



Conference on “Pastoralism and Rangeland Restoration: a practitioners’ dialogue for increased investment in pastoral management of the rangelands”

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The session overview

Pastoral land governance: many things to put into consideration. Natural resource management (NRM) fundamental for governance. Increasing interest in pastoral lands both international and local investments focus at pastoral lands as interesting. The role and importance of customary institutions. These may contribute to pastoral land security.

The pastoral land governance debate revolves around many things but key among them are; innovation and community level interventions, addressing conflict and resource governance, research and economy and ecology of rangelands. The different countries in the panel spoke to these issues from Tanzania the application of Participatory rangelands management as a governance concept for economy and ecology. Jordan the Hima concept as an innovation based on traditional governance systems. Effective systems and frameworks taking significant contributions of the traditional and or customary institutions remain important in the rangelands and pastoral land management system. Conventional conflict and peace building mechanism and programme have contributed significantly in the protection of pastoral livelihood but at the same time, there is a significant increase of conflict in the pastoral rangelands. Rethinking the approaches from a collaborative and participatory conflict management based on recognition of the natural resources as shared by diverse livelihoods systems might make some difference. Therefore, types of land governance and shared the experiences of governance systems among different countries based on practical and concrete practice sets the pace.

Experience Jordan

Like everywhere in the world, rangelands in Jordan is confronted with conflicts, legislations of policies and laws that go counter secure rangelands that subsequently undermine pastoralists right to access to lands. This epitomizes the relevance and urgency to talk about sustainable pastoralism and local knowledge for conserving rangelands and biodiversity.

However, despite all the obstacles, facing pastoral lands and the rights of the resource depended communities, a recent legislation has taken into account the important role of traditional knowledge on NRM thanks to the consistent engagement of IUCN. Pastoralist have become part of the conservation struggle and not bystanders in Jordan. IUCN works with local communities to maintain good practices of livestock movements (low cost practices). This demonstrates how policy change can be realized with a combined engagement of advocates and communities.

The HIMA Concept: “Protection” in Arabic used by Bedouins to better manage rangelands in a productive way. IUCN has been re-using and updating this concept. In Jordan, the success of the concept is by established good relationship with the Government thus being a great supporter of this process. This is a success story, because the Government in Jordan made a political reform about rangeland conservation.

Established was a Multi-stakeholder dialogue for designing the Hima project in Jordan. This enabled the support from both local communities and Government and designated conservation land protected as defined. The local community took the leadership of the conservation process (timeline, types of livestock, rules, etc.). A Charter adopted and registered by the Government, who could enforce the law.

The recognition of open resource access and use. No investment in infrastructures for this project. No fences erected to aid both customary and or contemporary to technical advice. Nevertheless, the emphasis of communal resources management and use. The output is no conservation cost in the process.

Results: 4 plots under improvement management and conservation; improvement in gender representation; changes in behaviors; support from the Ministry of Agriculture.

Lessons: 1) local community has to be involved; 2) healthy productive rangelands is a win-win situation showing the progresses lead to get everyone on board; 3) importance of involving some focal points in the Government.

There is a 'Hima' in every pastoralist context may be used everywhere.

IUCN worked on strengthening the local governance for Sustainable Rangelands Management (SRM), by legitimizing the Hima concept through signing a tribal charter. Scalability; from pilot sites to wide landscapes. There is the potential to scale this initiative from the Hima pilot project to be extended to the whole Jordan and Egypt, and eventually with other interested countries.

Expérience from Nigeria

Conflict and pastoral land governance a case of Nigeria: "Land" is traditionally a political space where different groups of actors negotiate, conflict and/or reach agreement over access, and use and manage physical land and its resources. In some countries, pastoralism is frequently associated with conflicts, and while this does not reflect, the global state of pastoralism there is likely to be a close association between resource conflicts and weak governance of tenure.

The implications of conflicts around resources often influence political, economic, social and cultural costs. It lowers economic productivity, weakening of political institutions, undermines capacity to provide essential services, destruction and depletion of natural resources, loss of food production and capital flight. Conflict in the context of resource use, access and management demands is around land. The Nigerian example shares all these issues most significantly on the mobility question. Herders and crop farmers both lay demands on land rights and the two livelihood systems require a system that recognizes that land is a factor of production. Such an arrangement recognizes that a larger part of these livelihood opportunities or production systems depend on land.

As demonstrated, the tension and often-violent conflicts in the country has systematically undermined the production capacity and in effect, destroyed the pastoral livelihood system more.

The presentation highlighted the impact of Herder-Farmer conflict in Nigeria on land governance. This conflict has negative impacts on social, economic and psychological aspects of local communities' lives. The Nigerian government is trying to solve this conflict, legitimize the grazing and develop rangelands reserves, but till now they did not succeed.

