



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



United Nations
Convention to Combat
Desertification

Rangelands and pastoral lands in the Arab region

Let the pastoralists tell their stories

*Petra Samaha/ LCPS
Lebanon*

LCPS

المركز اللبناني للدراسات
The Lebanese Center
for Policy Studies



High Atlas, Morocco © İnanç Tekgüç, GDF & MBLA

Stories of Pastoralism

- Agro-pastoralism in the Lebanon → export oriented agriculture, privatization
- Herders in Syria, Jordan and Oman → Natural reserves and oil extraction, privatization
- Bedouins of the West Bank → Occupation and Colonial Settlements
- *Merhal* in Sudan / customary laws and collective ownership



Land Degradation and Pastoralism

- Fire prevention
- Regeneration of tree cover
- Soil organics & nutrients
- Carbon footprint
- Overgrazing
- Abandonment
- Non human factors



Way Forward - VGGT

- What states “should” do
 - Framing recommendations
 - Work on operationalization
 - Reality in the Arab world
 - Specific context of each country
 - Relevant actors and institutions
-
- Web of interests & unbalanced power relations
 - International systems (food, capital, arms/wars
→ migrations, etc.)

VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES ON THE
**Responsible
Governance of Tenure**
OF LAND, FISHERIES AND FORESTS IN
THE CONTEXT OF NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY



Way Forward - Institutions & Governance

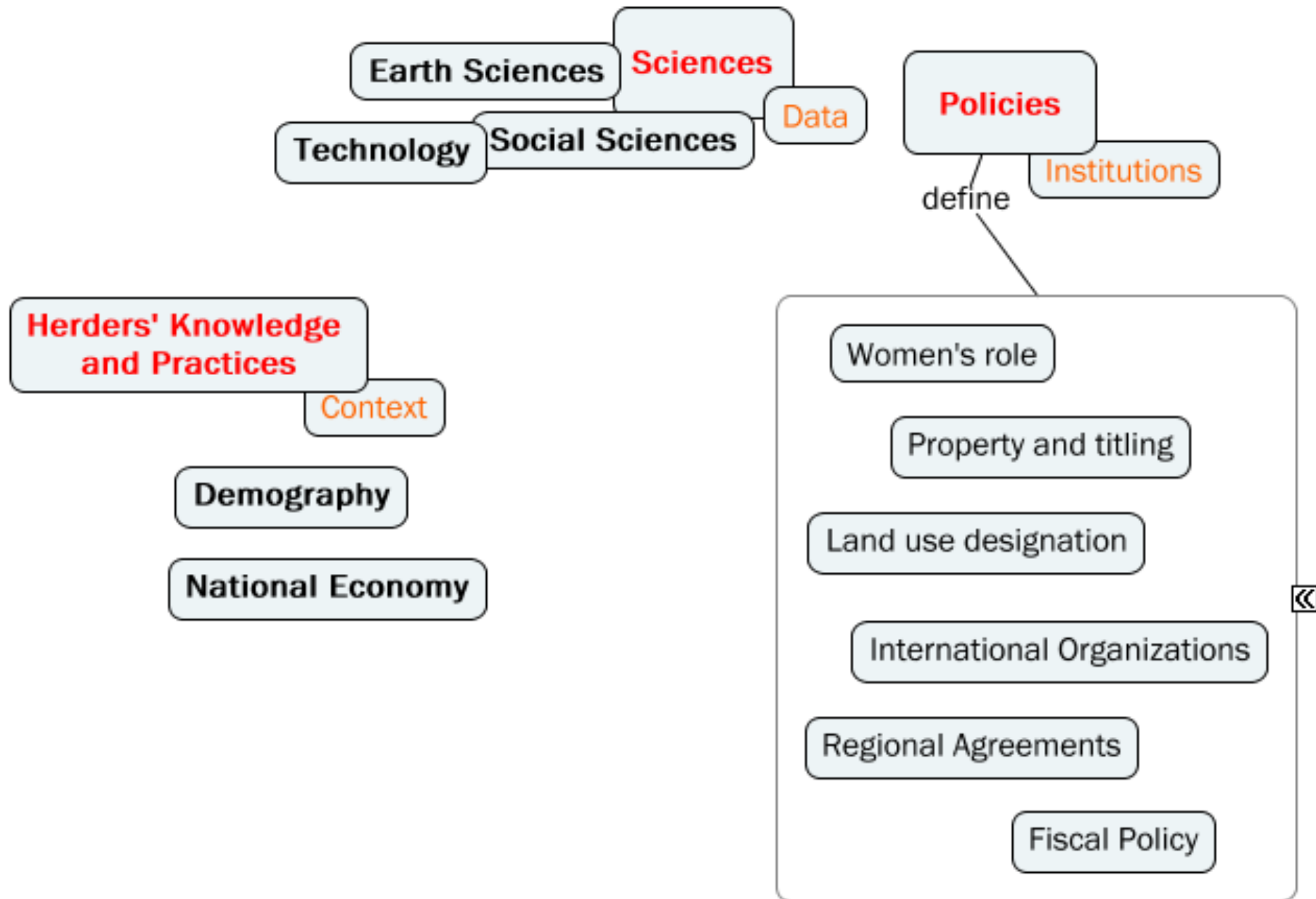
- Land use planning
- National economic policies
- Suitable land taxation
- Technology for agro-pastoralism
- Land use bound leaseholds
- Grievance and legitimacy



Sudan, New African Magazine 2015



Way Forward - Institutions & Governance



THANK YOU

