

Recent Publication

Pastoralism and development in Africa: dynamic change at the margins

Edited by A. Catley, J. Lind and I. Scoones

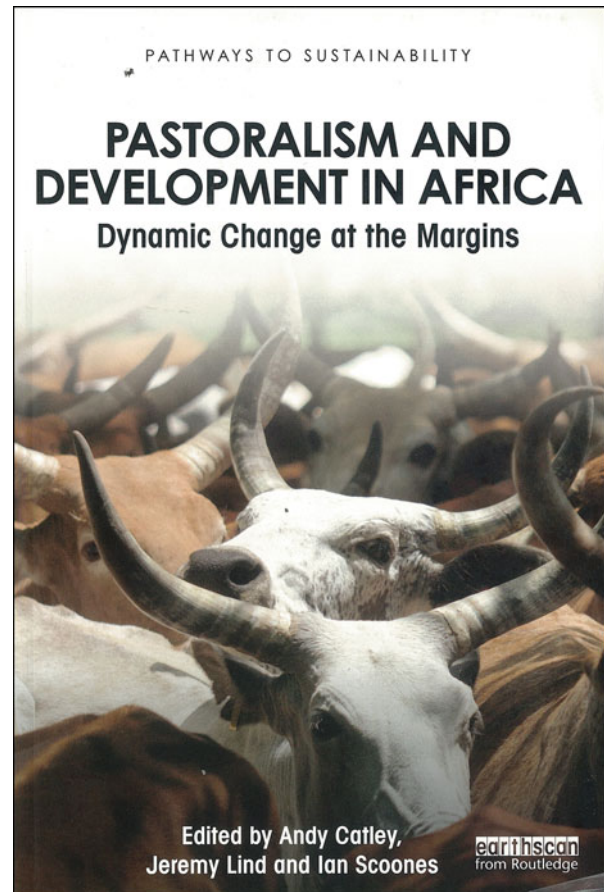
Earthscan

Published in 2012, pp. 295

ISBN 978-0-415-54072-8

doi:10.1017/S2078633612000641

This book, which focuses on the Greater Horn of Africa region, seeks to address some of the recurrent misunderstandings about pastoral livelihoods. It presents examples of innovation and entrepreneurship, networking and cooperation “at the margins”, rather than focusing merely on conflict, violence, drought and famine. Thematic chapters are grouped into three sections: resources and production (including discussion of rangeland enclosures, irrigation in pastoral areas and the effects of climate change); commercialization and markets (including dissections of the relationships between commercialization and destitution in pastoral areas, opportunities associated with camel export markets and the marketing of camel milk to small towns, and the role played by “responsible” companies – i.e. purveyors of Corporate Social Responsibility – in pastoral development); land and conflict (land grabbing, land deals, changing resource tenure, the need to strengthen land laws and pastoral rights); and alternative livelihoods (including discussion of distance learning programmes, social protection for pastoralists, and women and economic diversification). The book’s last chapter summarizes six prominent inter-related themes important for the future of pastoral development and reflects on the future potential for a viable pastoralism. The author concludes that mobile pastoralism will continue in the low-rainfall rangelands of the Horn as no viable alternative



use has been found for these areas. An “optimistic scenario” for pastoralism in the region in 2030 is contrasted with the current picture of poverty, food insecurity and land grabs.