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ESAP Newsletter

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Ethiopian Society of Animal Production

In this Issue

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Days of Compassion to Come For Equines

Brooke Ethiopia

'Healthy Working Animals for the poorest communities!' envisions Brooke Ethiopia to halt the suffering of the neglected animals, equines, in Ethiopia.

Ethiopia has the second highest population of equines in the world with its 8.4 millions working equines. As in the case of other less developed countries, equines are used for working, mainly for transporting produce and goods to markets.

Given the majority rural population, many in Ethiopia depend on their equine for their livelihood. Survey conducted by The Brooke Ethiopia in 26 Woredas of E.Harrarghe, N.Gondar, Gamogofa, Hadiya, Wolaita and Gurage zones show that one equine generate from 50 to 200 birr working 6 hours a day on average.[1]

The life expectancy of Ethiopian donkey is low due to welfare problems including overloading.

Regardless of their contribution, equines are the most neglected animals. They get minimal provision of access to shelter, water and feed. Equine in Ethiopia ex-

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EDITORIAL

Dear ESAP family members,

Happy New Millennium and New Year!!!!

Here we are with the 4th and last issue of ESAP Newsletter of the year. The leading title of this issue is on equines, greatest transport and **animal traction** provider for the Ethiopian society in rural and urban areas ever! In the last Millennium we very much depended on equines for our transport and animal traction needs and with minimal input and recognition of their service compared to other livestock. What's in store for them in the new millennium then? Anyways ESAP is happy to dedicate this issue to the services of equines!

In this issue, unlike the former three, different articles revolving around livestock production in different contexts are incorporated. The topics are so diversified that makes the newsletter even more interesting.

It's with pleasure that we say the number of readers and contributors showing interest to our family newsletter is increasing and more and more articles are coming in to our way (see some comments of yours in the last page of this issue).

Your contribution through articles, comments, questions, suggestions and announcements is very crucial for the quarterly ESAP newsletter sustainability indeed!

Please send any information you may have for the next issue to esap@ethionet.et or fanos_mekonnen@yahoo.com.

Enjoy reading.

And once again, Happy New Year

The Selection and Design of Protected Areas

Alemayehu Mengistu
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Introduction

The conservation of living resources is entering its eleventh hour in Ethiopia. There will probably be very few opportunities to establish many new protected areas in Ethiopia because of the increasing resource demands of its growing population; thus, the selection and design of remaining natural reserves is becoming especially critical in order to **"round out"** the existing protected area systems, as well as to modify and expand existing protected areas.

The question of natural reserve selection and design has been fraught with controversy. In large part, this controversy has arisen because there has not been an explicit recognition that protected areas are managed for a variety of objectives each of which may require different selection and design criteria. The selection and design of protected areas can only be proposed in relationship to a set of specific objectives.

Specific Objectives in relation to the Selection and Design of Protected Areas

The selection and design of natural reserves to those protected areas whose specific objectives can be defined as:

***The maintenance of representative ecosystems*:** refers to the conservation of major biological communities or biomes and is oriented at the community or ecosystem level of ecology. The emphasis on the selection and design of protected areas is, therefore, with the protection of assemblages of organizations that are reflective of major biological communities.

The maintenance of ecological processes: stresses the conservation of such ecological phenomena as biogeochemical cycles, food webs, plant-animals interactions, plant and animal movements, soil regeneration and erosion, and natural disturbance regimes.

***The maintenance of maximum species richness*:** is oriented to the conservation of groups of species and, therefore, applies to the community level. The emphasis in the selection and design of nature reserves is to establish nature reserves in regions with high species diversity.

The maintenance of viable populations: refers fully to the conservation of individual species and is concerned with the persistence of a population over a long time period; thus, this objective operates at the population level.

Section and Design Criteria

The selection and design of nature reserves in relation to the above four objectives can be examined in reference to five questions: *Where? How big? How many? How close and How connected? and What shape?*

Where?

The answer to the question of "*where*" a protected area should be located varies according to the primary objective of the protected area and, thus, there is probably not a single best site in order to meet simultaneously all of the four specific objectives for maintaining living resources.

How big?

There appears to be general concurrence among the four principle objectives for maintaining living resources with regard to the question of **"***How big***?"** Quite simply stated, for these four objectives, the bigger the reserve the better; however, there is an exception to this recommendation with regard to the objective of maintaining viable populations for species that are commercially poached.

How many?

With regard to the question of *"how many"* there is strong concurrence among the four objectives for maintaining living resources. Very simply stated: the more the better.

How Close and how connected?

The answer to the questions of *how close and how connected* protected areas should be is applicable to the last three objectives There is general concurrence among these objectives that the closer and the more connected are the reserves, the better.

What shape?

