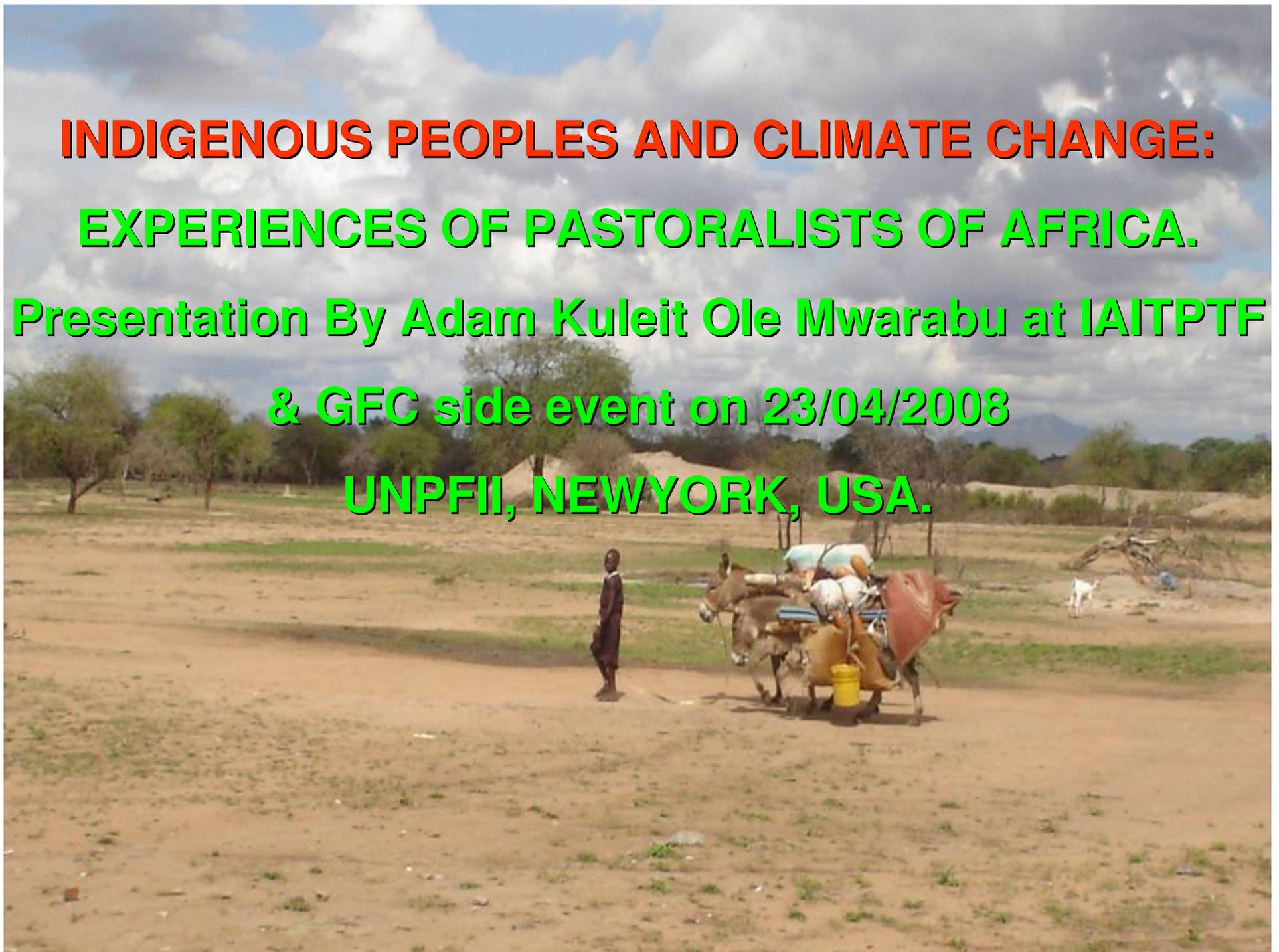


**INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND CLIMATE CHANGE:
EXPERIENCES OF PASTORALISTS OF AFRICA.**

**Presentation By Adam Kuleit Ole Mwarabu at IAITPTF
& GFC side event on 23/04/2008**

UNPFII, NEWYORK, USA.



1. Introduction:

Pastoralism is a subsistence pattern in which people make their living by tending herds of large number of livestock. Pastoralism is a land-use influenced by the availability of land resources, the political situation and the traditions of the group. Mobility of grazing is essential for survival of herds in areas of low and unreliable rainfall so pastoral systems must be mobile, have a large area to range over and imply some degree of nomadism or transhumance. The species of livestock in Africa vary from one sub region to another. Africa has many pastoral communities include Maasai, Tuareq, Samburu, Fulani, Amazig, Barbaig, Boran, Afar, Gabra, Somali, Karamojong', Dinger and Ovahimba.

2. Vulnerability of nomadic pastoralists in Africa

1. Historical injustices:

- Nature of livelihood is regarded primitive from colonial period to present
- $\frac{3}{4}$ of traditional grazing lands taken for protected areas due to the concept of “conservation without people”, militarization, small & large scale farming and urbanization among other.

2. Impacts of climate change:

- Prolonged droughts eg.2005-2006
- Rift Valley Fever 2007
- Chronic Malaria
- Food insecurity
- Forced migration to cities
- Conflicts over natural resources and cattle raiding
- Spread of HIV/AIDS
- East Coast Fever
- Continuing loss of culture

3. Pastoralist Community Based Mitigation Initiatives

1. Selection of different animal breeds suitable to the environment.
2. Customary land use planning-communal ownership of land and resources, reserve ritual, herbs/medicinal plants, forests and grazing patterns and wildlife management
3. Searching for water and pastures in wetter areas-in mountainous and valleys areas
4. Seasonal grazing and browsing
5. Invest in new forms of economies e.g. build of houses for rent and schools, ecotourism ventures etc
6. Create awareness of environmental issues and new diseases
7. Community to community networking
8. Grow of grains and other crops to ensure food security

Indicators of climate change:

Mount Kilimanjaro ice/snow is depleting year by year

(In 1912 the glacier covered the whole peak but now it is only strips of snow)





Scarcity of water is ever increasing in nomadic pastoralists areas

Cattle raiding is increasing in the most affected semi and arid lands of Africa



4. Challenges

1. Lack of modern meteorological information for nomadic pastoralists
2. Inadequate dissemination of information on national, regional and international processes on climate change
3. Little understanding of traditional livelihoods systems and adaptation knowledge
4. Use of the concept "**conservation without people**"
5. Poor political will, financial resources and commitment in addressing negative impacts of climate change
6. Marginalization of Indigenous pastoralists

5. Recommendations to Indigenous NGOs, Governments and Regional bodies and International community.

1. Capacity building of pastoralists in addressing the issues of climate change
2. Recognition of customary practices on biodiversity conservation
3. Recognition of Indigenous peoples participation in the process
4. Strengthening networking among pastoralists
5. Conduct research on the impact of climate change in Pastoralists lands

**Come and Learn from Kilimanjaro Mountain:
Thank you
Bye**

