**ESA RISG COMMS TEAM MEETING REPORT HELD ON 18TH MARCH 2020 ON ZOOM**

Participants: *Loupa Pius, Uganda; Ken Otieno, Kenya; Kedibone* Chueu*, South Africa; Laureen Kenya; Faith Nandu, Kenya;*

Absent: *Monica Yator, Kenya; and Sadia* Ahmed*, Somaliland*

On 18th March 2020, the ESA RISG Communications Team had a Zoom webinar meeting hosted by RECONCILE (Kenya). The meeting facilitator (Loupa Pius) welcomed the members of the ESA Communications Team, he also communicated the purposes of the meeting, noting that it is aimed at reviewing and contextualizing the roles and responsibilities of the RISG communications teams for the interest of IYRP–Eastern and Southern Africa support group (ESA RISG) focusing most on Part B of the TOR, which is on the responsibilities of the RISG communications teams and as well as to strategies on how to achieve some of the roles and responsibilities as embedded in the TOR.

The countries that were represented in the meeting were Kenya, Uganda and South Africa. The meeting provided members with an opportunity to discuss on the assigned responsibilities which they can best achieve within the provided time. Some of the responsibilities reviewed were as follows as per the members’ agreement.

1. Planning and implementing awareness-raising and advocacy activities around targeted events. This will be done through mapping and listing of upcoming events that are related to pastoralism in the four selected countries of Eastern & Southern Africa (Kenya, Uganda, Somalia and South Africa). Sharing a list of this events will be effective in planning for the upcoming IYRP. For example, in Kenya there is the indigenous knowledge conference in June and a TOR has already been developed for the continental documentation and production of documentary.
2. Sharing adopted version(s) of the IYRP open flyer. The team agreed to emerge the IYRP flyer as one document to form the African wide flyer to avoid creating several flyers with different versions and content.
3. Managing regional webpage content on the [*www.iyrp.info*](http://www.iyrp.info) website. The ESA RISG Communications Team will liaise with ILRI and the Global Communications Team in order to have the regional webpage updated with ESA-relevant information.
4. Identifying and developing information flyers, posters, photos, videos and news for regional webpage and for other awareness-raising and advocacy purposes, e.g., advocacy events. The ESA RISG Communications Team agreed to link this to responsibility number one and it will be important to share good photos and videos from the IYRP. There will also be need to have more concentrated effort on this to ensure photos and videos are collected. There is need to check with other countries to send more videos related to pastoralism that can depict the IYRP taking into consideration Issues of quality, ethical conduct and content when sending and uploading photos and videos.
5. Adding more supporting organizations to the regional webpage. This is a process that has already started and more supporting organizations are being added and the process should continue and if there is any organization that is interested in supporting the IYRP process should be included in the webpage.
6. Helping coordinate the review of proposed 12 monthly themes for IYRP and their adaptation to (sub) regions. The ESA Communications Team will contact Ann to share more on the themes and see how they can be adapted as a Communications Team because different themes result into different understanding and interpretation.
7. Helping develop and conduct online/ social-media campaigns before FAO conference and UNGA. This will be done through social media influencers, starting up a IYRP Twitter and Instagram as well as generate traffic on social media and create a tag on social media. This will be done by the RECONCILE communications team.
8. Planning policy dialogue and events as may be appropriate. This will be done by consulting the policy team and South Africa team to follow up on this and see how it goes, for it is key to know more about policy dialogues; therefore, the primary step should be the Communications Team liaising with the policy working group.
9. Liaising with the Global Communications Team. Loupa and Kedibone will be the ESA RISG liaisons with the Global Communications Team.

**Conclusion**

Everyone should be on the lookout for any upcoming event related to pastoralism and share with the Communications Team, for this will help raise awareness for the upcoming IYRP event.

Kedibone and Loupa will be in communication with the Global Communications Team and will inform the rest of the ESA Communication Team members on any updates.