The answer to the question as to *what should be the optimal shape* of a protected area is primarily applicable to the objectives of maintaining maximum spe-

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Indigenous Knowledge in Ethiopia: The Untapped Resource

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Rural people have an intimate knowledge of various aspects of their lives. This knowledge which is transmitted orally from generation to generation is an important source of income, food and health care for a large percentage of the people in developing countries. The totality of such kind of knowledge and practices whether implicit or explicit used in the management of socio economic and ecological facts of life is referred to as indigenous knowledge (IK).Early Ethiopian Civilization serves as an evidence for the extent and rationality of indigenous knowledge. The domestication of certain crops like coffee, teff and enset and the development of bench terrace system by the Konso nationalities are among important cases of achievements in agriculture. When farmers in many parts of the world were practicing the hoe-culture cultivation, the fact that the Ethiopian farmers designed and practiced the traditional plow is a living testimony to the inventive and innovative capacity of the traditional Ethiopia.. The country with written language for over 2000 years owns over 500 years old manuscripts, which deal with traditional knowledge concerning public health and veterinary medicine.

The attempt to achieve sustainable development by using modern technologies alone in less developed countries has not always been successful. As a result of the growing recognition of the role of indigenous knowledge on sustainable development, many countries are taking measures to document and disseminate IK in the same way as western knowledge is generated, documented and disseminated.

International experiences in harnessing IK for development includes successful cases in India, Uganda, Ghana and other countries in South America. Likewise In Ethiopia some scattered efforts have been made to record and document IK. Farm Africa, Agri Service Ethiopia, Ministry of Agriculture (1988), and Ethiopian Society of Chemical Engineers have attempted to record and document indigenous knowledge and practices in their respective field of interest. A World Bank supported project entitled conservation and sustainable use of medicinal plants is being undertaken by Institute of Biodiversity Conservation. (IBC) in collaboration with various R&D institutions.

In general, IK is still an underutilized resources in the development process of Ethiopia. It is therefore very important that a national IK database and sharing networks shall be created to help innovators share their innovations with potential users and other innovators to both gain recognition and to increase knowledge generation for further innovations. Furthermore, innovations should be linked to entrepreneur community for commercialization purposes. This can be materialized by establishing technology incubation center as experienced in many developing countries.

A living testimony to the inventive and innovative capacity of the traditional Ethiopia.

Courtesy: Hizkias Ketema

The Selection and …..

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cies richness and viable populations. The optimal shape of a protected area varies both between and within these objectives.

New protected areas will need to be established in Ethiopia in order to conserve representative samples of major ecosystems and to protect many rare and endemic species. Although the optimal design of protected areas in order to maintain living resources varies in some cases by objective, there is, nonetheless, strong concurrence with regard to the ***number, size, distance between reserves, and location***. Most living resources in Ethiopia would be best maintained through a series of many large and connected protected areas that are located in regions of high species diversity and that are representative of major ecosystems. It is probably only within the largest protected areas in Ethiopia that protected area managers will have opportunities to permit most ecological processes so that livestock and wildlife populations can fluctuate naturally.

My one Year Experience with ESAP

Fanos Mekonnen, Secretary, ESAP

It gives me a great pleasure to be part of ESAP family and share all the success and great achievements ESAP has gained the past year (the last year of Ethiopian millennium!)

I was asked to fill in a place of a former member of the executive committee, who was working as the secretary but went aboard. Even though I doubted my qualification and experience, I accepted the position and started working with the group on September 2006. The EC contained a group of 10 members including myself and an administrative assistant. At our very first biweekly meeting, I was very impressed to see that each member was so energetic and eager for more achievement Work plans and milestones were already prepared by the President of the society and everyone was brainstorming on how to bring it to reality before the end of their term which I discovered was on September 2007.

Of the major plans of the year; working on livestock policy issues, bringing on board of different organizations to work with ESAP, organizing trainings and workshops, celebration of milk day, publications of ESAP newsletter on quarterly bases , preparation of Amharic manuals on livestock production and management and capacitating the financial status of ESAP were the main ones. Surprisingly enough, most of the plans were successful. Livestock Policy recommendations were prepared and presented to the concerned bodies at MoARD and other stakeholders, together with League of Pastoral People (LPP) an NGO based in Germany, ESAP was able to organize a workshop on Animal Genetic resources in Africa at Institute of Biodiversity (IBC). This conference was funded by FAO. Country focal points on AnGR from the whole of Africa gathered to prepare an output which was used as an input to the Interlaken Conference held just a month ago. ESAP was also able to increase its financial status almost six times from what it was just two years ago. Four newsletters, each issue focusing on a pertinent topic were published, of which three of them were funded by different NGOs which showed interest on the pertinent issue. On top of this all, ESAP was also able to publish Amharic livestock production and management manuals, again each focusing on pertinent topics intended to benefit the farmers and development agents at the low level were prepared in a very simplified language. ESAP has also been able to be a registered member of world Animal Association and the DAD Net of FAO.

