

Pastoralism in the Reforming Ethiopia: *policy, assumptions and prospects*

7th CELEP Annual Meeting

29th Nov 2018, Info Point, EU, Brussels

**Tezera Getahun
Senior pastoral expert
tezerag@yahoo.co.uk**

Purpose of the presentation

- **Inform participants the broader context and significance of pastoralism in Ethiopia;**
- **Trigger additional thoughts and modalities for sustainable pastoralist development and building resilience; and,**
- **Attract additional donors in developing lowlands of Ethiopia**



Sultan Hadji Hassen Mohammed Gebaba, Ethiopia Somali Elder, giving statement during Ethiopian Pastoralist Day. 11th EPD, Semera. Photo by PFE

Content

- **Context in brief**
- **Economic contribution of pastoralism in Ethiopia**
- **Myths, discourses and narratives on pastoralism**
- **Current policy and institutions**
- **Assumptions and prospects**
- **Changing the development 'Eye lens'?**
- **Key messages/take a ways**

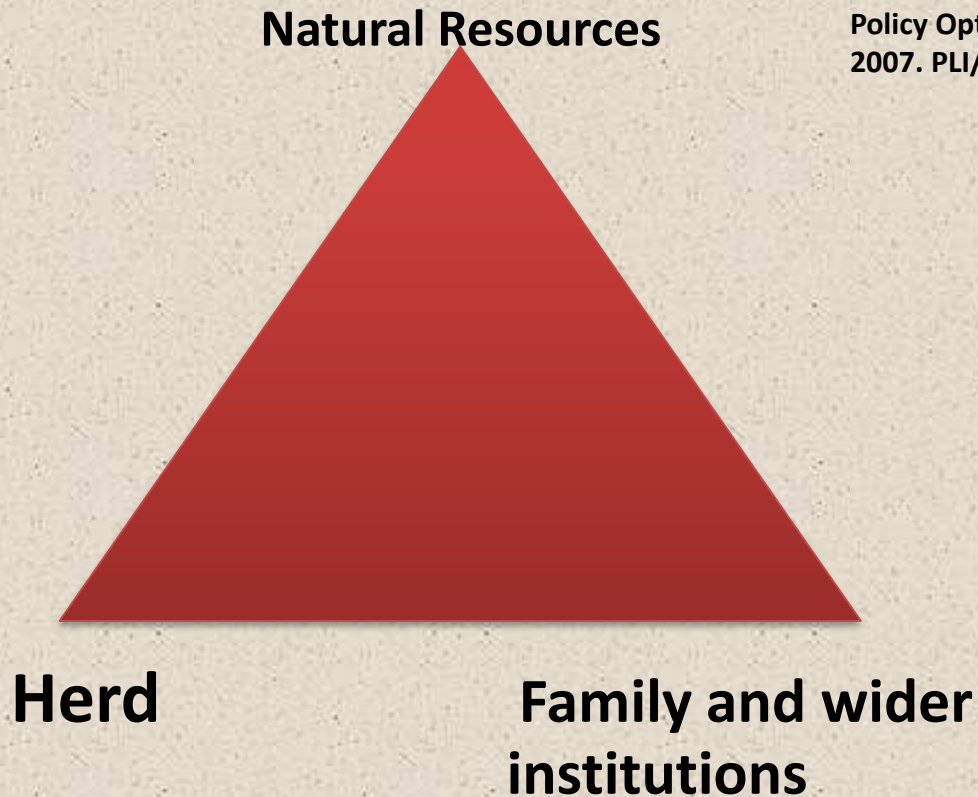


Stresemann's Bush Crow in Yabello District (Photo
Credit: <http://flickrhivemind.net/Tags/borena/Recent>)

1. Context in brief

System = a unified whole of regularly interacting and interdependent components or units.

