi, Igunga, Iramba and Lindi. The Minister also stressed that livestock is seen as a key focus for growth in the country.

The opposition party criticised the government for not investing enough in the protection of lands for livestock, and the delays in actions to resolve conflicts over land because some government officials had a personal interest in the lands involved. Party members from Longido and Kiteto urged the government to come up with implementable plans that would help address the unending conflicts between farmers and pastoralists. Source: <http://www.dailynews.co.tz/index.php/local-news/45079-cattle-keepers-promised-land>

NEW WEBSITE TRACKS LAPSET AND DEVELOPMENT IN N. KENYA

The Lamu-South Sudan-Ethiopia Transport (LAPSSET) Corridor Project (see [Bulletin No. 5](#)) is a large-scale development across northern Kenya and bordering countries. Yet those most affected by LAPSSET have limited access to information about its impact. A new project aims to provide critical information about development in the north for those who live there.

The Mipakani Project ('from the borders' in Swahili) will disseminate up-to-date information through digital media, both online and offline. In November 2014 Mipakani (www.mipakani.net) was launched at a meeting in Lamu of the [LAPSSET Community Forum \(LCF\)](#), a coalition of CSOs from LAPSSET-affected countries. The core of the site is a collection of documents and maps, with aggregated media coverage of LAPSSET in English and other languages. The website is a collaborative space: material can be submitted for publication by any user in N. Kenya and elsewhere. The project, currently in its pilot phase, is conceived and implemented by the Rift Valley Institute and partners. See also, [RVI online resources on LAPSSET](#). Internet: <http://riftvalley.net/resource/lapsset-lamu-port-south-sudan-ethiopia-transport-corridor-project>

MORE RECENT EVENTS

AU CONFERENCE ON LAND POLICY IN AFRICA, NOVEMBER 2014

Between the 11th and 14th November 2014 the Land Policy Initiative partnership including the African Union, the Economic Commission for Africa and the African Development Bank, organised the Conference on Land Policy in Africa in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

At the Conference the AU launched its *Guiding Principles on Large Scale Land Based Investments in Africa* (LSLBI). It is anticipated that this will kick-start a decade during which countries are expected to draft policies that recognise the strategic importance of land and its efficient use in efforts for structural transformation, inclusive development and industrialisation. For more information see: www.uneca.org/clpa

PASTORALISTS AND GOVERNMENT DISCUSS RAIKA COMMUNITY ISSUES

ILC member, Foundation for Ecological Security (FES) organised a workshop in February to discuss the issues of Raika pastoralism in Indore, Madhya Pradesh. Government officials, pastoralists, farmers and practitioners gathered to discuss key challenges such as lack of access to forests, animal healthcare, medical, educational and legal facilities, and the need for policies and programmes to support the pastoral way of life.

Recommendations included ensuring tenurial rights, involving communities in participatory planning to carry out wasteland development activities, including herders in all State and Centre-sponsored welfare programmes, and improving access to public services.

ETHIOLANDNET, NOVEMBER 2014

Between the 24-25th November 2014 ETHIOLANDNET – a network of univers-

ities, government institutions and projects working on land issues – was launched at an inaugural ceremony at Bahir Dar University, Ethiopia. It was conceived to promote research and exchange of information between universities, government and research institutions on land tenure policy, land use planning, as well as land administration and related fields. The first task of the Secretariat – the Institute of Land Administration at Bahir Dahr University – will be to develop a work plan for the next five years. This could include priority setting for research and development in land administration; identifying thematic areas for graduate studies; building a database in land and related fields; and the dissemination of research outputs among members and policy-makers. Akloweg Nigatu, Oxfam GB Ethiopia, represented the **ILC Rangelands Initiative** at the meeting.

DEVELOPMENT AND LAUNCH OF TANZANIA'S LIVESTOCK MODERNIZATION INITIATIVE

On Monday 20th July President Dr Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete launched Tanzania's Livestock Modernization Initiative (TLMI). The Initiative had been prepared during an intensive week-long meeting of livestock and rangeland experts drawn from Tanzania and abroad.

A strong component of the discussions, later reflected in the TLMI itself, was the issue of land and particular rangeland. More than 70% of Tanzania's approximate [25.8 million cattle](#) and other livestock are bred and managed in Tanzania's rangeland. However only about 1.28 million hectares or 2.1% of the 60 million hectares of rangelands is protected as grazing in village land use plans (Ministry of Lands 2015). The rest of the grazing areas rely on informal agreements and the weakening capacity of local rangeland users and customary institutions to protect them.