So far I've been talking about all the success ESAP has achieved, but it doesn't mean that it was all success. The society had to go through a lot of ups and downs, as can be expected and we failed in some, such as the cancellation of the long anticipated world milk day celebration due to various reasons and some others, which of course would have been wonderful but beyond our capacity!

And I, a very junior person in the profession put myself as the luckiest person to be part of the group: to share the ups and downs of ESAP, to celebrate or pity. And on top of all that, I have experienced the whole idea of team work and the payback when working with harmony! I have also realized that this EC was among the most socially active; as three of the members (Tezera , Reherahe and Reta) got married, and Tezera had a beautiful baby girl and so does Rehrahe!

Dear ESAP Family members; ESAP is blooming so fast now and if the pace continues, you can only imagine where our society will be in the next few years. Congratulations to all!

Let's join our hands and hearts and work for ESAP,
Let's work hard for more success!!!

Taking Message Home From Interlaken

Workneh Ayalew: 09 September 2007

The First International Technical Conference on Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture in Interlaken (Switzerland) adopted the Global Plan of Action for Management of Animal Genetic Resources and the Interlaken Declaration on 07 September 2007. This is a milestone in the history of global efforts for the management of farm animal genetic resources to avert the alarming loss of genetic resources and harness the full potential of these resources for the present as well as continued future benefit of human kind.

The problem

Close to three quarters of the surviving genetic diversity in farm animals to date is found in developing countries mainly under the custodianship of traditional pastoral and farming communities. The genetic diversity in these resources ensures that the resources provide the wide range of overlapping functions and services to support livelihoods of traditional communities often under harsh and stressful environments. This will become more relevant as implications of climate change are better understood. In contrast the majority of industrial livestock production in developed countries relies heavily on an increasingly very narrow genetic base of commercial livestock breeds that depend on high level of external inputs, after a large number of native breeds have been lost under pressure from commercialization of the livestock sector. Expansion of this industrial model of intensive livestock production into developing countries has now come to pose a similar threat on maintenance of this diversity. However, in the context of developing countries loss of genetic diversity can mean compromising opportunities for food security and livelihoods of traditional and subsistent communities inhabiting stressful environments.

While this general trend is universally accepted, there are very divergent views on whether and how such a threat can be averted. Civil Society Organizations hold the view that industrialization of livestock production is being imposed on developing countries at the expense of livelihoods of livestock keepers. Developed countries maintain that current utility values of livestock and market incentives should provide the resources for the development and conservation of genetic resources. Similarly, developed and developing countries have contrasting views on whether and how global efforts on the management of livestock genetic resources should be financially supported from public funds.

The Global Plan of Action

Nevertheless under the guidance of the FAO and several years of sustained effort, a coherent global consensus has now been reached on the need for a Global Plan of Action for the management of the surviving animal genetic resources both in developed and developing countries. Leaving minor policy and financing differences aside, the Global Plan of Action provides the framework and essential elements for national, regional and global efforts for the management of farm animal genetic resources. It was developed through series of inter-governmental technical consultations and negotiations.

The Global Plan of Action comprises a total of 23 Strategic Priorities as categorized under four priority areas: 1) characterization, inventory and monitoring, 2) sustainable use and development, 3) conservation and 4) Policies, institutions and capacity building. The background, rationale and aims of the strategic priorities are elaborated in the full document. The core message and its practicalities can be summarized as in the Table below, which also presents a current ranking of the strategic priorities for action.

Ranking of the Strategic Priorities

As stated in the Global Plan of Action, the relative priority or importance of each strategic priority area and associated actions vary between countries and regions. The relative weights depend on the genetic resources themselves (species, breeds) and the productions systems and environments involved, current management capacities, and programs underway for the management of AnGR.

A comprehensive report on the state of knowledge in the characterization of Ethiopian indigenous farm animal genetic resources was presented at the 11th

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Annual Conference of ESAP in 2003. Several baselin.e indigenous livestock breed surveys have been carried out since then, including the work of Zewdu Wuletaw on cattle in North Gondar in 2004, Dagnachew Worku on sheep in 2004, Dereje Tadesse on cattle of North and South Wollo in 2004, Takele Taye on Sheko cattle in 2005, Getinet Mekuriaw on Ogaden cattle at Alemaya University in 2005, Fasil Getachew on cattle of Awi, East and West Gojjam in 2006, Shiferaw Garoma on Kereyu cattle in 2006 and Fedlu Hassen on several cattle breeds in 2006. A few studies covered chicken. Landmark PhD research projects in genetic diversity of Tadelle Dessie, Markos Tibbo, Tesfaye Alemu and Solomon Gizaw pro-

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Table: Ranks of the priority areas for action in order of importance for AnGR work in Ethiopia (1: highest priority and 23: lowest priority)