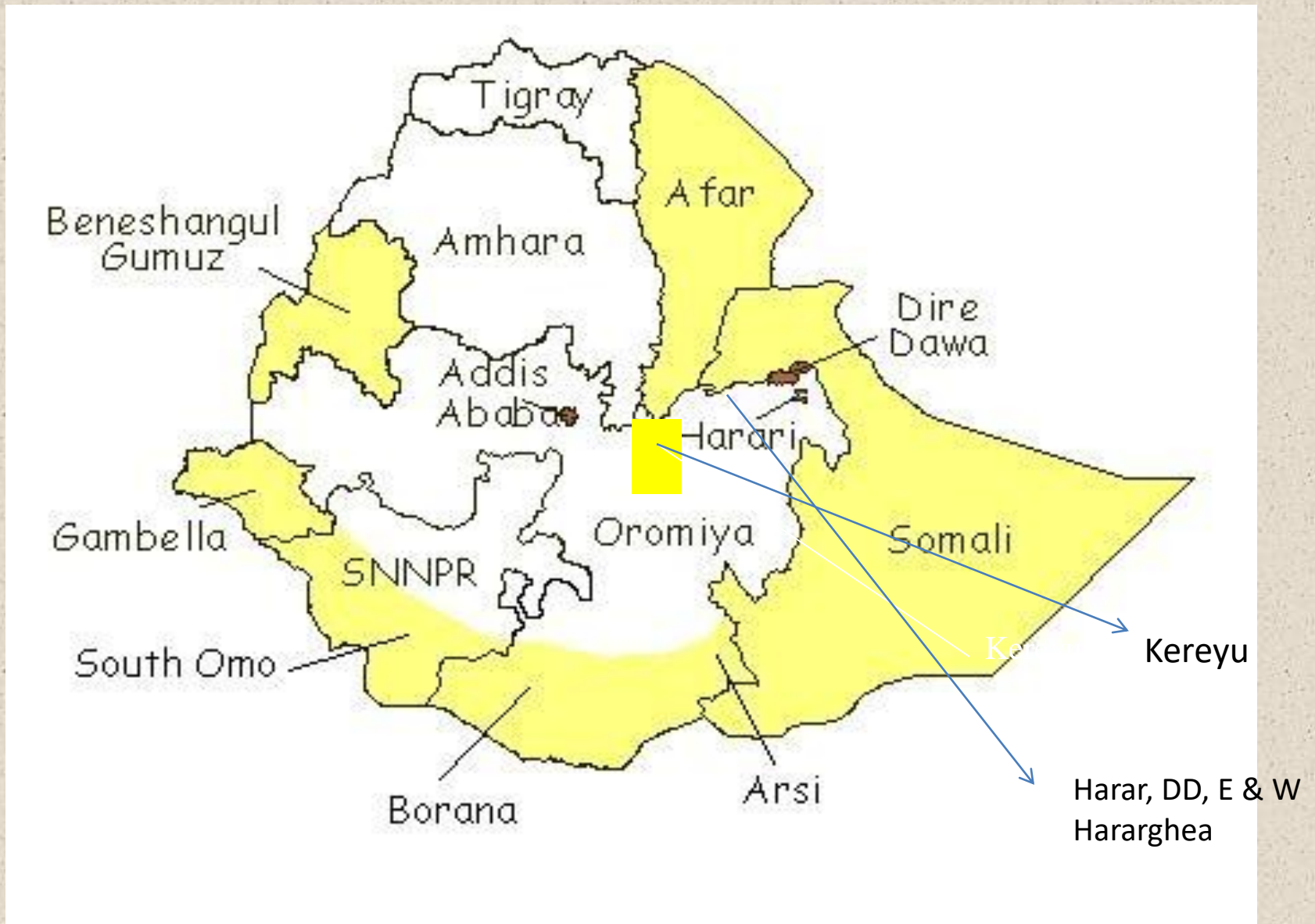
Source: Dynamics of Pastoral Systems and Policy Options in Ethiopia. Trainer's Manual. 2007. PLI/Tufts University. USAID



Key message

Pastoralism is a SYSTEM made up of three distinct components that interact with each other to drive and sustain the system

Draft Sketch of PASTORAL MAP OF ETHIOPIA (unofficial!!)



