Introduction to FAO publication:


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1. Pastoralism at FAO: assessments

2. Institutionalizing pastoralism in FAO

3. A new narrative for FAO on pastoralism
1. Pastoralism at FAO: Joint Evaluation 2016


- FAO has a long record of working on pastoralism. Many units have been contributing in one way or another, but

- The institutional commitment has been intermittent, lacking coordination, and often with a narrow focus.

- Since 2015, the Pastoralist Knowledge Hub (PKH) has helped creating an institutional space for connecting and coordinating work on pastoralism, and an Inter-Departmental Working Group on Pastoralism (IDWG-P) has been formed.
The FAO Pastoralist Knowledge Hub (PKH)

Objectives
- Support pastoralist networks and improve their contribution to the global policy decision-making

Results
- Improved and inclusive policies, legislation, regulations and programmes

Impact
- Contribute to food security, improve resilience and reduce poverty
PKH’s pillars

Pastoralist Knowledge Hub

Knowledge

Network

Partners
2. Institutionalizing pastoralism in FAO

Since 2018, the FAO NSAG branch “Animal Production and Genetic Resources” engaged in a consultative process aiming at “Institutionalization of Pastoralism at FAO” with a development-oriented perspective.

**Pastoralism at FAO. Institutionalization, facts and narratives. Internal document, July 2019.**

**Findings:**
- Significant diversity in beliefs and understandings of pastoralism and discrepancy between the attention pastoralism gets in the Sahel and in other regions of the world
- Pastoralism is considered at FAO predominately through the lenses of emergencies and crisis
- Commitment on pastoralism is still volatile and heterogeneous, dependent on voluntary funding

**Recommendations:**
- Improve intra-organisational information and knowledge sharing in order to build a more holistic and development oriented view on pastoralism (PKH, IDWG-P)
- Design and implement actions more relevant to the need of pastoralists
- Reinforce the institutionalization of pastoralism at FAO (Study 2).
2. Institutionalizing pastoralism in FAO

November 2019- April 2020: Making the case for the institutionalization of pastoralism in FAO

Method:
- Elaboration of a conceptual framework on pastoralism as food production system working with nature
- Presentation of the process of IP FAO at the PKH annual partners meeting in November 2019
- Face to face interviews to identify relevant milestones to monitor the progress within FAO
- Presentation of the final draft in a multidivisional workshop at FAO HQ, including IDWG-P in March 2020

Output: Draft « Making variability work. The institutionalization of pastoralism in FAO »
2. Institutionalizing pastoralism in FAO

Recommendations and ways forward

- Clarifying the mandate of FAO in supporting pastoralism and pastoralists as expected from Member States
- Getting support from the different technical governance bodies of FAO (i.e. COAG and Sub committee on Livestock).
- Making pastoralism better /broadly known and understood outside the specialists circle outside and within the FAO: share a narrative based on pastoralism as Nature-Based food production systems

- Mapping the broad context of relevance of interventions on pastoralism: rangelands & grasslands, land tenure, poverty reduction, conflict prevention, livestock policies, territorial approach, extension of social protection...
- Addressing the methodological issues in interventions targeting or related to pastoralism
3. A new narrative for FAO on pastoralism

Pastoralism, making variability work

Main messages:

- Pastoral systems are emblematic of farming with nature: they have evolved to function with the natural environment and therefore with variability, making use of variability in inputs ➔ pastoralism contributes to SDGs in a climate-change scenario, where variability is globally on the increase.

- Pastoral systems have been looked at with the wrong lenses: conventional modelling and analysis of livestock production consider the animal in isolation from the natural environment, and variability as a constraint. This has contributed to the misreading of pastoralism and its potential.
In conclusion: where we are

- Acknowledgment of, and mandate by the Member States, on FAO’s work on Pastoralism and Rangelands
- => FAO is accountable to the governance bodies for its work on pastoralism and rangelands

COAG #27. oct 2020

« Pastoralism making variability work » Publication. June 2021

- FAO joins the front science on pastoralism
- A narrative: for, of, shared in, FAO?
- At stake: getting the narrative « pastoralism, working with nature » shared outside specialists

Toward the 1st FAO Sub committee on Livestock. March 2022

- Ongoing Stock taking exercise on pastoralism in country programmes
- Request FAO to assist Member states in considering pastoralism and rangelands explicitly when formulating Country Programming Frameworks (CPF)
- Request FAO Regional Offices and Member Nations to include pastoralism and rangelands as Nature-Based food production systems in Regional Conferences
- Fund a survey to address methodological issues on pastoralism in FAO

WWF Global Grasslands & Savannas Dialogue Platform, Pastoralism – Challenges and opportunities 7. september 2021
Thank you for your attention!