Conflicts between pastoralists and agriculturalists are increasing as grazing lands remain unprotected, and even where they are protected through village land use planning, enforcement is lacking. In Kiteto District for example major conflicts have occurred between livestock herders and farmers in recent years, with more than 34 people being killed between 2013-2015.



President Kikwete signing the TLMI, 20th July

The TLMI has turned to the experiences of the ILC and IFAD-supported Sustainable Rangeland Management Project (SRMP) to help resolve these problems. The SRMP, described in [Bulletin No. 5](#), is supporting the development of joint village land use agreements, the establishment of Livestock Associations (LAs) and the provision of CCROs (Customary Rights of Occupancy) to those LAs.

Within the TLMI the experiences of SRMP are specifically mentioned as a good practice to inform the establishment and securing of Rangelands Reserves. Additionally the TLMI calls for the securing of national livestock mobility corridors – an action that SRMP has also been pursuing.

It is anticipated that a third phase of the Project led by the MLFD, managed by ILRI and working with IFAD and other ILC members, will provide opportunities for refining the approaches described in the TLMI, strengthen the capacity of communities to manage the grazing areas, and scale-up to other areas.



NEW BRIEF: PARTICIPATORY LAND USE PLANNING FOR RESILIENCE IN ASALS OF KENYA

Governments and other stakeholders face increasing challenges in resolving conflicts between different land uses, and in ensuring sustainable solutions to the problems of escalating land pressure and land degradation. These challenges are clearly demonstrated in the ASALs of Kenya, where sustainable development continues to be constrained by the lack of a coherent vision and a disconnect between political and technical planning processes. Devolution offers an opportunity to address this. This brief produced by the **ILC Rangelands Initiative** and **DLCI** indicates how this can be achieved. The full brief can be accessed here: <http://www.dlci-hoa.org/?p=3791>

ILC's GLOBAL RANGELANDS INITIATIVE

The Rangelands Initiative is a network of projects, processes, and activities that have a common vision and goal: to make rangelands more secure for local rangeland users. The Initiative generates and shares innovative solutions for securing land and resources in rangelands through research, knowledge generation and experience-sharing. It engages and works with communities and governments to develop and pilot the implementation of supporting policy and legislation for securing land and resources. Through collaborative action between ILC members, partners and communities the Initiative increases opportunities for the voice of rangeland communities on land and resource security to be given attention in high-level government or inter-government decision making processes. Technical support to the Initiative is provided by RECONCILE and ILRI. In Latin America the Global Rangelands Initiative is led by Plataforma Semiáridos de América Latina. For more information please contact Ken Otieno ken@reconcile-ea.org or Fiona Flintan f.flintan@landcoalition.info or Gabriel Seghezzo gabriel.seghezzo@fundapaz.org.ar

PARTNER PROFILE: Working to secure rights to resources.....



The Plataforma Semiáridos de América Latina was **launched** in 2014 as a programme of ILC's Latin America platform. It has 14 members from six countries in the region. ILC member **FUNDAPAZ** (Foundation for Development in Justice and Peace) based in Argentina is the focal point for the Initiative. The Platform covers the semi-arid lands of the Dry Corridor of Centro América (found across Nicaragua, Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras), the Chaco Region (found across Argentina, Bolivia and Paraguay - see Page 6), and north-eastern Brazil.

The Platform was established to generate partnership and alliances between organisations, and raise awareness on the problems and solutions for the semi-arid region. This is achieved through generating and sharing knowledge including good practice; and developing political action in order to improve the livestock of its indigenous peoples and peasant communities. Strategic action is taken to improve access and security to land, water and forests of these peoples.

Since its launch the Platform has developed a database of information, case studies and publications from its members. A Learning Route was held in December 2014 (see Page 3). In June four Platform members from Brazil organised a meeting on water development, access and management. For more information contact: semiarios.ilc@gmail.com

Visit the Land Portal's page for documents on rangelands: www.landportal.info/topic/rangelands-tenure



This bulletin was compiled by Fiona Flintan, ILRI. Many thanks go to all contributors. The opinions expressed herein are those of the authors. They do not constitute official positions of ILC, its members, partners or donors. Please send contributions for the next bulletin to: f.flintan@landcoalition.info or f.flintan@cgiar.org