3. Myths, discourses and narratives...

Implications

- **A long history of marginalization of pastoralist (eg. national agricultural policies hitherto favoring crop farming, low socio-economic development, poor representation, etc)**
- **Biased pastoral policy and strategy (much focus on changing the way of life and livelihood than supporting both inseparably!!)**
- **Increasing poverty and vulnerability to calamities**



Camels conveying pastoral messages to policy makers and celebrants,
12th EPD 2012, Jigjiga.
Photo credit: PFE

2. Economic Contributions of Pastoralism

- Livelihood system and a way of life for a total of 14.3m people (HDRP 2018)
- Residing in 183 Weredas (appx. 23% of total woredas) in five Regional States, which encompasses about 60% of nation's total landmass.
- About 42% total TLU of the country's livestock resources
- 10% of the GDP (Rodriguez 2008). Some argue it is 16%!
- 20% of draft animals in the highlands are obtained from the pastoral lowlands (Interconnectedness)



**Total Economic Value of
Pastoralism =**
(Source: WISP 2008)

**15 billion Birr/Y equals 16% of
GDP in 2005-6**

**Direct values – milk, meat,
hides/skins, sales, exports –**
11 billion Birr/Y

**Indirect values:- traction/ manure,
tourism, incense/gums –**
4.1 billion

Meat – 150,000 MT/year, 29%
national production

Milk – 1.1 billion liters/year, 41%
national production

Recent IGAD study (2011)

TEV livestock in Ethiopia in 2008-9 estimated at
113 billion Birr

Unofficial cross-border trade
US\$138 million/year

2. Pastoral economic contribution...

- Protecting and developing environment and natural resources for centuries
- Custodian of cultural heritages and genetic resources (FAO, 2010 Guardians of biodiversity).
- Endowed with *home-grown governance* (Gada System in Oromo & Clan Systems in Afar and Somali, various institutions in SNNP)



40th Gumi Gayo of the Borana Gada system (Aug-sep 2012) (Photo credit: Ms. Darartu C. 2012)

Socio-economic situation of pastoralist Consumption poverty index (MOFEC, 2017)

Region	1996	2000	2005	2011	2016	% change (2016/ 1996)
Regional States	%	%	%	%	%	
Tigray	50.6	61.4	48.5	31.8	27.0	-46.6
Afar	33.1	56	36.6	36.1	23.6	-28.7
Amhara	54.3	41.8	40.1	30.5	26.1	-51.9
Oromia	34.0	39.9	37.0	28.7	23.9	-29.7
Ethiopian Somalimali	30.9	37.9	41.9	32.8	22.4	-27.5
Beneshangul_ Gumuz	46.8	54.0	44.5	28.9	26.5	-43.4
SNNP	55.9	50.9	38.2	29.6	20.7	-63.0
Gamberlla	34.2	50.5	na	32.0	23.0	-32.7
Harari	22.5	25.8	27.0	11.1	7.1	-68.4
Special City Administrations						
Addis Ababa	30.2	36.1	32.5	28.1	16.8	-44.4
Dire Dawa	29.4	33.1	35.1	28.3	15.4	-47.6
TOTAL	45.5	44.2	38.7	29.6	23.5	-48.4

The national poverty line estimate for Ethiopia based on a 2010/11 CSA household survey is EB 3,781 per adult equivalent/year (about ET Birr 20 per capita/day or US\$ 1.0 per day).

Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index, Trends (Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative 2017)

	2005	2011	2016	2017	% change (2011-2017)
Tigray	84.2	69.9	56.5	57.1	-47%
Afar	91.4	81	78.7	77.6	-18%
Amhara	89.7	76.3	67.1	65.7	-37%
Oromia	85.8	76.7	70.8	59.8	-43%
Ethio-Somali	94.2	84.8	80.1	74.6	-26%
BG	88.7	76.7	64.5	62.3	-42%
SNNPR	87.2	77.5	62.2	54.2	-61%
Gambella	77.8	62.1	42	54.3	-43%
Harari	49.5	42.1	39.4	28.2	-76%
Addis Ababa	10.9	12.6	5.4	2.5	-336%
Dire Dawa	51.7	42.8	39.2	35	-48%
National	85	73.9	64.8	58.1	-46%

Number of Drought affected population needed assistance in 2016 and 2017 (NDRMC 2018)

Region	Baseline Population (millions CSA 2016)	Drought Affected Population (millions '16, ('17)	Percentage off affected population
Afar	1.70	0.41 (0.41)	25 (25)
Amhara	20.70	2.20 (0.65)	11 (03)
Benishagul Gumuz	1.00	0.079 (0.021)	8 (2)
Gambela	0.40	0.039 (0.034)	9 (9)
Harari & Dire Dawa	0.23	(0.014)	(6)
Oromia	34.5	3.70 (2.05)	11 (6)
SNNP	18.7	0.67 (0.52)	4 (3)
Ethio-Somali	5.5	1.50 (1.70)	27(31)
Tigray	5.1	1.20 (0.31)	24 (06)

4. Pastoral Policy and institution

- ❑ FDRE Constitution 1995
(Art. 40.5, Art 41:2, 8)**

- ❑ FDRE Pastoralist Policy and Strategy by Ministry of Peace
(final draft)**
 - Driven by pastoralist and partners (Ethiopian Pastoralist Day)**
 - Bring together fragmented policies and strategies**
 - Evidence based and broader stakeholder consultations**
 - Regional and continental policy frameworks considered**
 - New, comprehensive and pro-pastoralist**

4. Policy and institution...

- **Vision**

Creating pastoralist that is resilient to manmade and natural disasters that has an improved and sustainable livelihood, environment, and institutions where democracy and good governance are ensured and peaceful and accommodating development is realized

- **General objective**

Realizing sustainably improved livelihood of pastoralists through integrated development that is centered on the animal resources, material and spiritual, and other reliable endowments of the pastoral people.

4. Policy and institution...

- **Basic Pillars of the Pastoral Development Policy**
 - Improving the livelihood standard and income of mobile pastoralists through increasing animal production and productivity
 - Conduct voluntary villagization programs to improve the income sources and living standards of pastoral communities

4. Policy and institution...

- **The First Policy Issue: Increasing the income generating capacity of pastoralists and improve their living standard.**
- Maximizing animal productivity and ensuring the increment of benefit of pastoralists;
- Improving the water resources development and administration in order to maximize benefits of pastoralists;
- Expand the agricultural activities of pastoralists in tandem with modern soil and water conservation practices;
- Conduct a pre-planned and well organized voluntary villagization program in order to ensure that pastoralists are beneficiaries of settled life.

4. Policy and institution...

The second Policy issue: Expanding social and economic infrastructure and urban areas together with industry to modernize the life of pastoralists.

- Increasing accessibility of quality health services in pastoral areas;
- Increasing accessibility of quality education services in pastoral areas;
- Expanding pastoral urban areas integrating with industry; and,
- Expanding infrastructure development activities in line with pastoral way of life and source of income.

4. Policy and institution...

The third policy issue: Building the implementation capacity of pastoralists and grounding good governance and constitutional democracy on strong foundation in order to ensure maximized participation and benefit of pastoralists.

- Building good governance and guaranteed democracy that centers on the custom and knowledge of pastoralist communities;
- Building the human resources development and implementation capacity that centers on the lifestyle and work culture of pastoral communities.

4. Policy and institution...

The fourth policy issue: Ensuring sustainability and reliability of the development and progress of pastoralists by treating critical cross-sectoral issues as economic and social, and capacity building and good governance issues.

- Prevent and resolve disputes sustainably on the basis of pastoral community's custom and knowledge
- Strengthening good customary practices and discouraging harmful customary practices and expand participation and benefit sharing of women and youth
- Strengthening forest and natural resources conservation and development activities in pastoral areas.

