

INAUGURAL UGANDA PASTORALIST WEEK 2006

THEME - PASTORALISM
UNTAPPED INVESTMENT POTENTIAL

20th - 24th November
Kampala - Uganda

Uganda Land Alliance



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CONCLUSION

The Uganda Pastoralist Week is finally off the blocks – it is a reality. That it could make a very strong advocacy and campaigning tool to champion the needs of the pastoralists is inarguable. What needs to be done is to streamline the areas of weaknesses and move it on. Different from this year's UPW, the preparations for the UPW 2007 should start early enough. It was quite evident that during the UPW this year, while there was initial hesitance by the donors towards the beginning, they came in towards the end. It is important to capitalise on this goodwill before they lose interest.

Generally, through the diversity of participants from the government, private sector donors and CSOs, it can be argued that the intended objectives will be largely met. During the course of the events, several recommendations and or commitments by the various stakeholders were given. For example, during the HIV/AIDS Campaign, The Programme Manager of HIV/AIDS Control programme Dr. Elizabeth Madra who represented the Minister for Health, promised to consult with the Aids Commission to ensure that the National Aids Strategic Plan puts into consideration the Pastoralist concerns. There was need to have evidence based information, developing strategies which are culturally accepted, work on gender disparity among Pastoralists. And at the Donor Roundtable, there was a strong recommendation that a Donor Roundtable Plan for Modernization of Pastoralism similar to the Plan for Modernization of Agriculture be instituted.

REPORT

INAUGURAL UGANDA PASTORALIST WEEK 2006

THEME

Pastoralism – Untapped investment potential

**20TH - 24TH November 2006
KAMPALA UGANDA**

Uganda Land Alliance

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7. Capacity building of NGOs /CBOs working with Pastoral Communities.
8. Advocate for increased budget allocation of livestock at National and District levels.
9. Formation of a Pastoral marketing Association to improve the life style of Pastoralists

CHALLENGES

The Budget

At the start of the project, the amount available was UKP 30,000 (thirty thousand) from DFID. This money was not enough to take care of all the planned activities. This meant that with this support, some activities had to be prioritised over others. Activities that were thus initially left out were the Exhibitions, the Media Campaign and the Gala Night.

Fundraising, however, went on and more funds were realised. The funds realised included 17,145,000 from DANIDA, 16,900,000 from Oxfam GB, 3,000,000 from SNV and 1,800,000 from Care Uganda. The total amount came to about 143,809,000. This allowed COPACSO to undertake more planned activities that included the Media Campaign, through a Supplement Pullout in the *Monitor* Newspaper. The extra monies also allowed for space for more pastoralist community participants to attend the workshops and the Gala Night, with all costs catered for.

Time

Three months was a very short time to pull off the UPW 2006. While the UPW itself was largely successful, it is imperative that the time set aside is enough, not only for preparations, but also fundraising. Due to limited time, a lot of decisions were made at the last minute, affecting so many logistical arrangements.

them. Dozens of commercial woodlots have been planted to ensure sustainable supply of medicinal plants for future generations. Creating sustainable alternative livelihood such as herbal medicine production, is essential economical survival of pastoral peoples like the Karimojong

Karimojong “Manyata”: This group exhibited activities and equipment used in Karamajong homestead, which is referred to as “A manyata”. The activities included preserving milk and beef for future consumption, preparing local brew, Making of crafts and manufacturing of small chairs, wooden motor for grinding Groundnuts, sandals for wearing and other household tools.

Organisations working with pastoralists like Uganda Land Alliance, Care Uganda, Farm Africa and Minority Rights Group International also exhibited their outputs, relating to the benefits and challenges of their work.

Final Recommendations of the Week

1. UPW should be a regular forum to provide pastoralists a much required advocacy platform.
2. There is need to seriously engage with the East Africa Legislative Assembly to harmonize Trans-boundary concerns (e.g. Cross border Cattle movement) through East African Community and SADC
3. There is need to lobby for the formation of a Donor Funding Group on Pastoralism
4. Involvement of local people in the development of the proposed pastoral policy and it should be linked with other Resource Management policies
5. Advocate for the separation / creation of a “Ministry of Animal Industry, fisheries & Game” from MAAIF.
6. Lobby for funding and implementation of the minimum agenda.

List of Acronyms

ARS	Ankole Ranching Scheme
CBO	Community based organisation
COPACSO	Coalition for Pastoral Civil Society Organizations
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
DANIDA	Danish development Agency
DFID	UK Department for International Development
EAC	East African Community
HIV/AIDS	Human ImmuneVirus / Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome
RBCs	Resource Based Conflicts
PEAP	Poverty Eradication Action Plan
ULA	Uganda Land Alliance
UPW	Uganda Pastoralist Week
MRG	Minority Rights Group
CCAs	Community Counselling Aides
PPG	Pastoralist Parliamentary Groups
EALA	East Africa Legislative Assembly
NACP	National AIDS Control Programme

Foreword

As the chairperson of COPACSO, I have the pleasure to present the report of the proceedings from the Inaugural Uganda Pastoralist Week 2006 which run from the 20th to 24th November, 2006 under the theme; Pastoralism: Untapped Investment Potential. The choice to focus on the untapped potential of pastoralist production was based on the need to highlight the level of marginalisation suffered by pastoralists which has in turn led to the high levels of poverty experienced by these communities.