Initiatives at the national and regional levels should be established or enhanced to mitigate conflict through frameworks that appreciates the two main strained livelihoods of crop agriculture and pastoralism. Institutional development, policy and laws that are responsive and awareness on the co-relations between this livelihoods and the interdependency of each other. Therefore;

Need for strengthening the capacity of security agencies

Trust building and amnesty programmes for herders by the Federal Governments to reintegrate these communities into the society the example of Niger Delta Militants.

Traditional Dispute Resolution Mechanism be strengthened- disputes over stock routes and crops compensation framework for the crop farmers through village chiefs and herder leaders as operated before the 1970s.

Education system that is responsive to pastoral dynamics and development.

Building information systems through effective knowledge management

Cross-boundary programmes and plans to appreciate mobility as an important pillar in pastoralism.

Systems and capacity to adapt to climate change

Experience from Senegal

The experience of "Pole Pastoralisme et Zones Sèches"

Rangelands play numerous essential roles in the world and occupy 40% of lands in Africa. They are

livelihoods for many populations. Nevertheless, many changes reduce their availability and use. This essentially raises the question of which governance modes are best for these lands.

These parameters defined the discussions of the research by PPZS a multi-stakeholders research group (CIRAD, ISRA, UCAD, and CSE). Created to understand pastoralist systems. Mission: research, knowledge, management of pastoralist systems, support to development institutions, training.

Some activities of the PPZS: Simulation multi-stakeholder models to improve NRM; mediation and land planification tools and methods (“jeux de role” – role games with the field stakeholders); information and alert systems (SIPSA); capacity building for NRM (maps, cartography, etc.).

Research for development: the case experience from Senegal defined the sustainability of pastoral land governance to espouse innovation. It is important to appreciate information generated through targeted research for informed policy decisions. The development of tools and other resource governance and management of pastoral lands depends on information generated from the beneficiaries and practioners. The experience also recognizes simulation model for the sustainable rangelands management and utilization. Research can also facilitate peace building and conflict management especially in creating informed mediation processes. Land use planning with technology that is user friendly and community driven also can be more effective through research and innovation.

PRM project experience from Tanzania

Participatory Rangeland Management– As an Institutionalized approach to rangeland governance and management.

PRM project that the Tanzania case is anchored is from the Ethiopian experience. The process enables interventions based on defined rangelands management and rehabilitation areas. PRM process enables the establishment of community rangelands rehabilitation methodologies based on both traditional and legal frameworks.

The project contributes the wellbeing of the rangelands through a participatory natural resource management including resource planning, mapping, documenting and monitoring to ensure equilibrium ecosystem. It is also an opportunity to maximize on the economy. Generally, steady and healthy rangelands enhances production.

PRM has this unique capability of promoting the general wellbeing of rangelands and resources within it thus a steady ecology and economy. PRM Project is a regional project in Kenya and Tanzania. Objective: to improve the livelihood and nutrition status of pastoralist communities in East Africa by improving the management of rangelands. The piloting process entails identifying rangelands and communities; negotiations; plans; agreements; new roles; monitoring and evaluation.

Tenure security; the case of Tanzania is building on the Joint Village Land Use Planning (JVLUP). Securing land and or any natural resource is premised around the assumption that the certification or some form of legal document assures the security. Positive results have emerged from the implementation of the Sustainable Rangelands Management Project (SRMP) with issuance of Certificate of Customary Rights of Occupancy (CCRO)

Results: security of lands/customary rights; diverse livelihood options; pasture productivity improvement; women role in rangeland management promoted and improved; monitoring activities led by communities and increased; capacity building for communities in management of grazing land; healthy grazing land and improved livestock production; policy dialogue with government promoted; food security improved through income and food increasing, empowerment, etc.

CELEP A Case for the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralism

The pastoral land governance discussion is a case of building evidence towards the relevance of the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralism (IYRP) campaign. The significance of rangelands and pastoralism is increasingly defining the global land governance debate from both customary and contemporary approaches. Even with diverse challenges, pastoralism is recognised as one of the most sustainable production systems on the planet, playing a major role in safeguarding ecosystems and biodiversity in natural grasslands and rangelands ([McGahey et al., 2014, p. viii](#)). Communities practicing pastoralism have been defined by the IYRP presentation as ‘Pastoralists’ they include nomadic & transhumant herders, agropastoralists, ranchers and conservationists who manage livestock and/or wildlife

Large-scale land acquisition by governments, private institutions, investors among others presents the sustainability of pastoralism by undermining the mobility aspect core to the system. Mobility is possible only when rangelands are contiguous and not fragmented, and access rights are clear and un-hindered. In other words, pastoralism is possible when there is access to extensive grazing lands, or rangelands. The terms “rangeland” as defined by the campaign include a wide diversity of land and natural resources in it such as grasslands, shrublands, savannas, deserts, steppes, tundras, alpine communities and marshes, where wild and domestic animals graze wild plants and share habitat.

