

African Union
Policy Framework for Pastoralism in
Africa

ECHO EAST AFRICA PASTORALIST SYMPOSIUM,
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Definitions

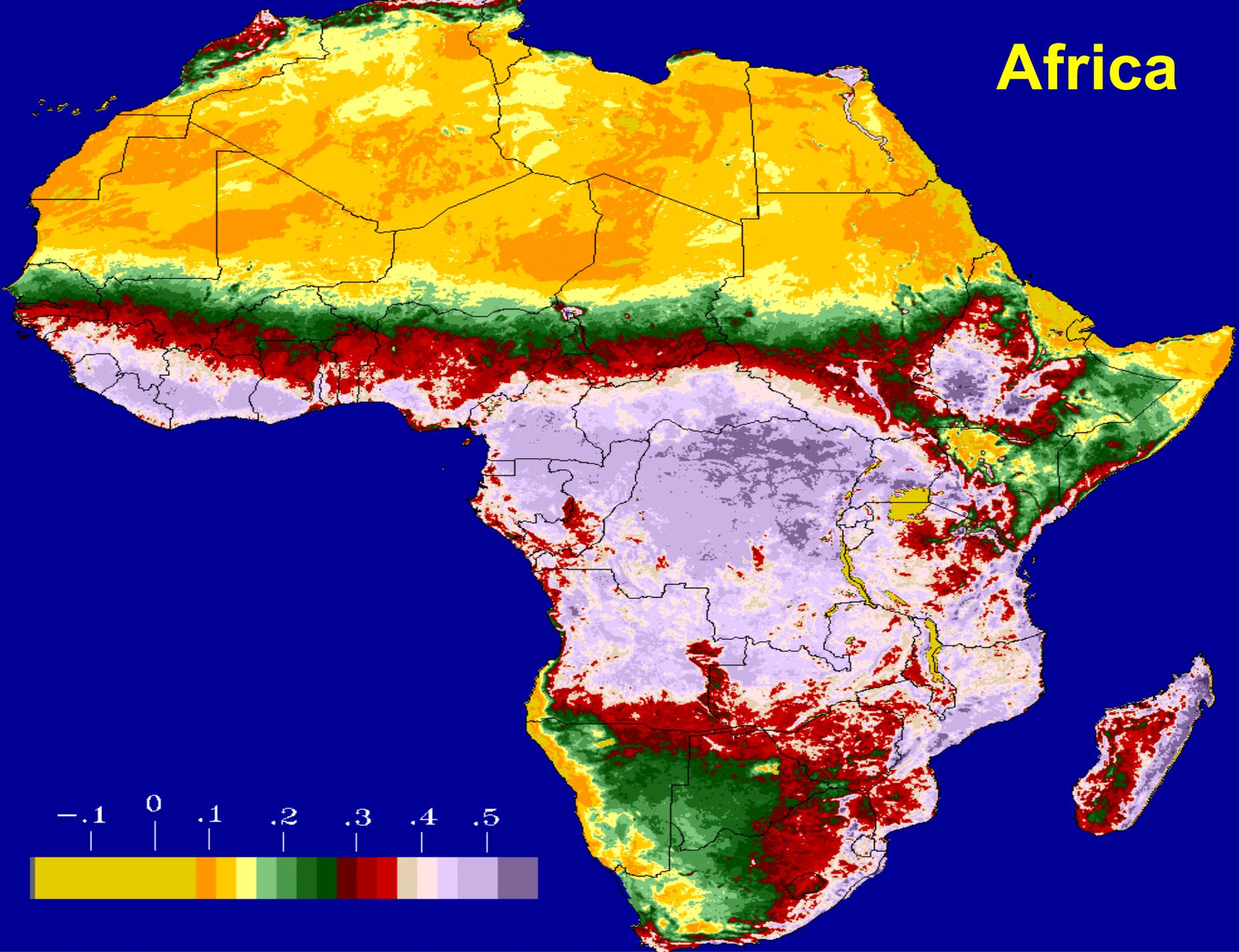
Pastoralism ; subsistence system based primarily on domesticated animal production (meat, milk, hides, blood). In Africa, mainly based on raising of small ruminants, cattle and camel.

Practiced in marginal areas.

Pastoralists ; Any population or its population subsisting primarily via pastoralism (associated with agriculture, known "agro-pastoralists")



Africa



Pastoralism in Africa

Mediterranean and Saharan zones of North Africa stretching from Morocco to Egypt

Sub-saharan tropical and equatorial zones stretching from the edges of the Sahara desert to the Kalahari desert. It includes the Sahel region, the equatorial forest, the east African region among others

Southern zone (SADC countries)



Economic Context of Pastoralism

- Pastoralism contribute between 10 to 44% of the GDP of many countries despite it being overlooked in official statistics (meat, milk, hide and skin, animal traction, etc.)