I want to take this opportunity to extend my personal gratitude to all our donors and partners without whose support we would have never been able to accomplish such an ambitious undertaking. I also want to thank the COPACSO members who worked above and beyond the call of duty at their own cost to ensure the success of the Uganda Pastoralist Week 2006. Thank you all for the work well done.

As we look to the future and prepare for more pastoralist weeks to come, it is my sincere hope that the success registered with the inaugural Uganda Pastoralist week can only be followed through with even greater success in the coming years as we continue to host more pastoralist weeks in Uganda.



Rose Mwebaza
Coordinator, Uganda Land Alliance,
Chairperson (COPACSO)
Inaugural Uganda Pastoralist Week 2006

The published minimum agenda booklet is available.

7. Exhibitions of best practices

The main objective of the exhibitions was to show case pastoralists best practice initiatives to underscore the contribution of pastoralism to the national economies of countries and to challenge the misconception that pastoralism does not contribute to national development as not true. In fact pastoralists need to be supported to market their products through appropriate policies and laws. On the other hand, pastoralist culture and knowledge systems are being exploited without due recognition or equitable sharing of benefits. Valuing and protecting cultures is essential for ensuring the continuity of sustainable natural resource management based on indigenous knowledge. Pastoral culture and identity should, therefore, be the basis for strengthening customary institutions for sustainable governance and hence, land management. In addition, different pressures have led to the loss of cultural identity. Moreover, Pastoralism has also been viewed as the main cause of desertification. The importance of mobility as a key livelihood strategy needs to be recognized, and a lack of mobility can cause degradation.

The exhibitors included:

Basongora Exhibitions: They exhibited a set of “Omugamba”, which is the traditional gift given to their daughters when getting married.

Karamoja: They exhibited both scientific and traditional veterinary services provided in their area. The Bokora Zonal Integrated development Programme (BOZIDEP) team is part of the church of Uganda: Karamoja Diocese based in Bokora county. Its mission is to provide livestock Development consultancy services throughout Uganda. BOZIDER works together with the Bakora Traditional Livestock Healers association (BTHA) in herbal research, producing quality pharmaceutical products and marketing

and production systems, to ensure that members of the audience who are not pastoralists appreciate pastoralism as a livelihood.

There were also Oral Testimonies by individuals from several communities, about pastoralism, pastoralist livelihoods, health, governance amongst others. These included:

1. Basongora
2. Karamojong
3. The Bahima.

Launch of the Minimum Agenda

The Minimum Agenda (Minimum Demands of Uganda Pastoralists to government and development actors) was launched during the Gala Night. These were prepared as activity number one as a minimum agenda to Government and other Development Partners as a lobby document over pertinent issues that actors need to take action on for the development of pastoralism in Uganda.

These demands were categorised into ten major areas as outlined below. The details of the demands have been publicised in a separate document.

- i) Right to livelihood demands
- ii) Right to water and pasture.
- iii) Right to land.
- iv) Enabling Environment for livelihoods; markets and Infrastructure.
- v) Good Governance: Participation, Representation, and Accountability.
- vi) Access to Social Services; Rights to Health and Education.
- vii) Right to education.
- viii) Right to life and Peace.
- ix) Right to sustainable Development; Natural Resources, Environment, Tourism and private Investment.
- x) Right to Equality and Non-discrimination

Acknowledgements:

The Organisers of the Uganda Pastoralist Week 2006, the Coalition of Pastoralist Civil Society Organisations (COPACSO), would like to thank all who supported, contributed and participated in the Inaugural Uganda Pastoralist Week 2006.

Specifically, thanks go to development partners and NGOs that supported the activities of the week by way of direct funding. These include DFID (UK Department for International development), Care International -Uganda, DANIDA, OXFAM GB Uganda MRG and SNV-Uganda. Special recognition goes to those partners who gave direct support for community activities and contributed directly in bringing these communities to Kampala to participate in the Pastoralist week activities. These include: DANIDA, Care International Uganda, MRG and Oxfam GB Uganda. This support is acknowledged and appreciated.

Secondly, we would like to thank the participating communities, without whom; there would have been no pastoralist week. It was encouraging to note that all pastoralist communities were eager to participate but due to limited funding, only a few could be accommodated. The few, however, did effectively represent the pastoralist constituency in Uganda. Special thanks go to pastoralist communities from Moroto, Karamoja, Bundibugyo, Nakasongola and Kiboga.

Several individuals offered their expertise to assist in producing some of the required outputs for the week. Thanks go to Hon. Irene Ovonji-Odida (Formerly EALA member representing Uganda) for dedicating her time to work on the Minimum Agenda, the Field Research team for the Minimum Agenda comprising of Ms Deborah Ossiya (SNV), Paul Mulindwa (MRG), Ms Rita Lakor (ULA),

Dr. Rose Azuba (Makerere University) and Mohammed Matovu (Panos Eastern Africa). We would also like to recognise the contribution of Ms Juliet Nakato-Odoi for conducting the Mini Survey on Donor Funding of pastoralist development, which formed the basis of the discussions during the donor roundtable, as well as for her role as the Chief Rapporteur.

