**IYRP Steering Committee (SC) Meeting Minutes – November 13, 2017**

Attendees: Jim, Maryam, Jurgen/Maria, Iain, Elisabeth, David, Dana, Susanna, Ann, Jess/Lia, Hossein, Ray, Barbara

Not able to attend: Fiona, Mounir, Kathrine, Abdelkader, Kirk, Razingrim, Jon, Gregorio

**Action Items**

1. Need to find out the situation with Kenyan resolution and, based on the response, determine how to refocus efforts with UN Agencies and NY delegations.
2. The IYRP SC will be expanded to include pastoralist representatives, one from WAMIP and one from the Arctic Circle. Ann to give suggestions for how to invite WAMIP; Maryam to suggest how to invite from the Arctic Circle.
3. Ann will provide directions on how to apply to be an observer for the IDFF (Ann and Jurgen are willing to be the primary and backup observer from the SC, but others are asked to also consider serving in this capacity.
4. SC will push for 2021 or as soon as possible thereafter for an IYRP.
5. SC will find ways to raise funds. SC sub-committee will draft description of need and a preliminary budget (Jim, Maryam, Jurgen, Hossein, Jonathan, and Engin – others?)
6. Jim will send out a list of upcoming events for everyone’s review and input; then priorities will be determined for budgetary purposes.

**Discussion**

1. Update on Kenya IYRP Resolution, and FAO resolutions including Year of the Camelids and International Decade on Family Farming (IDFF)
   1. Status IYRP resolution: update from Maryam – colleague from UNCCD, Director of NY office, confirms that the Kenyan resolution was NOT officially submitted, but it is with their delegation in NY. Still waiting for information from the Kenyans.
   2. Year of Plant Health or Year of Camelids – no one on the SC had any new information
   3. IDFF: Ann – a resolution for an IDFF has been submitted and a decision will be made this month, although she does not know the day it will take place. The people who submitted it are very positive it will be approved.

1. Decision on what strategic direction to take for IYRP, including two options (third option added during the meeting):
   1. Option 1: A dedicated year on pastoralism within IDFF, plus an IY on Rangelands in 2026
      1. Jurgen: Is it still an option to include new text about pastoralism and rangelands in the IDFF resolution? Ann: The request was to gain country support for adding words to the Decade in October. Dana: Australia did submit new wording, but have not heard back; might have been too late for consideration. Dana thinks the time has passed for adding new wording. NOTE: during the meeting Dana said that word was received by the Australians that further to their efforts “pastoralism” had been added to the resolution in the first paragraph (however, “rangelands” had not been added).
      2. Maryam: Argued against splitting pastoralism from rangelands – our vision so far has been an integrated one (and that is how we can link it to the SDGs). Also, many pastoralists do not consider themselves as farmers – in fact we could lose our constituency if we linked everything inside the IDFF.