- Pastoralists involved in various types of activities



Social & cultural Contexts of Pastoralism

- 268 million Africans considered to be pastoralists or people living in pastoral areas.
- Pastoralists have very strong social organizations & leadership
- Land is a communal resource
- Livestock & NR Management practices require well organized collective action.
- Control access to communal grazing areas
- Manage watering of livestock & provide security



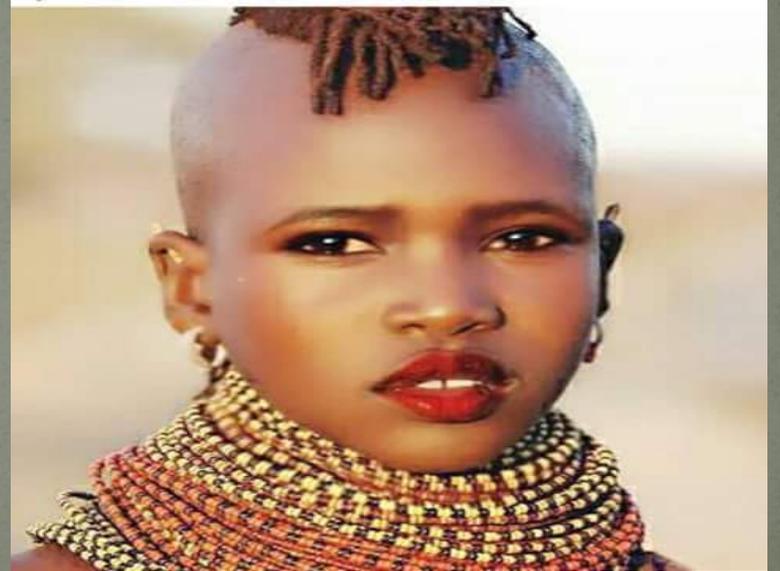
Major social problems; conflicts (cattle raiding, use of force to access land, etc.), role of women, abduction of children



Political and policy context - Colonial legacy

1. Played crucial role in shaping pastoralism in Africa
2. Changed the role & influence of traditional pastoralist institutions with the creation of borders & new countries with their own legislation
3. Divided well established pastoral social, economic & ecological units
4. Limited Traditional movement of pastoralists to be considered 'cross border' movement
5. Considered pastoralim systems to be bad, inefficient & also contributes to environmental degradation, thus sedentary life was imposed on pastoral communities leading to rebellion.

Main raison of their marginalization



Political & policy context – Post colonial legacy

- Independent countries continued these policies
- Some countries oriented their development by emphasizing industrial & socio-economic progress based on western examples
- Commercialization of Agriculture characterized by shift from subsistence to commercial farming, from pastoral communal ownership to privatization of pastoral land & from pastoral traditional institution of land management to modern ones
- Pastoralism was viewed as bad & negative

Pro-pastoral policies & legislations in Africa

Many countries drafted Pro pastoral policies & legislation for pastoralism development

Government passed series of pastoral laws to:

- Protect pastoral land & enhance livestock mobility;
- supportive policy to pastoralists (mobile school system;
- Recognize role of pastoralists in the economy;
- Recognize need of support from the central government, etc.



New global trends affecting pastoralism

- Globalization of markets & international standards governing trade in livestock products
- Decentralization & delocalization important with multifaceted implications for pastoral development
- Food price increases & financial crises. Price increase offer opportunities
- Increased urbanization & international migration leading to higher demand of livestock products such as meat & milk among others.
- Counter terrorism, organized crime and insecurity
- Climate changes. Pastoral production systems not too bad for mitigation



Policy Framework – History

AU engaged on Policy Framework for Pastoralism

1. Workshop of participants from 15 African countries in Isiolo, Kenya, in 2007, to start process of common pastoral policy for Africa. Meeting organized by AU's Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture & OCHA (UN Office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs)
2. Series of regional consultations & assessments among others with the final one in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso in April 2010
3. Drafting of Policy Framework in Workshop, Nairobi, Kenya in Sep-Oct 2010

Policy Framework - Principles

- Acknowledge & build on existing & emerging policy processes at national & regional levels, that aim at enhancing political representation of pastoralists
- Integrate pastoral development policy into national & regional policy frameworks;
- Promote sustained conflict resolution,
- Legitimize alternative models of services deliveries in pastoral areas;
- Maximize efficient livestock production by enabling pastoral mobility
- Secure access to rangelands and support the marketing of livestock and livestock products
- Update policy by taking into account emerging trends, opportunities and lessons learned.