The contributions of all the presenters are also recognized and highly appreciated. Their presentations were critical in provoking and igniting lively debates on the issues that were being raised, and led to the many practical resolutions that were arrived at. Special thanks go to all the participants many of whom had to leave their other important engagements to be part of this historical event.

Lastly, thanks go to various individuals and member organisations of COPACSO for investing their time, outside their normal working hours, to work on the Inaugural Uganda Pastoralist Week Ms. Rose Mwebaza, Coordinator, Uganda Land Alliance and Chairperson for COPACSO, Dr. Sarah Ossiya, Director, Farm Africa – Uganda, Ms Deborah Ossiya, Advisor, SNV, Simon Nangiro, Coordinator, Oxfam GB Uganda, Ms Jocelyn Boghdan, Care Uganda, Paul Mulindwa, Minority Rights Group, Ms. Juliet Nakato Africa Project Officer, Minority Rights Group, Mohammed Matovu, Governance and Globalization Programme Assistant, Panos Eastern Africa, Abdullahi Boru, UPW Project Administrative Assistant, and Nyang'ori Ohenjo, the UPW Coordinator.

Other guests included representatives of the Donor community, Several MPs, Government dignitaries and members of the civil society. Hon Omwony Ojok, MP Abim Constituency spoke on behalf of Pastoralist Parliamentary Group. He talked about the role of the Pastoralist Parliamentary Groups in Pastoralist development. He noted that the logic underlying the formation of these groups is to open new avenues of pushing the pastoralist agenda in national policy and legislative making process and to front pastoral interests in national development strategies. He said that because of the lack of a strong PPG in Uganda, it is the reason why pastoralism is not given proper attention in national development efforts is because it is said not to contribute significantly to national and household economies. This, he said, could only change if pastoralist MPs came together through a parliamentary group to push for policy and legislative issues of concern to pastoralists. He hoped that the donors will be willing to support the revitalising of the UPPG.

The showcase was done through music, song and dance, which is a very powerful tool of communication in African communities. Through music, song and dance, one sees a community's cultural river with numerous tributaries articulated by their specific responses to history and the environment. They concentrate on the similarities in behaviour, perceptions, and technologies of African culture that tie those tributaries together. Through these artistic expressions therefore, we learn a lot about the institutional framework of any given society, politically (governance) socially or economically. A lot of these institutions are very much relevant today, if only the viability and importance of these customary pastoral institutions could be restored.

To bring this significance to the fore, selected traditional dance groups, were presented to the Gala Night guests. Before every presentation, a synopsis of what the song, music or dance is about will be presented to the audience. The main aim here was to link it up with specific organizational attributes of pastoralist governance

better returns for livestock and livestock products trade (Aboubakar Alfa TIDJANI, Benin)

5. Investment and the alienation of Pastoralist lands. A case study of Pian-Upe Wildlife reserve in Moroto / Nakapiripiriti district in Karamoja. (Hon. David Pulkol).

Emerging issues

- ▶ Pastoralists need to own development processes. (Form area/ regional Pastoral councils, advocacy) through the support of partners
- ▶ It takes long time, needs patience, and commitment of the activist to achieve the anticipated results
- ▶ Once the lives and livelihoods of marginalized groups are recognized and development agenda designed accordingly, then, conflicts at national level will definitely decrease, if not disappear.
- ▶ Knowledge development through research on pastoralism is urgently needed (particularly pastoralist land policy, conflict management, etc)
- ▶ There is need to create visibility of their issues, Pastoralists though strategic partnerships.

6. The Gala Night

The Gala night was the crowning event for the Inaugural Uganda Pastoralist Week 2006. The Chairperson of COPACSO, Ms. Rose Mwebaza used this opportunity to thank those who had participated and contributed to the successful hosting of the Week. The main objective of the Gala Night was to showcase the artistic expression of the different organisations working with communities. As part of the Gala Night, amongst other activities, the Uganda Pastoralist Minimum Agenda was launched.

The Guest of Honour during the Gala Night was Hon. Bikwasizehi, Chairperson of the Parliamentary Committee on Agriculture & Natural resource, who represented The Speaker of Parliament.

Executive Summary

In many independent states in Africa, lack of recognition and hence, participation in decision-making by minorities and indigenous peoples is an endemic problem. Pastoralists, Fisher communities and Hunter Gatherer communities in Africa are communities that identify themselves either as minorities, indigenous or both. Systematic discrimination reduces their ability to benefit from and to contribute to human and economic development lessening their prospects for decent health, housing, education, financial credit, or political participation. Indeed, in the Eastern Africa region, pastoralist dominated districts are the poorest performing for most poverty/development indicators.

Over a long period of time, vast areas of land previously part of the pastoralist grazing and watering supplies have been seized, and turned over to the production of plantation cash crops as well as the expansion of peasant settled agriculture, and game reserves and National Parks. It is for this reason "... that pastoralists areas today are characterized by poverty, lack of economic opportunities, intractable conflicts, low education rates and poor infrastructure"¹ – a situation that has greatly undermined pastoralism as a livelihood.

