

Minutes from IYRP Pastoralism and Water Initial Core Group Meeting 16 March 2023, 15:00 - 16:15 EAT (GTM+3)

Participants: Kerstin Danert (Ask for Water and RWSN), Aline Saraiva Okello (RWSN), Ann Waters-Bayer (Agrecol/CELEP/IYRP), Jutta Himmelsback (MISEREOR), Barbara van Koppen (IWMI/RWSN), Michael Odhiambo (Independent Consultant/IYRP), David Phelps, Adrian Cullis (Independent Consultant), Sabine Dorloechter-Sulser (MISEREOR), Pablo Manzano (Researcher, B3C).

Agenda

- Welcome (5 minutes) - Michael
- Introductions (10 minutes) - Michael
Self-introductions - personal/ professional interests in water and pastoralism
- IYRP overview (10 minutes) - Ann
- Listening exercise (30 minutes) Participants share their interests in water and pastoralism and what they might contribute - Adrian and Aline
- AoB and Next steps (10 mins) - Michael

Opening by Michael

Welcomed everyone, and highlighted several key issues that relate to the scope of work of this group on pastoralism and water:

- Governance, water tenure and water management.
- The need to reconcile pastoral use with actions promoted and introduced by development partners.
- This WG theme is under the IYRP theme "Soils, water & land use"(month of June 2026).
- We should try to advance the understanding of water and land use, and how to secure pastoral access to water resources.
- How do we manage water resources in the context of climate change?

IYRP by Ann

Presentation shared by Ann (see folder):

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gQgDxW2EylvHljP3wh00e0zr4BJ_PSSf/view?usp=share_link

WG notes and slides (see folder):

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1t5lhbyT1EedP2xDnyTRYo5qR-9S-PDID?usp=share_link

Further to PPT for IYRP Working Groups (WGs)

- Jon Davies will be coordinating all IYRP WGs.
- IYRP International Support Group (ISG) need to find pathways to link Regional IYRP Support Groups (RISGs) and WGs and between WGs. Perhaps WG leaders join the IYRP Global Coordinating Group (GCG) meetings?
- All RISG members should be in ISG so will be reached with call sent through this listserv.
- WGs are encouraged to agree on joint activities and mobilise funding for these activities, with each proposal hosted by an organisation in the IYRP initiative - in the name of the IYRP.

Listening Exercise

Slide deck listening exercise (see folder):

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/12udTdhAL42XAhkLloB0g-kZx8Nj_WlzF/edit?usp=sharing&oid=112711993746080850737&rtpof=true&sd=true

David Phelps: Australia has very diverse water access and security issues across the rangelands. Some areas such as Cape York are transitioning towards stronger indigenous rights and access. Other

areas at risk of groundwater contamination from mining activities. In all areas there is increasing risk of greater evaporation of open water storages in the future... and more!

Kerstin:

- Plans to do blog on the pastoralism & water webinar that was held last year.
- How large should the WG be?
- Expand the WG to include more diversity, government, South perspectives.
- Reach out to others outside of the pastoralism crowd.
- The MOOC on Pastoralism and Development was brilliant in explaining a range of misconceptions. It however didn't then follow through with positives about what could and should be done to improve pastoral development.

Michael: Pick up issues from the webinar last year and follow through.

Ann: This is not yet the WG but rather the initial core; WG can be expanded; proposals from this WG can be shared with the IYRP ISG.

There is possibility of follow-up on the MOOC to include positive examples about what type of activities needs to be promoted; IIED would doubtless be interested but funding would be needed.

Look at the international events about water and rangelands and make connections (side events, speakers).

Aline has already made an overview of major conventions and international meetings related to water, already prioritised and shortlisted; will share with this WG.

- IRC All Systems Connect, The Hague, 2-4 May 2023. The deadline passed for proposal.
- 9th Biannual IASC (International Association for the Study of the Commons) Conference to be held in Nairobi, Kenya, in June 2023.
- Stockholm World Water Week, 20-24 August 2023. The deadline just passed for session proposals; consider preparation for 2024.
- 18th World Water Congress to be held in Beijing, China, in September 2023
- World Water Forum, Bali, 2024.

Jutta: What kind of infrastructure should be used for pastoralist communities? Involve and consult communities and have dry and wet season infrastructure. We can't just copy from settled communities. We need to reach out to local governments to 'educate' and sensitise them.

Pablo: Environmental impact assessments normally attribute high water footprint to livestock, which is mainly based on the use that pastoralist make of rainfed rangelands. The IYRP is a great occasion to discredit the assumption for pastoralists and highlight the efficient use they do make of water resources.

David: I'm hearing a diverse range of issues and interests from the group, from technical solutions, infrastructure, community engagement and policy. We won't be able to address it all. We will need to give some careful thought to choosing the 'right' priorities. Can I suggest that we use an outcomes or impacts framework to focus the WG activity?

Michael: Situation/example of Kenya/Uganda; Turkana community must enter Uganda for water; policies are implemented by national governments, but we need to work on implementing policies about cross-border use of water, such as Kenya/Tanzania MoU.

Barbara: World Water Week at Stockholm for 2024 & 2025. For 2023, a session on customary water tenure, including pastoralism, was submitted by Environmental Law Institute (with RRI, FAO, IWMI, AIDA, TNC). Exploring a webinar with RWSN (as discussed after the meeting: proposed for 27 June, on customary water tenure by pastoralist and smallholder communities).

Kerstin: I think that 2024 is a good target for Stockholm, as we will really be more ready to submit within less than a year from now anyway.

Interestingly there are seasonal patterns of borehole/ handpump use even in settled communities as well, certainly in Africa.

Sabine: Focus on products - synthesis, policy brief with major messages we want to focus on; try to invite more colleagues that work on water to increase the diversity of the WG.

David: I'm not suggesting a complex framework - it may just be a simple statement of how the work could contribute to a real-world issue. We collect those ideas and statements and use that as a guide to focus the activity.

Kerstin: David, perhaps stakeholder mapping would be useful in terms of thinking about our outreach.

Ann: We should revise the concept note and circulate it to the IYRP ISG, which includes people from the RISGs; also, directly contact co-chairs of the RISGs and ask them to encourage their members to join the WG.

Michael/Adrian:

Regarding the way forward, plan to:

- Review the concept note - end of March; this will include a 'shopping list' of possible focus areas.
- Doodle poll - Kerstin to do this for the week of 17 April to determine the date of the next meeting. David asked that meetings be held in the morning European time.
- Preparation of post 2022 webinar blog - Kerstin/ Barbara.

Links shared in the meeting:

Past RWSN webinar: <https://www.rural-water-supply.net/en/resources/details/1062>

Two webinars on pastoralists and water <https://vimeo.com/148336972> and the recent one mentioned here <https://vimeo.com/718011011>