Pastoralists involvement as central process of the AU policy framework of Pastoralism

Policy Framework- Objectives

Two main objectives:

- Objective 1

- Secure, protect and improve the lives, livelihoods & rights of pastoral people/communities
- Ensure continent-wide commitment to political, social & economic development of pastoral communities and pastoral areas

- Objective 2

- Reinforce the contribution of pastoral livestock to national, regional & continent wide economies

Policy Framework – Objective 1

- focuses on policy & institutional strengthening processes & support good governance

Strategies for Obj. 1 aim;

1. Recognize the role of pastoralism in development
2. Demonstrate further commitment to pastoral development policy & related budgetary support
3. Fully integrate pastoral issues into national & regional decision-making processes
5. Acknowledge the legitimacy of traditional pastoral institutions
6. Strengthen the roles of women in pastoral communities
7. Mainstream pastoral issues in poverty reduction programmes
8. Ensure policy support to models of basic service delivery which are designed specifically to suit the context of pastoral areas

Policy Framework – Objective 2

- based on need to improve pastoral resource governance for efficient conflict prevention & secured pastoral resource property rights, both within & across borders, & support pastoral mobile livestock production, processing & marketing of livestock products
- 3. Protecting pastoral livestock assets
- 4. Marketing of pastoral livestock & livestock products
- 5. Tailoring of financial & insurance service to pastoralists and pastoral areas

Strategies for Obj. 2 aim;

1. Pastoral rangeland governance
2. Policy support to mobility within and between countries
6. Protecting African genetic resources (animals & plants)
7. Supporting research & extension



PLATE 2.2: TURKANA MAN LOADING UP CAMEL READY TO TRAVERSE THE LANDSCAPE IN SEARCH OF PASTURE AND WATER



Policy framework development process

- Pastoral policy development at national level –
- Establishment of national steering committee including relevant stakeholders
- Establishment of team of experts to develop pastoral policy & strategies (defining, establishing timeframe, clarifying role, determining resource requirements, drafting of policy, etc.)
- Development of Policy document to be participatory (stakeholders consultations, regional workshops, appraisal & validation of document, dissemination of information)

What is required to draft pastoral policies

- Clarifying the role of stakeholders & their expectation in policy document
- Recognizing role of indigenous institutions
- Consulting with pastoral communities & engaging civil society
- Acknowledging importance of legislative, institutional and operational measures in pastoral policy development
- Ensuring availability of financial and human resources
- Establishing communication plans for pastoral policy development
- Implementing Pastoral policy
- Monitoring and Evaluation of the implementation process



Conclusion

- Document on Policy Framework for Pastoralism in Africa drafted & validated
- Resolutions on Policy Framework adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Agriculture (CAMA) held in Lilongwe, 25 – 29 October 2010
- Executive Council of AU took note of pastoral policy initiative of AUC aimed at securing, protecting & improving lives, livelihoods & rights of pastoral communities
- Ex. Cl. approved decision (Ex. CL/Dec. 618 (XVIII) 24 – 28 January 2011 in Addis Ababa on the policy Framework for Pastoralism in Africa following the resolutions adopted by CAMA

Decision - Ex. CL/Dec. 618 (XVIII)

URGES Member States to review their policies impacting pastoralism, in accordance with the Policy Framework, with a view to developing a comprehensive policy which takes into account the peculiar needs of pastoralism; and to build adequate human, financial, and technical capacities to support pastoral policy development, implementation and tracking progress;

ENCOURAGES pastoral networks and groups to initiate regional and continental forums to facilitate engagement with the Commission, the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), other relevant AU organs as well as, partners consistent with the objectives of the Policy Framework;

Decision - Ex. CL/Dec. 618 (XVIII)

- **REQUESTS** the Commission & RECs, in collaboration with development partners to:
 - Strengthen &/or establish an appropriate institutional framework to provide coordination of follow up activities & facilitate mutual learning by Member States as they develop/review their pastoral policies in accordance with the Policy Framework;
 - Put in place appropriate measures/mechanisms for mobilization of financial resources & partnerships in support of promoting pastoral policy development & implementation at regional & country levels;
 - Take appropriate measures for the establishment of mechanisms for progress tracking & periodic Member States reporting on progress achieved;
 - Support pastoral groups & networks in their efforts to initiate regional &/or continental pastoralist forums.
- **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission to report regularly on the implementation of this Decision.