The Inaugural Uganda Pastoralists' Week (UPW) 2006 was, therefore, organised to raise awareness among the public, NGOs, development actors and policy makers in both public and private sectors that there is an urgent need of recognising and protecting pastoralists right to consultation and participation in development processes. The activities were targeted towards influencing decision makers, and the mainstream media themselves to be

¹Ekuam, D.E., unpublished paper "Conflicts, Conflict Resolution and Peace building: The Role of Pastoralists Women", 2004.

sensitive to pastoralists' interests in the design, implementation and evaluation of development processes and policies

The mandate to organize a Uganda Pastoralist Week coalesced from a number of consultations with various stakeholders, from 2005 including the Uganda Pastoralist Parliamentary Group, members of the COPACSO, the Uganda Indigenous People's Task Force, members of the East African Legislative Assembly, members of pastoralist civil society in Kenya and Ethiopia, among others. The initial fundraising of UKP 30,000.00 was realised in June 2006, on signing of the agreement with DFID, after these lengthy consultations.

This report serves to present the proceedings of the Inaugural Uganda Pastoralist Week 2006 and some of the key emerging issues and recommendations.

The regional workshop was hinged on the theme "Addressing Regional Challenges for better trade." The past East Africa Legislative Assembly (EALA) invested considerable resources into understanding and articulating the concerns and needs of pastoralists within the framework of regional integration and development. The EALA thus committed to developing a regional strategy for pastoralist development.

However, this strategy can only be effectively implemented if there is sufficient political will at respective country levels, so that country and regional strategies are harmonized. EALA members therefore recognize the need to garner greater political will for pastoralist development in the region as a means to constructing an effective strategy and achieving the vision of regional integration that includes pastoralists.

Since the present EALA has covered appreciable mileage in understanding and articulating pastoralist issues it is imperative that the EALA pastoralist strategy is developed as a legacy to the EAC parliament. This period therefore represents a strategic opportunity for the EALA to articulate its vision for the region before the next EAC elections later in the year.

Several papers were presented, to try and address the bottlenecks of regional trade within pastoral areas.

These included:

1. Integration of Pastoralists in the East African Community: Opportunities and Challenges. (Sheila Kawamara Former MP E.A.Legislative Assembly).
2. Settlement Vs Transhumance – Analysis of settlement Projects so far and their impact on Pastoral Communities (Frank Muhereza).
3. Addressing the Cross-Boarder RBCs – A regional approach? Challenges and Opportunities. (Daudi Ekuam –Kenya).
4. Co-management of Livestock markets as a means for achieving

3. There is need for a resettlement policy
4. Trans-boundary actions are necessary to manage cross boarder conflicts. Use of regional bodies is necessary here.
5. Development of human capacities (Education and health).
6. Increase voice of women community members as peace ambassadors.
7. Use Animal health and other service delivery as peace dividend.
8. Institutional Co-ordination of all efforts (disarmament and weapon control and information sharing).
9. Strengthen police/civil authority capacity to respond to violent conflicts.
10. Involve village/role of elders and peace committees – OXFAM has lessons learnt in Kenya.
11. Formation of Parliamentary Pastoralist groups and their roles for representation, mobilisation and advocacy for Pastoralists cause.

5. Regional Workshop on Marketing and Globalisation

To garner and create visibility for grassroot pastoralist constituents and to provide a platform for their voices and demands to be heard by politicians and policy makers and the general public at the regional level. The inaugural Uganda Pastoralist week created a forum for all stakeholders to engage and dialogue genuinely.

The regional forum was intended to garner political support, strengthening policy and legislation in support of pastoralist development. It featured presentation by a member of Kenya pastoralist parliamentary group on Empowering pastoralists from the grassroots to determine and shape their own destiny and demand public support and presentations by West African pastoralists/CSO's on pastoralist organizations and marketing and pastoral codes.

Introduction

The Inaugural Uganda Pastoralist Week (UPW) 2006 was organised by the Coalition of Pastoral Civil Society Organizations (COPACSO). This is a loose coalition of NGOs/CBOs working with pastoral communities in Uganda. Its membership include ULA (Current Chair), Panos Eastern Africa, SNV-Uganda, OXFAM GB, CARE, MRG, Uganda Women Tree Planting Movement (UWPTM), New Horizons, Nakasongola Pastoralists Association, Kayunga Pastoral Advocacy Group (KPAG), Uganda Environmental Education, Kiboga (Pastoralist Women alliance on breaking Cultural chains), Matheniko Development Forum, Riamiriam Civil Society Network (Moroto) in Karamoja region, Farm Africa Uganda, CARITAS, and FODEPA.

The need to organise the UPW came amidst the realization that such advocacy activities could work to create awareness about the need for more attention and affirmative action in pastoralists' areas. It came against the backdrop of poverty amongst pastoralists not only in Uganda, but also in the whole Eastern Africa region.

It is important to note that while the Ugandan poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP), articulate dependence on natural resources it, however, sidelines the most extensive natural resource, rangelands. In spite of its shortcomings, the PEAP does recognise the need to comprehensively address the pastoralist production needs. The PEAP articulates two priority actions:

1. Government will develop a strategy for the livestock sector, covering disease control addressing the needs of pastoralists
2. In the meantime, Government will undertake necessary actions to control the spread of livestock diseases.

