



PROMOTION OF LIVESTOCK MOBILITY
Through Reduction of conflict between pastoralists and Farmers

SOS Sahel has been working in the Sudan for over 20 years. During this time it has become well respected for its thoughtful and effective work to improve natural resource management and to reduce conflict between pastoralists and farmers. Its approach uses awareness-raising, dialogue, and the joint management of common resources in order to build mutual understanding and peaceful co-existence.

The fundamental problem which SOS Sahel seeks to address is conflict between transhumant pastoralists and farmers over natural resources in a context of institutional weakness and instability.

SOS Sahel aims to develop a deeper sense of shared ownership and responsibility for the natural resource base by involving all groups who have a stake in a more secure community, as well as supporting the mechanisms through which access by multiple users can be jointly negotiated and monitored.

TRANSUMANCE ROUTES

Pastoral communities in Kordofan move in a range of 600 kms from North Kordofan through south Kordofan up to Northern part of South Sudan region. However, they spent most of their dry season (8 months) in South Kordofan where community mobilization, awareness raising and CSO movement can be promoted.

PROBLEMS HINDERING LIVESTOCK MOVEMENT

1. Mechanized farms encroaching both grazing and traditional farming areas.
2. Expansion of traditional farmers on livestock corridors.
3. Lack of Access to water points along the livestock corridors.
4. Lack of clear land use policies.
5. Decreased power of traditional leaders and lack of respect to traditional norms and customary laws that governing the use of natural resources.
6. Violence conflict between farmers and pastoralists.
7. Lack of community awareness about the existing laws

Corridor demarcation process:

1. Formation of a team consists of all stakeholders.
2. Involvement of local community and their traditional leaders (both farmers and pastoralists)
3. Negotiate with villagers where the livestock corridor passes
4. Discuss and agree the width of the corridor
5. Start demarcation by putting the bench mark
6. Painting the bench marks
7. Use GPS reading with satellite

8. Produce satellite maps.

Evaluation of Cattle Routes

The project team traced one pastoral community along their transhumance routes from south to the wet grazing areas in north Kordofan and the following findings/outcomes were taken from the discussions:

1. The demarcated corridor is better than the undemarcated.
2. No body can squeeze it since the marks are there.
3. It is good for both farmers and pastoralist.
4. Rest points need water sources and to be protected from encroachment.

In physical check for bench mark it was found that about 90% of farmers has respected the boundaries. The only case was in Habeala town where corridor passes through the town .It was realized that it has been squeezed by buildings. This was reported to the relevant government officials.

Challenges encountered

- Lack of land use policy is the big problem in both north and south Kordofan.
- The farming Nuba and pastoral Arabs have contradictory points of view – the challenge will be to get them thinking along the same lines. The Nuba tribes who are farmers think that South Kordofan is their land and Arab nomads should go home. *“What are incentives for them to compromise corridors in their lands?”*
- The pastoralists think the plain land is belong to them and only the mountains and their foothills belong to Nuba. Some pastoralist have settled in areas belong to people been displaced by civil war – Displaced people are now returning.

- Insecurity in some areas is seriously hindering our work as we need get security briefings before going out into the field. Road access is also difficult in the rainy season.
- The traditional Natural Resource Management laws are no longer functioning properly e.g pastoralists are settling in wet season grazing areas where the traditional laws require them to keep mobile
- The project has to deal with two opposing political parties/structures (SPLM and NCP in its daily work.