Pastoralist Environment Association in Kassala State (PEAKS)

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About PEAKS:
The Pastoralist Environment Association in Kassala State (PEAKS) is a community led local organization operating in the Kassala State of Eastern Sudan. The establishment of PEAKS was the result of several workshops and training programmes conducted by the Pastoral and Environmental Network in the Horn of Africa (PENHA) in cooperation with the Animal Production Resources Centre in Khartoum (APRC) which is part of the Animal Resources Research Corporation within the Ministry of Animal Resources. This took place in Kassala in the years 2007-2008. One of PEAKS major aims is to improve the livelihood of pastoralists in Eastern Sudan by addressing the serious lack of animal food there. This is caused by rain scarcity in the long drought seasons which affects this area as well as many other parts of Sudan.

PEAKS was formed officially in 2008 with strong support from PENHA and is registered as a community based organisation under Sudanese Law. It has its own governing council, secretariat, fee paying associate members and supporters, a bank account and logo.

PEAKS Objectives:
• Serving the pastoralists’ interest by studying their social and economic problems and endeavouring to solve them.
• Working to enhance the pastoralists’ life through training workshops and awareness-raising campaigns among them.
• Helping pastoralist women to increase their income through training workshops within wider women empowerment projects.
• Working to improve education at the grass-roots level.
• Working to improve human and animal health.
• Building up PEAKS capacity in research, proposal writing, fundraising, management and communication.

**PEAKS Achievements:**
Since the partnership agreement between PENHA and PEAKS in October 2009, PENHA secured funds to cover the cost of PEAKS office rent, equipping the office, capacity building and staff/volunteers costs.
• With PENHA support, conducted surveys on the social and economic position of pastoralist communities in several districts in the rural areas of Kassala State.
• In 2007 and 2008 in cooperation with PENHA and the APRC in Khartoum, ran five training workshops involving 200 pastoralists on how to produce fodder. 80 of the trainees were women from around Kassala. Those thus trained were then able to pass on the training to several hundred other pastoralists.
• Ran four other training workshops on fodder preparation and business skills specifically for women. Also, in collaboration with Plan Sudan funded by the EU, it ran a workshop on fodder production for 52 women in the Ghirba and Atbara localities.
• Supported Ghulsa School for girls with a water pipe, equipment for a teacher’s office and a veranda providing shade along the classrooms.
• Provided the Ghulsa boys school with 200 sets of school uniforms

PEAKS Plans for 2011
• To continue the training programmes in fodder production and business skills particularly for the pastoralist women.
• To help to solve the shortage in animal feed by providing fodder to pastoralists at very low cost together with locally produced fodder choppers.
• To train the pastoralists to improve animal health and support them with mobile veterinary units.
• To fund small income generating activities for poor families, such as milk production, handcrafts and business skill,
• To build up PEAKS’s capacity for better management.

PEAKS Partners and Supporters
Pastoral and Environmental Network in the Horn of Africa (PENHA)
Oxfam Novib (the Netherlands)
Animal Production Resources Centre, Ministry of Animal Resources (Khartoum)
Plan Sudan – EC (European Commission)
FAO (Food and Agricultural Organization of the UN)
UNICEF (United Nations Children Fund)
Nomads Education Section, Ministry of Education, Kassala State

How to contact us:
Our office is located within the ISRA offices, near Agip Station, Kassala State, Sudan.

Mobiles:
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Oxfam Novib representative visiting pastoralists in Kassala