Unfortunately, while the PEAP has prioritised the addressing of pastoralists' concerns within the production sector, to date, there has been very limited activity to take this forward substantively.

There is no specific budget support towards the attainment of the priority. There has been no effort to empower pastoralists to understand and own the PEAP Policy provision and to create space and empower them to participate in ensuring the pro-poor and pro-pastoralist outcome. In 2006, FAO facilitated a process of reviewing the livestock sub-sector policies. However, the process focused more on commercialised livestock sub-sector industries – the dairy and beef. And even then, pastoralists, who are key primary producers in these industries, were excluded.

The goal of the UPW 2006 was thus to achieve an opening up of political space (political will) that will undergird recognition of pastoralism, and result in mobilization, allocation and accountability for resources to support positive and sustainable pastoralist development in Uganda.

The main Objectives were:

- a. To garner and create visibility for grassroots pastoralist constituents and to provide a platform for their voices and demands to be heard by politicians and policy makers and the general public. *[Addressing constitutional rights to development emanating from a grassroots mandate]*
- b. To articulate and highlight key policy, legislative and strategy gaps that bottleneck translation of PEAP priorities into concrete outcomes, and affect broader pastoralist development (beyond the priorities within the PEAP²). *[Addressing policy, legislative and strategy gaps that are largely driven by a lack of political will]*
- c. To showcase and stimulate dialogue and debate on various local initiatives by, among and for pastoralists, that espouse best practice and options for desirable and sustainable pastoralism and pastoralist development *[Addressing lack of*

² The Peap 2004-5 only had priorities for pastoralists in the production sector and not across pillars

to its cost to development. This workshop came against the background that pastoralist areas are generally characterised by violent resource based conflicts.

There are various negative impacts that characterise these conflicts. **Among them are:**

1. Insecurity, human suffering and death
2. Depletion of livestock numbers and livestock products
3. Hindrance to the delivery of vital services e.g. education, human and animal health care.
4. Depletion of indigenous livestock genetics.
5. Loss of livestock development gains e.g. re-emergence of diseases eradicated in the past leading to disease endemic.
6. Spread of transboundary diseases.
7. Destruction of livestock infrastructure.
8. Hinders organised livestock marketing

Several papers were presented during this workshop. **They included:**

1. Impact on Resource Based Conflict on the potential for Livestock production (Dr. William Olaho Mukani –Director animal Resources, MAAIF).
2. Resource Based Conflict (RBCs) and Pastoralism. (Frank Muhereza, CBR).
3. Case Study –The Basongora Eviction – the impacts on their livelihoods and neighbouring communities. (Tumusiime Fred –Busongora minority Forum).
4. The crisis at the Tanzania Boarder and its implications to the affected communities. (Samuel Mugasi –FODEPA)
5. The Impact of Resource Based Conflicts on women and its effect on Trade & Production in pastoralist communities. (Ms. Forough E. Olinga).

The main recommendations were:

1. Need to lobby for Pastoralist development policy
2. Rangeland policy should be completed expeditiously

by Charles Muchunguzi of Mbarara University focusing on provision of health services amongst pastoralists. The main challenges, according to him ranged from cultural to inadequate planning on part of Government ministries, which lacks the provision of services for both human and animal among mobile communities. The present arrangement only caters for settled communities.

2. Community HIV/AIDS Oral testimonies: Mrs. Olivia Mugabi from Bahima community in Kiboga district thanked NGOs for coming up to fight for women rights, and the organizers for having given them chance to air out the gender concerns in her community. In her emotional testimony, lamented that while Government was talking of abstinence and being faithful to one partner to avoid the spread of HIV/AIDS in her community, the culture of sharing women still exists without any body caring including the police. She appealed to government and all people of good will to come to their rescue.
3. Keynote address by the Minister of Health: Dr. Elizabeth Madra, the Program Manager HIV/AIDS Control programme who represented the minister thanked the organizers for a timely Theme, and noted that issues of Pastoralist have not been captured in the national strategic plan for HIV/AIDS. The Programme Manager promised to consult with the Aids Commission to ensure that the National Aids Strategic Plan puts into consideration the Pastoralist concerns. There was need to have evidence based information, developing strategies which are culturally accepted, work on gender disparity among Pastoralists.

4. **The National Workshop on Resource Based Conflicts (RBCs)**

The main Goal of the workshop was to stimulate the politicians' and policy makers' interest in RBCs, particularly with regards

information/lack of synthesized information to undergird evidence based demand for substantive public sector support for pastoralist development including allocation of national programs and institutions, budgets and technical support]

The Uganda Pastoralist Week 2006 had several activities planned and undertaken: **These included:**

1. The development of the Uganda Pastoralists' Minimum Agenda
2. HIV/AIDS and pastoralism campaign/Walk for Life
3. Donor Roundtable (A mini survey was conducted to enable this roundtable)
4. Exhibitions of various pastoral community based initiatives
5. A national forum on Resource Based Conflicts (RBCs)
6. A regional forum on pastoralism across borders, focusing on particularly pastoral codes and marketing
7. A media campaign.
8. Gala Night

JUSTIFICATION FOR HOLDING THE UPW 2006

Bottlenecks to taking Forward PEAP Priorities for Pastoralist Development:

The Poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP) espouses the key priority areas for public sector support in Uganda. The PEAP 2004-5, in an unprecedented shift, includes progressive priorities for pastoralist development. However, this is largely limited to the production sector, ignoring major issues under and across other sectors. However, since the launch of the PEAP 2004-5, little has been done to substantively take the priorities forward. Analysis indicates that the main bottlenecks include:

- (i) Low and or negative political will towards pastoralism and

pastoralist development across all cadres of political leadership³ and representation⁴.

