

Partnership to improve pastoral policies in Tunisia Debate on the draft pastoral code for Tunisia



Minutes of the presentation and discussion workshop of the draft pastoral code for Tunisia

April 30, 2018 - Tunis, Tunisia

Workshop of the draft pastoral code in Tunisia

El Mouradi hotel, Gammarth. April 30, 2018 - Tunis, Tunisia

Context

Since 2015, ICARDA and the General Directorate of Forests (DGF) have launched a joint initiative for the elaboration of a pastoral code in Tunisia. Following the consultation, training and exchange workshops with the staff of the DGF and the other partners involved, including the representatives of the other Ministries, members of the rangeland management councils (CG), parliamentarians, civil society, the profession and the representatives of the Regional Agricultural Departments (CRDAs).

The process has taken the necessary time and has matured (over two and a half years of dialogue and exchange). Also, a sensitization action was undertaken at different levels for a common mobilization and an adherence to the process of drafting a pastoral code in Tunisia.

This is the third workshop of a series of meetings with all stakeholders involved in rangeland governance will present and discuss the first draft of the pastoral code in Tunisia.

Objectives and expected results of the workshop

The workshop's agenda culminates the work of the Legal Consultant (Mr Mares Hamdi), led in three phases for the elaboration of the pastoral code for Tunisia. The work began with the analysis of past and current legislation in this area, identifying the strengths and weaknesses for sustainable governance of rangelands in Tunisia prior proposing a draft law with its explanatory statement.

On this basis and taking into account the achievements and recommendations of the other consultation workshops with all stakeholders and partners, the expected results of the workshop are summarized as follows:

- (i) Presentation of the draft pastoral code in Tunisia;
- (ii) Content exchange for improvement;
- (iii) Awareness-raising of partners / actors for a common implementation;
- (iv) Consultation on next steps and deadlines.

Participants' profile

The thirty-six (36) participants to the workshop on the 85 invited are made up of field technicians (representatives of the central and southern forest districts) in addition to the officials at the central administration (DGF, Livestock and Pasture Authority – OEP), representatives of the other Ministries (Ministries of Environment and Local Affairs, Ministry of State Domains) and Development Project Managers (PRODESUD and PRODEFIL, co-funded by IFAD), IFAD representative in Tunisia and selected resource

persons. The complete list of participants is presented in appendix 1 and the table 1 shows a breakdown of participants by institution and profile.

Table 1. Invited participants breakdown by institution and profile

Participants' category	Number	%
Ministry of Agriculture Hydraulic Resources and Fisheries (MARHP)	19	52
Funding agencies and International Cooperation	05	14
Professional organisations	03	9
Other stakeholders (representatives of other Ministries)	05	14
Resource persons	04	11
Total	36	100

The workshop was opened by the Director General of Forests (DGF), the representative of ICARDA and the representative of the Livestock and Pasture Authority (OEP). The participants were motivated with a good interaction in the discussions (More than 35 speakers in the discussions). It is clear that the majority of participants is sensitive to the subject and has followed the process at its inception. In addition, the field experience of the different participants helped in the good implementation of the workshop and facilitated the exchange with concrete and relevant proposals.

Workflow of the workshop

The detailed program of the workshop is given in Annex 2. The program was divided into PowerPoint presentations (5 presentations), followed by structured discussions. The workshop was conducted in two sessions of three hours each. The presentations were as follows:

- Presentation 1: Introduction of the workshop program by the facilitator (Yousef Saadani)
- Presentation 2: Review of the genesis of the process and progress of the development of the pastoral code for Tunisia: Main steps (Dr. Ali Nefzaoui)
- Presentation 3: Local Governance of Pastoral Resources and Gender (Dr. Jutta Werner)
- Presentation 4: Presentation of the pastoral law: Review of the past and current legislation (Mr. Mares Hamdi, consultant)
- Presentation 5: Presentation of the pastoral code project (Mr. Mares Hamdi, consultant)

The pedagogy used during the workshop facilitated participation and exchange with the use of varied didactic tools such as projections, the metaplan visualization method. The

discussions were structured and thematic oriented, focusing on the topic and avoiding off-topic interventions.