4. Policy and institution...

Institution

The leading Government organ on pastoralist issue at Federal level is the Ministry of Peace (Former MoFPDA)

According to Proclamation #1079/2018:

1. All mandates of MoFPDA is given to MoP
2. Coordinate all pastoralist developments in the country, harmonize and monitor

Regions

1. SNNP: Pastoralist Development Commission
2. Oromia: Pastoralist Development Commission
3. Somali and Afar: Under BoA, Environment, Crop Livestock in Mix

5. Prospect and assumption

- **The ‘Candle Story’**

Broader Prospect to invest on/develop pastoralism:

- **Political significance (Ethiopian constitution, AU PFP, IGAD region perspective)**
- **New pastoralist policy and strategy**
- **Economic significance (high demand for meat and milk)**
- **Growing new programs (WB new program USD500m), USAID**
- **Current good perception from Ethiopia regions and partners**
- **Communal land certification (more protection)**
- **Lack of feasible utilization of vast rangeland, except pastoralism**
- **Lowland and highland interconnection and mutual support**

Broader Assumptions:

- Strong political will of the government (carefully crafting and coordinating pastoralist resilience building and other development initiatives)
- Huge and continues donor support as resilience is a long term investment
- Strengthening traditional social safety-net (network)
- Good political wind blowing into the country (benefit more pastoralist by reducing conflict and creating more democratic space)
- The new philosophy of HDRP 2018 (linking DRM with humanitarian intervention)
- ‘Value money’ principle will be effected
- Progress in Ethiopian Pastoralist Day (EPD), emergence of pastoral platforms (CAT, PasMAP)

“Transforming the pastoralists to farmers is not our government policy or position. The government policy in relation to pastoralist is transforming the traditional livestock production system in to modern and improved production system!!” Pastoralism is a way of life and it is not a backward system!!

Prime Minister of the FDRE, H.E. Hailemariam Desalegn in his statement at the 16th EPD Celebration.