- (ii) Low and, for some ethnic groups and regions of the country, almost none existent visibility of grassroots pastoralist constituents and their voices due to the historic marginalization and relegation as an archaic and undesirable livelihood
- (iii) Poor understanding and articulation of the pastoralist paradigm by politicians, policy makers and technocrats resulting in poor understanding of the policy, legislative and strategy needs for translating PEAP and broader pastoralist priorities into concrete interventions and outcomes
- (iv) A lack of appreciation of the multi-sectoral approach in addressing pastoralist issues – often relegating pastoralism to the production and security sectors only and failing to recognize the other sectoral priorities and the multi-sectoral dimensions of pastoralist livelihoods
- (v) Lack of a holistic national strategy to support pastoralism and pastoralist development – there are ad hoc, fragmented and often poorly constructed and resourced interventions for pastoralist development. This has resulted in low visibility, localized impact (both in spatially and temporally), limited information on and lack of space for dialogue and debate on best practice and lessons learned from past and current interventions with little opportunity for sustainability and up-scaling

Many options exist for attempting to address the development of pastoralists. For example, provision of technical and other support information; sectoral dialogues and engagements; regional strategies such as the Ministry of State for Karamoja and development of strategies by various stakeholders such as the Coalition of Pastoralist Civil Society Organizations (COPACSO),

³ Political leadership at national and ministerial levels determines the allocation of central budgets and other resources including technical and institutional support. Decentralized funding is drawn up by lower level councils and technocrats but sanctioned by district political leadership.

⁴ Poor representation is reflected in inability to articulate, present, debate and dialogue on the issues of pastoralists within broader mainstream debates and discourse and in more specific forums

dependent on the independence and power of being able to make individual decisions on one's sexual behaviour, it is thus imperative that the prevalent challenges that pastoralist communities face should be addressed. In 1991, the NACP carried out an evaluation of its IEC efforts. The evaluation made clear that while the level of awareness about HIV/AIDS was high; this was not leading to significant change in behaviour. The evaluation also revealed a high degree of misconceptions about the transmission of HIV that was impeding efforts to prevent the spread of infection and inhibiting efforts to care for people with AIDS in the community.

Therefore, among the new approaches that need to be strengthened is Community - Based Approaches. This approach focuses on encouraging local communities to take the initiative in carrying out AIDS education and providing basic nursing care through the deployment of trained cadres , voluntary Community Counselling Aides (CCAs). It is designed to promote better living conditions for the whole community while at the same time reducing dependency on external sources of support.

The campaign was led by the Chairperson of COPACSO Ms. Rose Mwebaza and was flagged off by Hon. Peter Lokeris the Minister of State for Primary Education, on the morning of 20th November 2006. It started from Kyadondo Rugby Club, onto Jinja Road, Kampala Road, The Constitutional Square, Speke Road, Nile Avenue, and Corydon Road and terminated at the National Theatre. The procession included groups from several Pastoral groups from Kotido, Moroto, in Karamoja, Nakasongola. Kiboga, Karamoja Students, COPACSO Member NGOs / CBOs, invited guests and other well-wishers. Other distinguished walkers included Brigadier Larak and Hon. David Pulkol.

At the national Theater there were various activities. These were:

1. A paper presentation on the challenges of health provision amongst pastoralists within the context of HIV/AIDS pandemic

and culture” demand. In such scenarios, it is not enough to say that it is possible for these people, under cultural inhibitions, whether men or women, are able to make sexual decisions, based on in-depth individual consideration of the consequences of such decisions.

Initially, there were two campaigns that were to be organised as part of the UPW 2006. These were the ‘Northern’ Uganda Campaign on Decentralisation and the ‘Southern’ Uganda campaign on HIV/AIDS. The names for the campaigns were basically for identification purposes, since the Northern campaign was bringing together the Northern and Eastern Regions while the Southern campaign would have brought together the Southern, Western and Central Regions. After lengthy discussions amongst the stakeholders, it was, however, thought that while decentralisation was a bit abstract for a campaign theme, the division of the campaigns would have exacerbated the feelings of exclusion rather than uniting pastoralists. It was thus agreed that one campaign would suffice. This was organised as a one-day March in Kampala town. Communities from all regions of Uganda participated. Apart from the pastoralist communities from Nakasongola and Kiboga Districts that were supported directly by the secretariat, MRG, SNV, DANIDA, CARE Uganda and Oxfam GB Uganda directly supported the rest of the communities, from Bundibugyo, Moroto, and Katido.