The draft pastoral code made available to the participants 3 weeks before the workshop constituted the reference and the source of information consulted in case of need. The facilitator was supported by three volunteer resource persons to help him to grasp the recommendations and points raised by the participants, categorized with reference to the legal, technical and institutional aspects.

- **At the legal level**, the participants raised points concerning the definition of "rangeland" and the need to distinguish between "pastoral code" and "rangeland code", the institutionalization of transhumance tracks, a better use of the positive aspects of the forest code and the need to distinguish between different strata of rangelands.
- **From the technical level**, the following points were mentioned: the need to develop an information system on rangelands, the precise knowledge of the areas by rangeland category, to take into account the social inclusion, to allocate a chapter for the sustainable development of rangelands, take into account the best results achieved with rangeland resting and consider the request for formalizing transhumance rights.
- **Regarding the institutional aspects** that were widely discussed during the workshop, the participants stressed the need for the development of a rangeland management policy in Tunisia, the need for institutional anchoring of the pastoral code, the creation of an autonomous body (eg Agency) in charge of rangelands, reinforcement of allocated resources and financial incentives, the institutionalization of a national rangeland commission with the revitalization of regional commissions as well as the strengthening of the capacities of management councils, promote synergy and consultation among the various actors, minimize the involvement of the state and initiate a wide consultation about the pastoral code at regional level.

The result of this synthesis work is presented in Appendix 3.

Summary of discussions

The time allocated for the debates (more than two hours) made it possible to ensure a wide participation with remarks, recommendations and arguments. The exchange was successful with a confirmed interest from the participants in the engaged process and the projected pastoral code. The representatives of the different institutions spoke with often positive interactions with the other participants. Overall, the main suggestions / recommendations raised covered the following aspects:

1. Need to include and fine-tune definitions and terminologies as pastoralism, rangelands, users, land-owners, infrastructure, etc.;
2. Broaden participation and partnership mobilization for the pastoral code development and dissemination. Synergy with other ongoing initiatives is to be considered in next steps, including the "Integrated Landscape Management Project" (IFMP co-funded by the World Bank) and the initiative introduced by the IRA Medenine with the support of IFAD projects (PRODESUD and PRODEFIL); this without forgetting to take into consideration the gender aspect in future discussions;

3. Do not forget to think now about the institutional anchoring of the pastoral code. This step will be scheduled in a timely manner and supported by expertise in this area;
4. Think about the "media coverage" of the pastoral code while ensuring effective lobbying. The timing is opportune because the country is engaged in a broad process of decentralization;
5. Do not stop the process and act according to the same procedure of consultation and mobilization of partners around this pastoral law in Tunisia.

Next steps

After a short summary of the debates, conducted by the facilitator, the organizers began a discussion on the implementation of the next steps. Five activities were selected and two others indicated as a reminder for future programming depending on the funds available. The following table summarizes the activities selected; activities 6 and 7 are listed as memoranda and their implementation remains dependent on the available budget.

Table 2. Action plan for next steps

N	Activities	Responsible	Deadline
1	Sending written comments to ICARDA	Participants	15/05
2	Sending the "revised draft" of the pastoral code to concerned stakeholders	ICARDA/Consultant	15/06
3	Written feed-back ' on the revised version to ICARDA	Partners and stakeholders	30/06
4	Draft the Arabic version of the pastoral code	Consultant/ICARDA	Fin juillet
5	Broaden the negotiation to the regional and local levels	ICARDA/Partners	Starting 15/09
6	Study the institutional anchoring of the pastoral code	ICARDA/Consultant	Fund rizing
7	Presentation of the pastoral code to parliamentarians	Partners/ICARDA	As soon as it is ready

Workshop evaluation

At the broad level: The programming of the workshop stimulated the interest of the participants. Providing the documentation three weeks in advance facilitated the

discussions and the exchange. However, workshop participants particularly appreciated:

- (i) The way of conducting the process and the maturity of these steps;
- (ii) the importance of concerted actions in the success of the process;
- (iii) the efficiency of using the few available funds to the results achieved;
- (iv) Future potential collaboration with important agencies as IFAD, WB and DGF.

In general and in terms of attendance and discipline, it was remarkable to see the sense of responsibility and self-discipline of the participants during the workshop. The level of interest and participation was very satisfactory. Also, the qualification of the majority of the participants in the workshop was a positive contribution to the dynamics of the group and to the interest given to the theme.