The campaign is led by a host of organization including CELEP to;

- increase worldwide understanding of the importance of rangelands and pastoralists for global food security and environmental services
- call attention to need for sustainable management and enlightened policy to benefit current and future generations
- mobilise all to address today’s challenges and grasp new opportunities in rangelands & pastoralism with creative energy

The campaign appreciates global processes that have similar objectives including individual organizations, networks, UN agencies, development partners, governments to contribute to the goal which shall see greater recognition and protection of rangelands and pastoralism. Some activities that are progressive and scheduled include;

- Joint International Rangeland/Grassland Congress (IRC/IGC) in 2020 in Kenya
- Social media campaign and video films to raise awareness of consumers, scientists and policymakers
- Pastoralist gatherings to share & document local knowledge and strategise for equitable development
- Policy resolutions presented at national, regional and global level
- Strengthened combined efforts in equitable development of rangelands and pastoralism

Key points of discussion

NGOs role in changing the attitude of local communities:

By showing the success stories of the adopted governance systems, other communities will be encouraged to adopt it.

The role of government in changing the governance system, such as Hima approach in Jordan:

Government in Jordan is responsible of communal lands and give the rights of land use; therefore, it should be involved in the process of changing the governance system.

The movement of herders and pastoralists from country to another during drought seasons: This movement has a positive impact, it helps in conserving and rehabilitating the land. But it also has a negative impact, it may increase the pressure on land, so it must be managed well. This could be done by signing agreements between countries to manage the grazing.

The experience of Tanzania in establishing agreements with tribes to give rights for using of the rangelands, rather than ownership rights.

Lessons learned

- The change in the attitude of local communities depends on giving them leadership roles in decision making.
- Participatory rangeland management is a key factor to ensure the sustainability of rangelands.

Conclusion/Recommandations

Customary institutions are all strategic governance structures especially in common resources such as the rangelands and pastoralism. Improving relationship with and between diverse institutions both formal and informal is important. Building capacity and creating an enabling environment is critical. As such, customary institutions should be integrated in designing a good governance system.

Countries should work together to manage grazing and rangelands, especially where pastoralist move from country to another.

Mobility is the mainstay of pastoralism. For the sustainability of mobility with minimal conflict, collaborative land governance should be established.

Conflict management framework. Pastoral land are the face of conflict. As such, approaches that are people/community driven can help generate opportunities for dialogue and establish local or community resource based conflict management.

Climate change is a threat to pastoral land governance. Developing an adaptive capacity informed by local

factors, trends and triggers will allow established functional systems for coping and response.

Feedback from the plenary

Tanzanian case

In Jordan no law for pastoral land governance, just agreement for land exploitation. Land has not to be used as a commodity. In Tanzania, after agreement, can land be sold? Problem of soil degradation.

No, land cannot be sold.

Relationship of PRM with wildlife management and conservation?

Wildlife outside the protected areas cannot be protected.

Nigerian case

Livestock movements take place in specific periods of the year and facilitate exchanges among cross-border communities (i.e. Niger/Nigeria). In Niger, there is the 'Code Rural', nonetheless pastoralists are still discriminated because pasture use is not considered as 'land use'.

Is there any federal law on pastoralism in Nigeria? Is there any livestock movement between different states?

The government is imposing its own idea about pastoralism, but not a real federal law.

Which contribution from the CSOs for conflict resolution?

Nigerian case similar with Niger about herder-farmer conflicts, because of lack of water and bad governance.

Which role for international organizations to influence governments?

Senegalese case

Cross-border agreements between Senegal and Mauritania?

There are bilateral agreements for resource exploitation. But for sure there are other agreements.

In host areas, how to manage livestock movements?

Mobility is key from an economic and ecological point of view. Which compromises to be found out?

Is SIPSA still working?

Yes, but there are some limits. Sometimes delays in information spreading. Room for improving.

Which results from the analysis of the different actors? What interests of these actors?

Herders and farmers are the most concerned stakeholders. There is competition for resources > how to combine different interests to avoid conflicts? Importance of research.

Jordanian case

Involving the name of tribes, should it be avoided?

No problem in involving the tribes in pastoralism, because pastoralism is tribes. With good governance systems, tribes don't lead to conflicts.

Which legal framework in Jordan?

Many rules set up in the areas covered by the project.

Which role of the State? Are there customary leaders?

The role of the Government was very important, it is in charge of communal lands and of monitoring activities.

Which lessons learned by that process?

Acceptance of the concept itself, because everyone was involved; finding the right partnership with proactive people; importance of not excluding anyone, being transparent and inclusive.