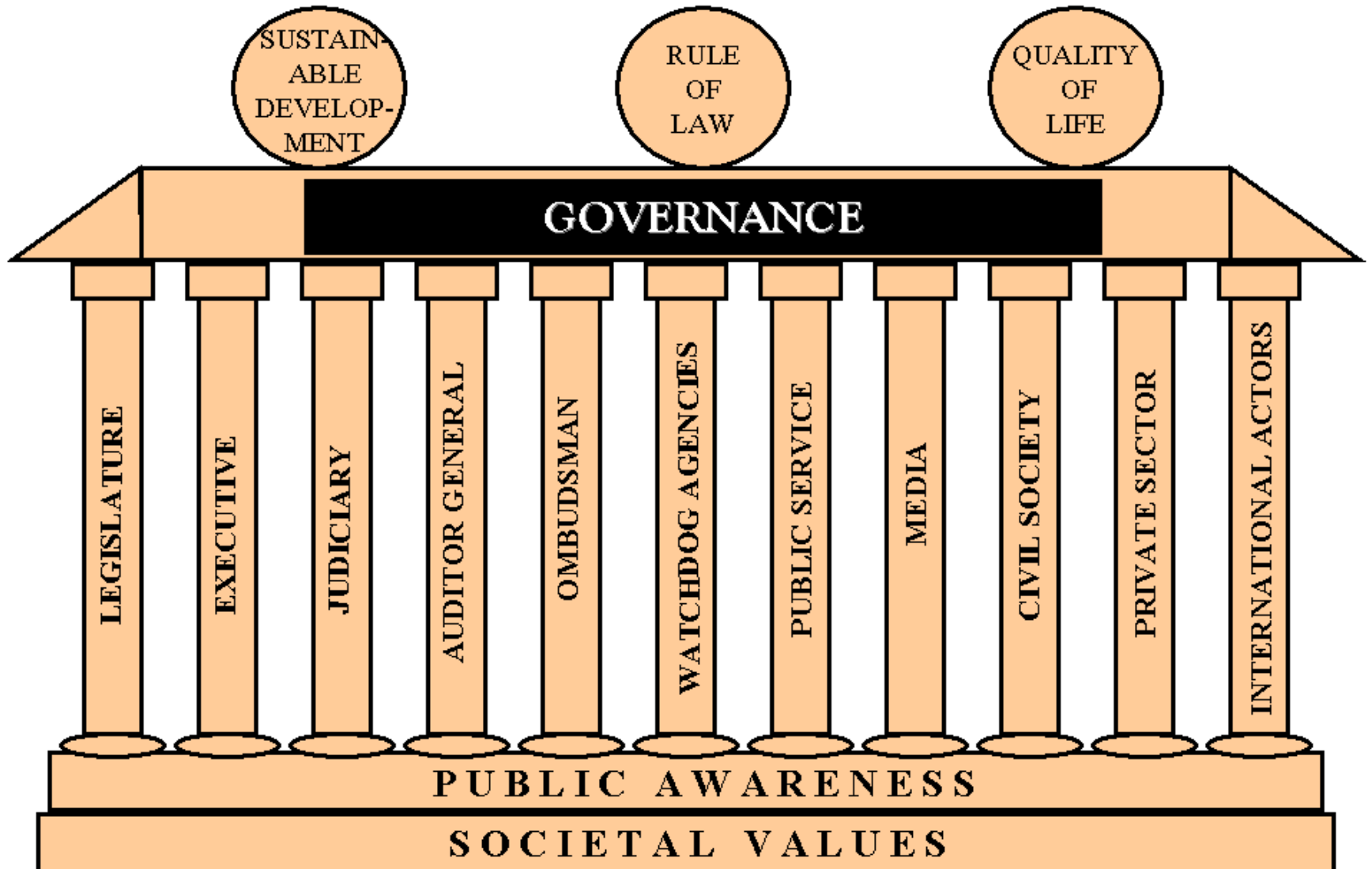
“Marking Pastoralist Day has been playing a significant role in creating a forum for discussion and consultation among stakeholders, thereby addressing challenges facing our pastoralists.” Prime Minister of the FDRE, H.E. Hailemariam Desalegn in his statement at the 15th EPD Celebration.²³

7. Key Challenges and messages

- **In adequate appreciation and valuing pastoralism.** Pastoralism deserves credit as a sophisticated and ecologically valuable food production and land use strategy – the only means of **producing** food without replacing the natural vegetation!
- **Inadequate clarity of many pastoral actors on pastoralism, pastoral development issues and low level of integration in action (does drought instigates famine?!)**
- **Lack of clear and longterm pastoral development strategy/ Roadmap at regional and federal level collating with regional policy frameworks (AU PFP) and instruments (IGAD instruments) and SDGs etc!**
- **Fear of emerging megaprojects, factories and technologies *disrupting pastorals system* by taking large productive grazing land and *diluting pastoral population and cultural setting***
- **Good governance**