	Priority Areas	Strategic Priorities	Rank
1	Charaterisation, Inventory & Monitoring	Inventory and characterize animal genetic resources, monitor trends and risks associated with them, and establish country-based early-warning and response systems	**3**
		Develop international technical standards and protocols for characterisation, inventory, and monitoring of trends and associated risks	**17**
2	Sustainable Use & Development	Establish and strengthen national sustainable use policies	**2**
		Establish national species and breed development strategies and programmes	**1**
		Promote agro-ecosystems approaches to the management of animal genetic resources	**14**
		Support indigenous and local production systems and associated knowledge systems, of importance to the maintenance and sustainable use of animal genetic resources	**10**
3	Conservation	Establish national conservation policies	**4**
		Establish or strengthen *in situ* conservation programmes	**5**
		Establish or strengthen *ex situ* conservation programmes	**6**
		Develop and implement regional and global long term conservation strategies	**18**
		Develop approaches and technical standards for conservation	**19**
4	Policy Institutions & Capacity Building	Establish or strengthen national institutions, including national focal points, for planning and implementing animal genetic resources measures, for livestock sector development	**9**
		Establish or strengthen national educational and research facilities	**7**
		Strengthen national human capacity for characterization, inventory, and monitoring of trends and risks, for sustainable use and development, and for conservation	**12**
		Establish or strengthen international information sharing, research and education	**20**
		Strengthen international cooperation to build capacities in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, for: characterisation, inventory, and monitoring of trends and risks; sustainable use and development; and conservation of animal genetic resources	**16**
		Establish Regional Focal Points and strengthen international networks	**15**
		Raise national awareness of the roles and values of animal genetic resources	**13**
		Raise regional and international awareness of the roles and values of animal genetic resources	**21**
		Review and develop national policies and legal frameworks for animal genetic resources	**8**
		Review and develop international policies and regulatory frameworks relevant to animal genetic resources	**22**
		Coordinate the effort of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGFRA) on Animal Genetic Resources Policy with other International Forums	**23**
		Strengthen efforts to mobilize resources, including financing, for the conservation, sustainable use and development of animal genetic resources	**11**

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vided a lot of valuable information to guide rational decision making at national level in the management of indigenous animal genetic resources. Similarly others are at various stages of progress and planning on cattle and camels. In view of the available information in these studies, the way forward needs to be devised. Here is where the strategic priorities in the Global Plan of Action can be used as a tool and guide on the way forward both in the short-and long-term.

I attempted to rank the temporal importance of the 23 strategic priorities in the Global Plan of Action as these apply to the current scenarios in Ethiopia. The ranking is intended to present a sequence of the key actions/priorities to systematically harness and utilize the existing animal genetic diversity at national level. It is however based on my own informed judgment of the state of affairs with respect to each of the priority areas, and these may not necessarily be in tune with current national official policy direction.

Following are the basic arguments for making the ranks:

1.I believe there now exists fairly basic but extensive descriptive data on breed identity and distribution for the key livestock species for food agriculture in Ethiopia - cattle, sheep, goats, chicken (but not on equines and camels).

2.There is some strong genetic as well as numerous circumstantial evidence on worsening loss of genetic diversity in all the species due mainly to man-made factors (population growth, animal migration, market, uncontrolled breed admixture and undesirable crossbreeding).

3.I firmly believe it is high time to initiate substantive conservation work on at least some endangered breeds, for instance the Sheko and Ethiopian Borana cattle breeds.

4.Sustainable utilization is the most effective and economical strategy of managing and conserving existing farm animal genetic resources.

Supportive policies and institutions need to be harmonized, coordinated and strengthened to effectively utilize available human and material resources.

1Based on this, the priority ranks for the broad categories of priorities are:

1. sustainable use and development;

2.characterization, inventory and monitoring,

3.conservation, and policies, institutions and capacity building.

Elaborating the first three priorities

Establish national species and breed development strategies and programmes:

Review the development and current status of species and breeds in the country;

Develop and enact a national animal genetic resources management (development and conservation) strategies and programmes, including breeding programmes, for the different species;

Identify and institutionalize essential policy instruments for efficient and effective implementation of the national strategies and programmes.

Establish and strengthen national sustainable use policies:

Based on the national animal genetic resources strategies, develop national policies for access, development, benefit sharing and conservation of breeds.

Establish and strengthen national institutions (government, community, commercial) that implement and uphold these policies.

Inventory and characterize AnGR, monitor trends and risks associated with them, and establish country-based early-warning and response systems:

Complete the inventory of indigenous breeds and breed types in the country through breed surveys and rapid appraisals of known species, breeds, their geographic distribution and estimate their population sizes;

Carry out morphometric as well as preliminary on-farm performance characterization of all known breeds and collect samples (blood, hair-root) for molecular genetic characterization;

Assess the genetic diversity between as well as within these breeds in order to identify priorities for

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Days of ...