Regarding the logistics related to the venue and working conditions, the participants are mostly satisfied. In the same way, the conditions and the progress of the workshop are considered good.

In terms of assessing the expectations of the workshop: The opinions of the majority of participants are positive. The action plan proposed at the end of the workshop indicates in part that the objectives of the workshop are broadly achieved.

For the moderation and pedagogy used, the participants fully adhered to the method of moderation adopted and particularly appreciated the time reserved for the discussions.

Annex 1. List of participants (names highlighted in yellow participated)

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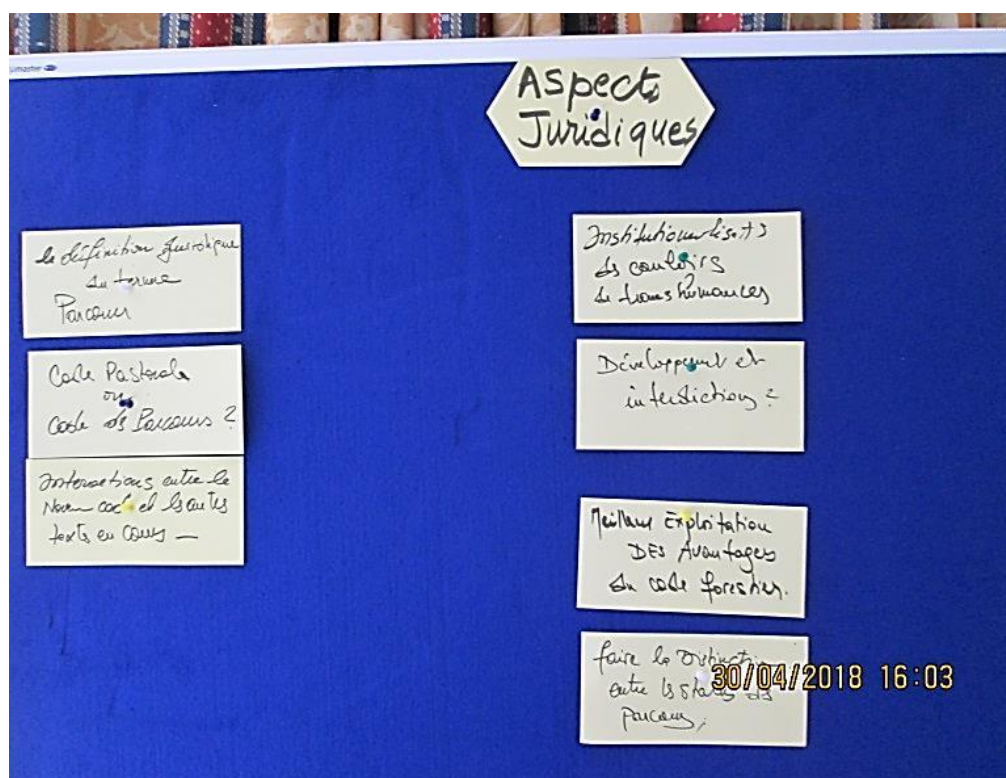
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Annex 2. Workshop agenda

Time	Activities	Responsibility
08.00-09.00	Registration	Radhia Amor
09.00-09.15	Opening: welcome note of DGF, ICARDA and OEP.	Youssef Saadani
09.15-09.30	Presentation of participants	All
09.30-10.00	Review of the genesis of the process and progress of the development of the pastoral code for Tunisia: Main steps	Ali Nefzaoui
10.00-10.25	Local Governance of Pastoral Resources and Gender	Jutta Werner
10.25-10.40	Discussion	
10.40-11.00	Coffee break	
11.00-12.00	Presentation of the pastoral law: Review of the past and current legislation	Mares Hamdi
12.00-13.00	Discussion	
13.00-14.00	Lunch	
14.00-15.00	Presentation of the draft pastoral code	Mares Hamdi
15.00-16.00	Discussion	
16.00-16.15	Discussion of next steps	Ali Nefzaoui
16.15-16.30	Synthesis of the workshop and closing	Youssef Saadani

Annex 3. Synthesis of discussion and future action plan



Synthesis of regulations/ legislative issues



Synthesis of technical issues