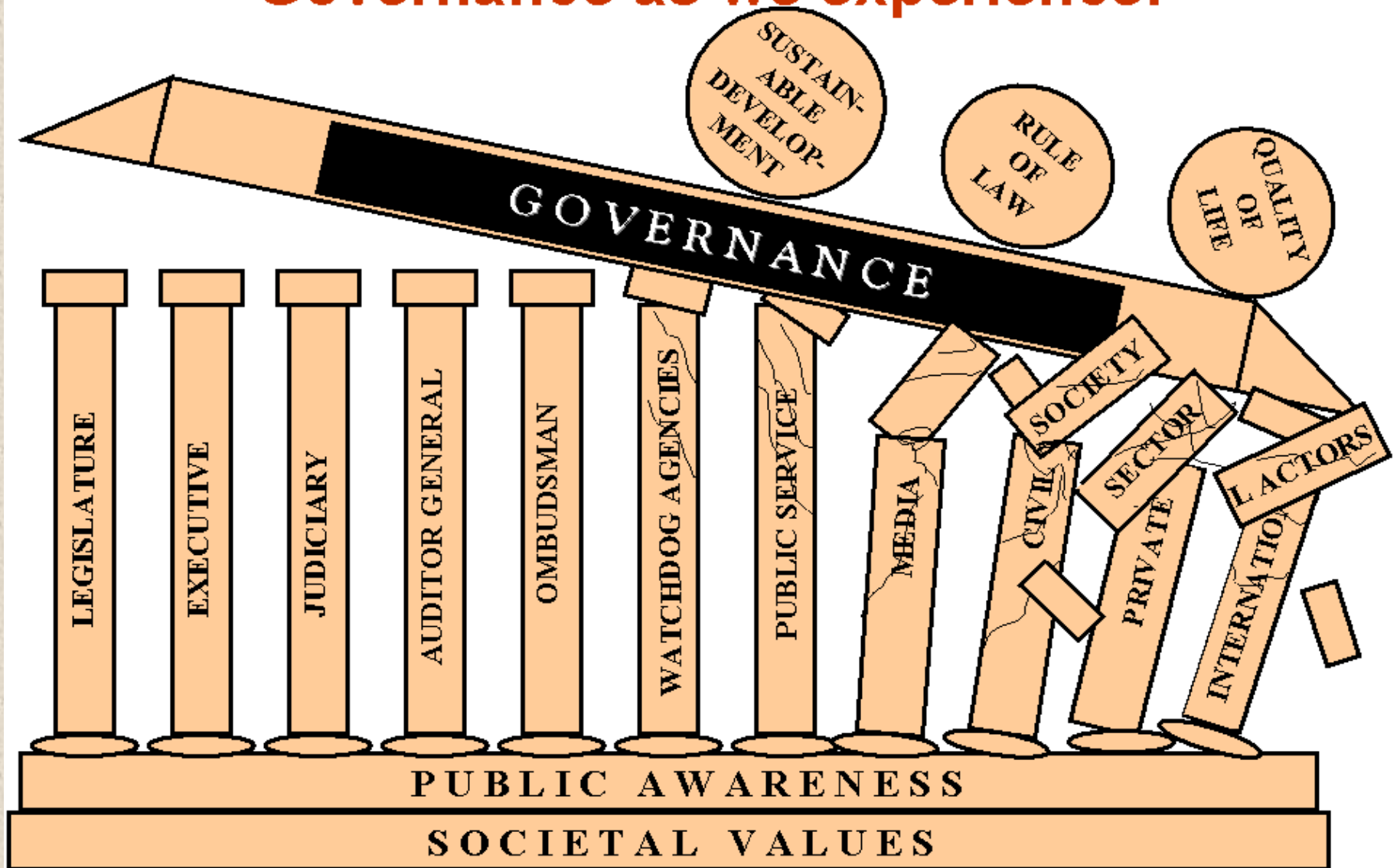
7. Key Challenges ...

Governance in Theory



7. Key Challenges ...

Governance as we experience!



!!Key messages (TAKE AWAY)!!

- **Shifting the dominant paradigm: focusing less on the *Limitations* of pastoralism (degradation, conflict, population pressure etc) but more on the *Potentials* of pastoralism and pastoralist (livestock, social capital, land etc)!!**
- **Pastoralism is not a problem to be solved, but it is a way of life and livelihood system to be supported and developed!!**
- **Get more coordinated, harmonized and aligned and enter into full action for the betterment of life and livelihood of pastoralist**
- **Develop longterm Roadmap (25-30years) for the development of pastoralism and building resilience**
- **Support and strengthening CSOs and NGOs and private sector (eg. RESET program)**

A Blind person asked St. Anthony, "Can there be anything worse than losing eye sight? , He replied: "Yes, losing your vision" .

THANK YOU!
Paradigm Shift:
From Shouting to
counting!!!