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perience overloading, overworking, hobbling, and beating In addition, they suffer from injuries, which are mainly caused by mismanagement including improper harness and saddle design. Many of the sick equines hardly receive attention from their owners.[2] According to the Brooke's survey, veterinary services in the study areas are mostly obtained from government vet clinics, health posts and traditional healers. Animal owners travel from 5 to 15 km to reach such animal health service providers.
Working animals have important contribution to household livelihood and local economic development. Since many poor communities are dependent upon animals, they are extremely vulnerable without their equines. This calls for a comprehensive equine health and welfare promotion program to which Brooke Ethiopia is responding.

Brooke Ethiopia is working towards improving the lives of working animals so that they can support the livelihoods of the communities in which they work. The charity organization has its

[1]The Brooke Ethiopia, country baseline data analysis report, 2007
[2]Causes and Factors associated with Occurrence of External injuries in working equines in Ethiopia, Demelash Biffa and Moges Woldemeskel

Taking Message

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development as well as conservation;

Support national agricultural and livestock census projects to identity livestock populations by breed types so that livestock censuses can provide breed-level data on population dynamics and possible production;

Set up a breed status monitoring scheme based on breed population size and distribution, at least as part of regular agricultural census;

Develop a national farm animal genetic resources database as a tool for management.

These can then provide the basses to make informed decisions for establishing national conservation policies and programmes. More notably *in situ* conservation programmes can be initiated.

At the other end of the ranking are priorities defining Ethiopia's roles and responsibilities in regional and global activities, such as setting standards, protocols and guidelines, which the country can and should take active part but not necessarily regard them as current national priorities.

Congratulations

Great Professional Achiever of the year!!!

Fekadu Beyen, a graduate of the then Alemaya University (now Haremaya) to achieve professorship in 'Dairy and food sciences'!

Professor Fekadu Beyene has been serving his country and his people in the agricultural sector through academics, research and administrative works. He has published over 30 research papers in national and international journals and advised several hundreds of Masters and Bachelors students. He is a member of many professional societies including ESAP. Currently Professor Fekadu Beyene is acting president of Wollega University. Professor Fekadu is married and father of four lucky children.

We are all proud of you prof

የጭነትና ስበት እንስሳት ዙሪያ ቀደም ሲል የወጡ ህጎች፣ አዋጆች፣ ደንቦችና መመሪያዎችን አስመልክቶ የተሰበሰቡ መረጃዎች

ዶ/ር ታደለ ደሴ

1. በትራንስፖርት አዋጅ ቁጥር 35/1935 ዓ.ም መሠረት የጋማ እንስሳት ጋሪ ወይም ሠረገላ ተጠምደባቸው በሞተር ኃይል የሚሽከረከሩ ከሠላምታ ጋር ተሽከርካሪ ዎች በሚንቀሳቀሱበት መንገድ ላይ በምሽት በሚንቀሳቀሱበት ወቅት ቀይ መብራት ከኃላና ነጭ መብራት ከፊት ሊያደርጉ እንደሚገባ የወጣ ሕግ/ደንብ
2. በቁጥር 35/1935 ዓ.ም ስለማመላለሻ (ትራንስፖርት) የወጣ አዋጅ፡ በዚህ አዋጅ ውስጥ ሠረገላ ጋሪ የዕቃ ጋሪ ወዘተ... በጋማ እንስሳት በመንገድ ላይ እየተሳበ የሚሄድ ሞተር አልባ ተሽከርካሪ እንደሌሎች ባለሞተር ተሽከርካሪዎች ሁሉ፤-
   - ፈቃድ ሳይኖረው መንዳት እንደማይችል
   - ተሽከርካሪው ክፍል ብልሽት ያለበት ጋሪ ወይም ሠረገላ በመንገድ ላይ መንዳዝእንደማይገባው ተደንግጓል፤፤
3. በቁጥር 187/1947 ዓ.ም የመንግስት ማስታወቂያ ስለ እንስሳት ጉዳይ ጥበቃና ርህራሄ ማህበር ቻርተር ፡ በዚህ አዋጅ ውስጥ ስለ ማህበሩ አመሠራረት የማህበሩ ተግባርና ሥልጣን የማህበሩ ደንብ፡ ስለ ማህበረተኝነት፡ ስለ ማህበሩ አማካሪዎች፡ ስለ ማህበሩ አሠራር በዝርዝር ተጠቅሷል።