The campaign sought to strengthen the position that the most viable way of addressing HIV/AIDS spread amongst the pastoralist communities, in view of the cultural challenges, poverty and illiteracy, therefore, seems to be embedded in strengthening Community Based Approaches⁵. In view of the fact that the success of ABC is

⁵ “It is high time we took up the challenge of AIDS in our own hands. It is too much work for the AIDS Control Programme alone to educate everyone everywhere and AIDS will not wait. Go out and educate your people where you live. Start up local drama to educate the undisciplined. Take charge every Friday or Sunday and devote five minutes to remind your friends and neighbours about AIDS. Maybe if we all participate and seriously talk to our children, it could be the beginning of change in behaviour.” NACP Director, at the launch of the Community-Based Counselling (CBC) project of the Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) Section of the Uganda National AIDS Control Programme (NACP)

the Uganda Pastoralist Parliamentary Group (UPPG), the Uganda Media for Pastoralist Advocacy (UMPA) and the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA). However, these opportunities are generally handicapped by the above bottlenecks especially the lack of political will.

Learning from Other Countries in the Region that have made Significant Progress in Engendering Greater Political Will for Pastoralist Development:

The Kenya Pastoralist Week (KPW) and the Ethiopia Pastoralist Day (EPD) have run annually for the last 3 and 6 years, respectively. Both the KPW and EPD have made significant progress in attracting greater political will, strengthening visibility of the pastoralist constituency, strengthening understanding of the pastoralist paradigm and the articulation of pastoralist needs and priorities. The two events have also provided platforms for showcasing and incurring learning, dialogue and debate on progressive options for pastoralist development, and have recorded achievement in bringing the efforts of various stakeholders to bear on pastoralist development in an integrated manner.

Why Launch the Inaugural Uganda Pastoralist Week this Year?

Two key political opportunities exist for addressing the lack of political will. It is crucial that pastoralist stakeholders take advantage of and harness these opportunities to stimulate a change in political will for pastoralists:

At national level, the transition into a multi-party dispensation in February/March 2006

This opened space for inclusion of multiple voices and persuasions and for demanding greater accountability from political leadership. Over the past 44 years of independence, pastoralists have been marginalized. The return to a multi-party dispensation provides space for a revisit on pastoralism as a viable means of livelihood for a significant constituency in Uganda.

The transition therefore provides a strategic entry point for leveraging mileage covered in getting pastoralist concerns on the national agenda, and concretising that agenda. It also provides space for demanding better representation for pastoralists within the parliament and within district to local level political cadres.

The political transition period is also a strategic opportunity to firmly establish political institutions such as the Uganda Pastoralist Parliamentary Group, as a national forum for demanding the addressing of pastoralist policy and legislative needs. The next parliament needs to be aware of the existence and agenda of the UPPG as a forum for advocating for the rights and concerns of pastoralists.

At regional level, the new members of the East African Legislative Assembly:

The previous EALA had invested considerable resources into understanding and articulating the concerns and needs of pastoralists within the framework of regional integration and development. The EALA has thus committed to developing a regional strategy for pastoralist development. However, this strategy can only be effectively implemented if there is sufficient political will at country level, so that country and regional strategies are harmonized. EALA members recognized the need to garner greater political will for pastoralist development in Uganda (and other East African countries) as a means to constructing an effective strategy and achieving the vision of regional integration that includes pastoralists.

Since the previous EALA covered appreciable mileage in understanding and articulating pastoralist issues: it is imperative that the EALA pastoralist strategy is developed as the new team comes in. This period therefore represents a strategic opportunity for the EALA to articulate its vision for Ugandan and other pastoralists in the region as the next EAC parliament settles for business.

- ▶ Support the communal Land Associations formations among Pastoralists areas so as to address the issue of ownership and vest land & Natural Resources in the hands of the traditional structures.
- ▶ CSO should make a shift in their approach towards changing the life style of Pastoralists to pastoralist participation and empowerment.
- ▶ There is need for Increased Advocacy on Pastoralism by all stakeholders
- ▶ Disarmament in its present form will not achieve the desired goals. It ignores the root causes of conflict.

The detailed report is available.

3. The HIV/AIDS 'Walk for life' campaign

Under the theme: Making ABCs work for Pastoralists – Community Based Approaches (CBAs), the HIV/AIDS campaign of the UPW was set against the background that ABC can only work in a consensus situation, where the man and the woman agree on one of the principles. An essay written by Melinda Gates, appearing on the Gates Foundation website and first published in the May 15, 2006 issue of *Newsweek*, elaborates on the problem: “Despite the array of breakthroughs we’ve seen for AIDS treatment, prevention efforts still rely on the three practices described by the abbreviation ABC (“Abstain, Be faithful, use Condoms”). These approaches work, and we must encourage them, but they all depend on a man’s cooperation. For millions of women, abstinence is unrealistic, being faithful is insufficient and the use of condoms is not under their control.”

On the other hand, some men have also found themselves under the tight ropes of cultural demands sexually. Hence while it could be argued that women have suffered lack of independence on sexual matters, the reverse is also true, since some men will indulge in unsafe and even criminal sexual practices “because tradition

Several donors, government employees, CSO actors and private sector individuals were interviewed, during the process of conducting the mini survey.

The respondents were purposively sampled through discussions with COPACSO members and partners and the selection was based on their knowledge of the survey topic. Donors were selected according to their activities relating to pastoralists in Uganda.