* 1. Option 2: An IYRP in 2030 plus integration of pastoralism and rangelands into the IDFF (years 2019-2028 where relevant)
     1. Ann: not clear there will be dedicated years during the IDFF. FAO and IFAD will be taking lead and setting up a Steering Committee and then the decision will be made about specific themes.
     2. Jim: this option would work if both pastoralism AND rangelands are integrated into IDFF. But waiting for 2030 for an IYRP is too far away.
  2. NOTE FROM ANN PROVIDED IN AGENDA – BACKGROUND ON IDFF: When I attended the meeting of the World Coordinating Committee (WCC) for the International Decade of Family Farming (IDFF) in Rome on 10 October, the WCC discussed inclusion of organisations that want to attend WCC meetings and/or monitor what is happening in preparation for the IDFF as observer members, who can offer contributions or opinions but not vote. When I asked Laura Lorenzo from the World Rural Forum (WRF), Secretariat of the WCC, about the procedure for the IYRP Steering Committee (SC) to apply to become an observer member, she replied that the SC would need to send a letter to the WRF expressing interest in being an observer member and would need to name a person to represent the SC as observer. After receiving the letter, the WRF would consult with the WCC members and send a response to the SC. ***So the question to the IYRP SC is: Does it want to apply to become an observer member in the WCC for the IDFF? If so, who would represent it (and it would be good to name a back-up).***
  3. Maryam presented a third option: – NY process does not follow the rules that FAO has put in place for international years and, in fact, there can be different themes in a given year. Looks like 2020 will be Plant Health (which is a similar sector to IYRP so that is likely a duplication and chances for an IYRP in that same year are low). Should we consider 2021?
     1. General consensus agreed that we should go for an IYRP in 2021
     2. Hossein – this option is better because we then can support SDGs.
     3. Jim – should we submit a request for dedicated year in the IDFF?
     4. Ann – thinks IDFF will welcome issues of pastoralism to be included, but should still push for an IYRP.
     5. Iain – we have built up momentum and need to move forward; the sooner the better. Would have to start from scratch if we have to wait for 5-10 years.
     6. Dana – also agrees; let’s go for a dedicated year the sooner the better. However, do we wait and see what happens with Decade year or go ahead now?
     7. Maryam - Her contact said it might be seen as a duplication if we tried to integrate into Decade AND go for a dedicated year. Pros and cons both ways…one reason to integrate with Decade is that there are major issues between farming and herding that could be highlighted. Agreed to go for a dedicated IYRP in 2021, but the relationship with IDFF would need to wait for feedback from NY and others to determine the way to proceed.
     8. Ann - cannot assume that our group is the only group concerned with pastoralist issues. There may be other efforts to include pastoralists, but we just don’t know this. We could apply to be an observer for the Decade, and then could have possibility to influence what issues would be covered. WAMIP (World Alliance of Mobile Indigenous Peoples) represents pastoralists in the Civil Society Mechanism of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) and would have the seat for a pastoralist representative in the World Coordinating Committee (WCC) of IDFF.
     9. Maryam – WAMIP did sign on to IYRP (through the Cancun Declaration in December 2016) but are not represented on our Steering Committee.
     10. David – should go on alone if the Decade people are not receptive to including pastoralist and rangelands issues. Then work as hard as possible on getting an IYRP resolution.
     11. Ann – she attended WCC meeting on IDFF as an observer on behalf of IYRP SC. They were receptive to include pastoralist and other issues, but they would need a lot of advice about these issues. There is an openness but lack of knowledge on how to proceed. Also, the decision to include a year on pastoralists and rangelands within IDFF will be taken by FAO and IFAD (lead agencies) once IDFF is approved and underway and that might be a year or more longer.
     12. Maryam – David’s proposal is a pragmatic one; we should apply as an observer and then see what happens.
     13. Ann – If we do this, then we need to designate one person and a back-up. Ann is willing to be the designated person, but needs a back-up – meetings are generally through Skype or GTM or email.
     14. Jurgen – volunteered to be the back-up. (NOTE: contact all SC members to see if there is other interest in serving as an observer)
     15. Maryam – suggests letter come from Jim so it is submitted from the Chair of the SC.
     16. Jim agreed and Ann will draft.
  4. Pastoralist representation on the Steering Committee – Maryam suggests reaching out to WAMIP and Ann will give the name of the contact. Maryam also suggested inviting someone from the Arctic Circle – she will explore that and report to the SC.

1. Consolidating the IYRP process (urgent consultations needed in New York, Washington, and Rome; country leadership; need for a dedicated budget for the Steering Committee)
   1. Maryam stated that, if we are going to be championing 2021 (or 2022), then we would need to focus on the NY process, because FAO’s rules do not allow an IY in an odd year and because they have already allocated 2022 for other issues. Although FAO and IFAD were not at this SC meeting, we welcome their support in the NY process.
   2. However, need a budget to organize seminars in NY etc. Any suggestions for where we could go to get funding? Maryam also suggests we need a budget for some media and outreach efforts. Need to start producing materials and present at critical side events etc. Should have IYRP designated by 2018 if going for 2021.
      1. Jim – have done fundraising in DC (government agencies) for the IRC and IGC; could he solicit support for the IYRP not just IRC/IGC.
      2. Lia (SRM) – this could be a viable approach and she will bring this to Jess Petersen’s attention.
      3. Iain – can offer support from ILRI for brochures, posters, etc. (Susan McMillan and their PR group) but funding for travel is more difficult.
   3. Jim – suggests putting together a draft budget for consideration. Asked for volunteers. Maryam volunteered. Jim will help, too. Jurgen will also help – CI (Conservation International) is trying to make a strong case for global issues. Need to prioritize the events where we need to be involved.
      1. Jim will send out the list of events for review and updating.
      2. Ann – always new events coming up so will need to prioritize as we go (continually review).
2. Maryam – is there a private sector entity that could provide some funding? Would that be agreeable? Ray – it is worth pursuing; send out a brief request…could go to Gates. Ray will do some follow-up. Budget Sub-committee will put something together to use including both numbers and description.
   1. Jurgen – suggested possible Foundations for support. A concept note and description of budget required would be useful.
3. Suggestion to add two pastoralists on the SC – one from Arctic Circle reindeer herder and another from WAMIP (have representation from all developing country areas, not developed world – Ann will check). Jim also mentioned that some SC members from the North were also pastoralists themselves.
4. Iain – when looking for support for pastoralism in Africa, migration has become a huge political issue so linking to this issue could be important. Need to add this nuance to the way we talk about the IYRP.
   1. Jim – suggests reviewing our monthly themes document.
   2. Maryam – says that migration is mentioned; but agrees we need to hit the hot topic issues when soliciting funding.
5. Elisabeth - Should logo be updated to 2021? It was agreed that we should wait until we have more information as to which year governments are aiming for.