WILDERSWIL DECLARATION ON LIVESTOCK DIVERSITY

Wilderswil, Switzerland, 6 September 2007

We, representatives of 30 organizations of pastoralists, indigenous peoples, smallholder farmers and NGOs from 26 countries in both the North and the South came together in Wilderswil at our "Livestock Diversity Forum: Defending Food Sovereignty and Livestock Keepers' Rights". We met in parallel with FAO's International Technical Conference on Animal Genetic Resources held in Interlaken. We are here to fight for our rights that exist throughout the world. But we recognise that our struggle is common to the social organisations of nomadic as livestock keepers. We realize that we are just a small fraction of all the organizations pastoralists, herders, indigenous peoples and small farmers in both the North and South. Our main purpose of coming together was to further strengthen our movement and deepen our analysis and collaboration. The global livestock crisis The industrial model of livestock production is causing the destruction of our animal diversity as well as our own livelihoods. Today, the industrial livestock breeding and production system is being imposed globally as the dominant model for the world's livestock production. It requires high levels of investment in technology and receives subsidies and other resources, which have distorted the market. This has led to an unprecedented concentration of, and dependence upon, the livestock breeding industry. For example, there are only four globally operating poultry breeding companies worldwide with only two of them controlling half of the world's egg production. While the breeding companies are Northern, the growing market for their products is increasingly in the South because industrial livestock production is being promoted there. The growth of industrial livestock production has already resulted in the destruction of the livelihoods of small-scale livestock producers. Furthermore this model of production is based on a dangerously narrow genetic base of the world's livestock, propped up by the widespread use of veterinary drugs. Yet this risky and high cost system is providing more and more of our food: globally, one third of pigs, one half of eggs, two thirds of milk and three quarters of broilers are produced from industrial breeding lines. How industrial livestock production is advanced The industrial model is imposed on us through land grabs and evictions based on systems of private property ownership, forced sedenterisation policies and disruption of pastoral migration routes, liberalization of markets, contract farming, large scale economic development projects such as mining (and their consequences such as the privatisation of water resources by transnational companies), agrofuel production schemes, and even through policies that aim to conserve nature through national parks and protected areas. In recent decades, it has also been achieved through the imposition of trade rules that enable dumping, which destroys local markets, and that force us to produce food based on the industrial model for export. The policies of structural adjustment and the privatization of land, water and veterinary services and the drive for proprietary technologies, such as cloning and genetic modification, are other tools used to destroy our way of life. Tragically, these policies have led to an increase in competition for the appropriation of natural resources which has resulted in a dramatic increase of violent conflicts, wars and occupations. This model of production is detrimental to health of both humans and livestock. Marketing strategies are used to encourage high and unhealthy quantities of livestock products for consumption. Health measures that facilitate the global trade of industrially produced livestock are destroying our local small-scale production. We cannot accept that sanitary and hygiene regulations should be defined under the control of the World Trade Organisation responding only to the demand to liberalise markets. The standards of health and quality of livestock products must respond to the needs of consumers and not the needs of industry.

The consequences of industrial livestock production

We note the following consequences in our communities: loss of small and family based production; smallholder bankruptcies and suicides; economic dependency, including through importation of feed; destruction of environment; young and new herders cannot enter into production because of economic barriers; breakdown of social relations; government

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Wilderswil …. *Continued from page 9*

research and breeding policies geared towards "high productivity" with the indiscriminate introduction of new breeds which have caused us to lose our local breeds.

Towards Food Sovereignty and collective rights

We affirm that it is not possible to conserve animal diversity without protecting and strengthening the local communities that currently maintain and nurture this diversity. We want livestock keeping that is on a human scale. We defend a way of life that is linked deeply with our cultures and spirituality and not just aimed at production. We are building our capacities to organize ourselves to counter the pressure to conform with the industrial model. We are adopting the framework of food sovereignty which was developed by small farmers' movements and others, who face many similar problems stemming from industrial agriculture, and which is already starting to be recognized by several governments. We will continue to further develop alternative research approaches and technologies that allow us to be autonomous and put control of genetic resources and livestock breeding in the hands of livestock keepers and other small-scale producers. And we will organise ourselves to conserve rare breeds. We are committed to fighting for our lands, territories and grazing pastures, our migratory routes, including transboundary routes. We will build alliances with other social movements with similar aims and continue to build international solidarity. We will fight for the rights of livestock keepers which include the right to land, water, veterinary and other services, culture, education and training, access to local markets, access to information and decision making, that are all essential for truly sustainable livestock production systems. We are committed to finding ways of sharing access to land and other resources with pastoralists, indigenous peoples, small farmers and other food producers according to equitable, but controlled, access. Ownership, knowledge and innovation at the community level are often of a collective nature. Therefore local knowledge and biodiversity can only be protected and promoted through collective rights. Collective knowledge is intimately linked to cultural diversity, particular ecosystems, and biodiversity and cannot be dissociated from either of these three aspects. Any definition and implementation of the rights of livestock keepers should take this fully into account. It is clear that the rights of livestock keepers are not compatible with intellectual property rights systems because these systems enable exclusive and private monopoly control. There must be no patents or other forms of intellectual property rights on biodiversity and the knowledge related to it. States should recognise the customary laws, territories, traditions, customs and institutions of local communities and indigenous peoples, which constitute the recognition of the self-determination and autonomy of these peoples. Governments should accept and guarantee collective rights and community control over natural resources, including communal grazing lands and migration routes, water, and livestock breeds. Governments should engage in creating legally binding international instruments which would oblige States to guarantee the full respect of these rights.