Output

The main output was the report of the survey, which was tabled at the donor roundtable. The survey generally came up with the finding that there was very little focus on funding of pastoralist development. The Challenges for Pastoral development, according to the survey report are:

- » No specific support tailored towards Pastoralist
- » Disarmament / Security - exchange of Guns with Water (dams) for Livestock farms like in other parts of the country
- » Root causes and linkages to Pastoralist livelihood not adequately addresses
- » Limited resources for Pastoralist development (there is need to enhance Pastoralist development).
- » PEAP does not address issues of pastoral development
- » Rights based Approaches not addressed in Government programs.

Resolutions of the Round table conference were that:

- » A Donor funding group should be formed for Pastoralism within the framework of the Plan for Modernization of Pastoralism
- » Matching policy planning / mapping of resources with indigenous knowledge
- » Need to promote & build the capacity of community Animal Health Workers to enhance animal health service delivery.

EVENTS' REPORTS

Preparatory Stage

A key aspect of the implementation of the UPW 2006, right from the preparatory stage to the eventual activities was the participation of the key stakeholders through COPACSO, by way of regular weekly meetings. Prior to the first meeting, as part of the preparations for the UPW 2006, an interpretation of the proposal, work plan, and monitoring and evaluation plan were developed. During the whole process, the decision-making was mainly vested in the stakeholders through the meetings. It is important to mention that these meetings generally served, to create wider ownership and hence encourage participation. This laid a strong foundation for the project, accounting in a big way for the success of the whole project.

Apart from the meetings, considerable time and financial resources were also allocated to field visits, to assess the capacities of potential partners. The initial plan was to involve as many community groups as possible, as this does not only achieve their ownership of such processes, but it also serves to strengthen their individual capacities. Therefore, field trips were made to Kiboga, with also visits from various other pastoralist communities like Nakasongola.

1. Development of the Minimum Agenda

The Minimum Agenda was meant to be the authentic voice of the pastoralists in Uganda articulating their concerns and issues. A representative selection of the main pastoralist ethnic groups in Uganda was made with selection of both nomadic and agro-pastoralist groups. The Itestot in Katakwi / Kumi in eastern Uganda represent the agro-pastoralists. In the selection of ethnic groups / communities attention was also given to the issue of migration, with some pastoralist communities selected from districts in which they are settled and others that are migrant (along the cattle

corridor). The latter are in Apac, Kiboga, Nakasongola and Katakwi / Kumi. In the case of migrant pastoralist communities there was additionally consultation of local communities from the areas into which the pastoralists have migrated to further clarify the dynamics and inter-relationship between the pastoralists and these indigenous communities. They include Baganda in Kiboga, Baruli in Nakasongola, Iteso in Katakwi/ Kumi and Langi in Apac.

Hon. Irene Ovonji, formerly the EALA member for Uganda, undertook the work of developing the Minimum Agenda. Various COPACSO members participated in this endeavour, including Ms. Deborah Ossiya (SNV), Paul Mulindwa (Minority Rights Group International), Mohammed Matovu (Panos Eastern Africa), and a University of Nairobi Lecturer Dr. Rose Azuba Musoke assisted her.

1. Rural / urban distribution

Most pastoralists are found in rural locations which is therefore the focus. However, in two districts i.e. Ntungamo and Moroto, there was selection of communities from both rural and urban areas to capture possible variations in issues and agendas among pastoralists influenced by urbanization. These two districts were selected because the pastoralist communities in both are indigenous not migrants into the districts, and for comparative purposes as Ntungamo has experienced more urban influences and development than Moroto among the pastoralist communities.

2. Regional distribution – 4 regions

Uganda is geopolitically divided into four regions, central, eastern, northern and western. Selection of communities and districts was therefore also purposively done to reflect the national administrative and political arrangement.

3. HIV/AIDS

As major factor influencing health, food security, poverty and other concerns under investigation. Kiboga district in central Uganda was selected due to high incidence of HIV/AIDS.

4. Conflict

Conflict is an important issue affecting pastoralist communities in Uganda and the region. Moroto district in north-eastern Uganda, inhabited by the Karimajong have experienced long-term internal and cross-border cattle rustling and arms trading-related conflict. Apac district in northern Uganda inhabited by the Langi and Bahima migrants is affected by the long-running LRA civil insurgency and its effects including large numbers of internally displaced persons (IDPs).

The Minimum Agenda was printed and officially launched during the Gala Night of the UPW.

2. Donor Roundtable on Funding of Pastoralist Development in Uganda.

To enable informed debates and discussions during the donor roundtable, a Mini Survey on Resources and Support for Pastoralists in Uganda by Government, Donors and the Private Sector was commissioned. This survey was premised on the fact that pastoralists still lag behind other groups in Uganda. Pastoralism is seen as a livelihood system under threat and yet not enough is being done to redeem it.

The survey focused on why current support to the pastoralist communities does not seem to have an impact. Is it the mode of support, amount of funding or the nature of interventions? It is hoped that this survey can shade some light on these issues. The survey was expected to also gather some ideas on how to improve funding and support to pastoralists in Uganda. Support to pastoralists should aim at transforming and improving their livelihoods, thus boosting productivity of the sector. Investment in pastoralism can produce remarkable results by economically empowering pastoralist communities and contributing to the general growth of the economy.