

## Landownership in Rangeland: Comparative Analysis in Mediterranean (Le foncier dans les zones de parcours : regards croisés en Méditerranée)

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Landownership is a complex issue in rangeland area, especially within pastoralism. Over many centuries, rangelands were managed by societies of breeders and/or hunters using the vegetal resources to feed the herds of domestic and wild ruminants which were the base of their food security and incomes. Local conflicts were usually solved through specific mechanisms involving the governance of the different warring parties. The emergence of a colonization processes have led to the annihilations of pastoral and agricultural societies, such as the Amerindians, Aborigines and some groups in Central Asia colonized by the Huns, the Alains? then by the Mongols. From the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, landownership range land resources have been more intensively coveted at a global scale, due to larger herds inducing a higher animal load. Consequently, a degradation of pastures has been noticed, as mentioned in *The Tragedy of Commons* (Hardin, 1968). Over the last decades, in diverse rangeland areas, especially in the Mediterranean zone, the renewing of collective actions regarding rangeland resources management has been noticed. In the Bedouin case study in the North Western Coast, Egypt, collective initiatives are considered promising innovations to tackle the impacts of the recent 15-year drought at local and regional scale. In the Larzac case study, France, the landownership is collective through the SCTL (Civil Society for Larzac Land/Terre) which rent the land to the breeders. This avoids the huge investment in land for the new breeders. In the same region, another collective initiative is managing a dairy factory as a local alternative to the global agribusiness. Twenty years after, this alternative joins the milk of 80 breeders, has an annual growth of 20%, employs 30 persons and became a significant enterprise at regional scale. In the Cévennes case study, France, the breeders association has negotiated the access to the natural pastures of the landowners who do not exploit these pastures. The association has also negotiated with the other users, such as the tourism enterprises, the hunters, the forest operators, the farmers, etc. The association is also working to coordinate the marketing chains, including the management of the slaughterhouse and the shops of local products. Comparative situations are mentioned in other countries including Morocco, Lebanon and Egypt

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