The FAO Global Plan of Action

The FAO Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources contains a good analysis of some of the key causes behind the destruction of the biodiversity of domestic animals and the undermining of the livelihoods of local communities that nurture this diversity. The Report squarely points to the industrial livestock system as one of the main forces behind this destruction. However, in the Global Plan of Action there is nothing that addresses these causes. It is totally unacceptable that governments agree on a plan that does not challenge the policies that cause the loss of diversity. Nor are governments even committing themselves to make any substantial financial engagements to implement their own Plan. The social organizations of pastoralists, herders and farmers have no interest in participating in a plan which does not address the central causes behind the destruction of livestock diversity but rather provides crutches / weak support / for a collapsing global livestock production system Because the Global Plan of Action does not challenge industrial livestock production, we reinforce our commitment to organise ourselves, to save livestock diversity and to counter the negative forces bearing on us. However, we remain open and willing to participate in any useful follow up that might be facilitated through FAO.

Defending livestock diversity is not a matter of genes but of 2co llective rights.

The Making of "Bone China"

Fanos Mekonnen ,
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The story of bone china starts with Josiah Spode, who was born in 1733 in Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, England. The county of Staffordshire is world-renowned for its ceramics and porcelain. When he was 16 or 17, young Josiah apprenticed with Thomas Whieldon, one of the area's finest potters. Spode worked for other potters and also co-owned factories with other potters until 1767 when he formed the Spode factory. This factory was wholly owned by him by 1776 and that factory remains in operation in the same spot today. It is the oldest porcelain factory to remain in business at the same site.

Josiah passed his factory on to his son, Josiah Spode II (1754-1827). Josiah II apprenticed in his father's factory and opened a London gallery to showcase his father's porcelain.

Porcelain is an ancient ceramic material perfected by the Chinese. There are examples of porcelain that date back to the 7th century. Porcelain is commonly called china, as this is where the material originated. There are three types of porcelain, hard paste, soft paste and bone china. In 1800, Josiah Spode II created bone china by adding bone ash to the formula for porcelain. The result was the hardest, most durable porcelain available.

Bone ash comes from the pulverized and burned bones of animals which is generally sold as pet food. All tissue is removed from the bones and they are fired at temperatures of up to 1000 degrees. The resulting ash is crushed to a powder and mixed with water before being added to the other porcelain material. Strength is provided by the fusion of body ingredients during firing. This unique English pottery body is made from the following: 50% animal bone, 25% china clay, 25% china stone. First or biscuit firing 1200 C - 1300 C. Second or glost firing 1050 C - 1100 C. After being fired, the pieces are polished, re-heated, glazed, and then fired again to set the glaze. Glazed pieces are then decorated, either by a machine or by hand. They are then re-fired to set the decorations and inspected. Imperfect pieces may be destroyed or sold as "seconds.

Bone ash makes up the greatest part of the formula for bone china, with the balance of the formula containing kaolin and petuntse. The resulting material is hard, resilient and an ivory white in color. The bone not only adds strength and white color to the china, but also makes it translucent. Not totally transparent, but enough for the light to pass through it. Generally, bone china is registered and its trademark and pattern can be found under each piece. However, over time these can become difficult to read, and it's always good to know you can quickly verify its authenticity. If you hold up any piece of bone china up to a light and place your hand behind it, you should be able to see your fingers through it. It also has a certain clear ring, if you 'flick' the edge of a cup. However, identifying this sound does take practice.

Bone china dishes have been around for a very long time and can be found in most china buffets, old and new. Several processes are involved in the making of bone china, but the ingredient that sets it apart from fine china, is the component of bone ash that is included in its manufacture. Hence where the name bone china comes from, and without this ash component, china is not really 'bone' china. It is also usually more expensive than other china, and this is justified by the processes and labour involved in its making.

If you are really kin about this china ware you can check it out on the coffee/tea mug of ESAP displayed. The suppliers are saying it's a real bone china mug. Do you think it's true? Why don't you take a piece and find out???

Quiz??

1. When was the now Ministry of Agriculture and rural development established? What was its first name? who was the first Minister?
2. The most preferred meat types for raw meat eaters are 6 in number: What are they??
3. Why do different types of meat get different colours when they're cooked? Beef turns dark brown, pork light brown and chicken turns white. Most fish are also white, except for Salmon and some other red fish. What makes the difference in the colour?
4. Which came first, the chicken or the egg?

WHAT MEMBERS SAY ABOUT THE PAST THREE ISSUES OF THE ESAP NEWSLETTER

I am impressed by the contents of the newsletter; good to focus on one major topic and bring together current issues around it. This is a good start. If ESAP managed to keep the momentum, it should not be difficult to try special publications on such important topics as livestock policy issues, the role of professional associations like ESAP in policy dialogue, development discourse and support to agricultural development in general. Well done and keep up the good work.

Workeneh Ayalew, January 2007

This occurs when things happen like as we used to say 'the right person (s) at the right place'. I congratulate the EC of ESAP for this original and interesting work. I would like to confess that I can give all to keep it going.

Zelalem Yilma April 2007

The progress of ESAP is amazing and rewarded. Keep it up! The big thing is sustainability. U are on the right truck go on!! Focus on how farmers benefit from us!!

Amsalu Tegene, April 2007

The improvements made both in the scientific contents and design of the current issue is amazing. Particularly this issue (April-June issue) was made capable to sell itself and ESAP to the rest of the world through the DAD-Net. More importantly this issue addressed the Animal Genetic Resources Management issues of Africa and will eventually get prominence throughout the world at the first International Technical Conference on Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture to be held on 3-7 September 2007 (Interlaken, Switzerland), which is dealing on the "State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture".

Markos Tibbo July 2007

ESAP has really made a sprint, and I am also proud of the achievements thus far. It was a result of the persistency and determination by the ESAP executive committee. Real team work indeed pays dividend .... and that is what you achieved. Keep up the good work and I look forward to yet another productive ESAP conference in October.

Getachew Gebru July 2007

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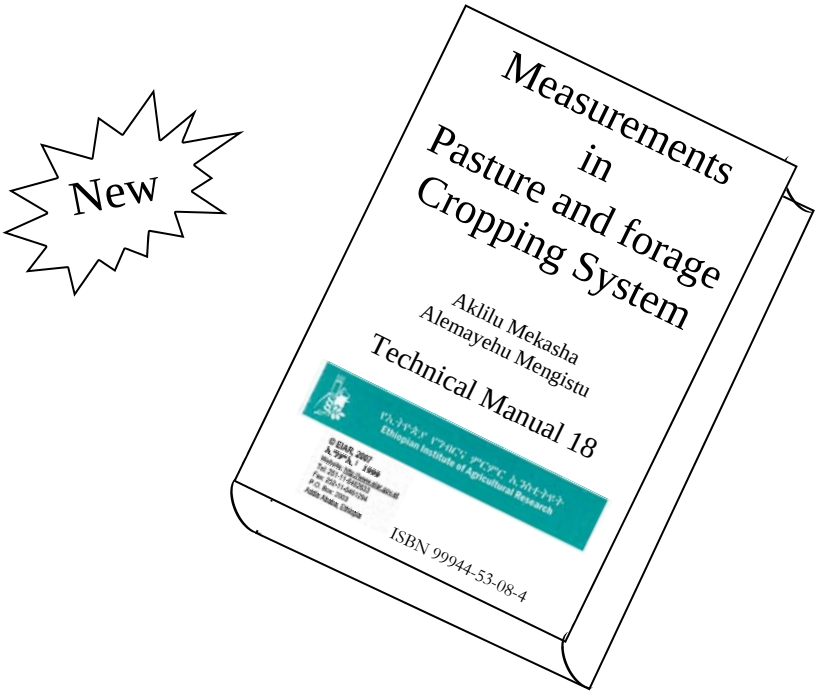

What members ….

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Well done!!!! I promised to contribute one article for this theme, but did not the call of date of submission. But this issue is already very rich in content and I am very happy with that. I will see what I can do for the next issue.

workenehe Ayalew, July 2007

I read the ESAP Newsletter issue No. 15 between lines and I enjoyed it. It is a well written paper and contains a lot of research information. I think the source is lacking in some of the articles, for example in page 7 'the world is losing about one breed every month' (FAO), if possible it is better to Include year and volume number for further reading in the future. It is a nice Newsletter and wishing you the best.

Esayas Gelaye August 2007

It's Great! To see the 19 page well laid out - ESAP Newsletter Issue No. 15, 2007. Our compliments for your achievements! It was nice (and nostalgic) reading through and going back to my Addis Ababa times.

Devinder K. Sadana July 2007

Issue No 15 and the previous two are all magnificent! The newsletter would be even more captivating and hard to ignore if news flashes, workshop and scholarship announcements of different institutions are included! I'm willing to bring forward such contributions on the coming newsletters.

Alemayehu Mengistu July 2007

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የአዲስ አበባ ገዢ

(አዲስ ዘመን ሚያዚያ 18 ቀን 1939 ዓ.ም)
ምንጭ: አዲስ አፈርስ መጽሔት

Courtesy: Daniel Tewodros