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**IYRP 2026 Global Action Plan**

The Global Alliance for the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP) 2026 Action Plan outlines our comprehensive strategy to promote the sustainable management of rangelands and pastoralism at global, regional, national and local levels. The plan is structured around five key strategies: 1) Coalition Building, 2) Knowledge Generation, 3) Celebration & Awareness Raising, 4) Policy Advocacy and 5) Appropriate investments. Each strategy is broken down into specific results, objectives, and activities, with level of implementation and indicators of success to measure progress.

**Strategy 1: Coalition Building**

The first strategy focuses on building a strong, effective, and durable global partnership to support rangelands and pastoralism. This involves establishing a coalition of countries, enhancing governance and coordination mechanisms, and fostering partnerships among pastoralists, civil society organizations (CSOs), and other stakeholders.

**Result 1.1: Multi-stakeholder partnership Established**

A coalition of countries will be established under the leadership of the Mongolian Government and will provide leadership to the multi-stakeholder partnership to actively promote IYRP 2026 and beyond 2026. The coalition will engage with regional and global state and non-state institutions to advocate for healthy rangelands and sustainable pastoralism.

* **Level of Implementation:** Global
* **Indicators of Success:** Coalition of countries consistently and frequently engages with regional and global institutions and events to promote healthy rangelands and sustainable pastoralism. Number of events organized in different countries.
* **Objective 1.1.1:** Establish a coordination mechanism for the coalition within the UNCCD under the leadership of the Mongolian Government.
  + **Activity 1.1.1.1:** Secure budgetary resources for the coalition to carry out its activities in line with its UNCCD mandate.
  + **Activity 1.1.1.2:** Engage with the IYRP Global Alliance and the FAO International Steering Committee to jointly promote IYRP 2026.

**Result 1.2: Effective Governance of the IYRP Global Alliance**

The governance and coordination of the IYRP Global Alliance will be strengthened to ensure flexibility and effectiveness in promoting IYRP 2026 events.

* **Level of Implementation:** Global
* **Indicators of Success:** Global Alliance of IYRP successfully promotes events for IYRP 2026 and beyond.
* **Objective 1.2.1:** Establish and maintain effective coordination and governance mechanisms at the global level.
  + **Activity 1.2.1.1:** Ensure the Global Secretariat has the resources and capacity for effective communication and decision-making.
* **Objective 1.2.2:** Establish and maintain effective coordination and governance mechanisms at regional levels.
  + **Level of Implementation:** Regional
  + **Activity 1.2.2.1:** Ensure each Regional IYRP Support Group (RISG) has the capacity for effective communication, decision-making, and organizing events.
* **Objective 1.2.3:** Ensure effective collaboration between the IYRP Global Alliance and the FAO International Steering Committee.
  + **Activity 1.2.3.1:** Ensure the IYRP Global Alliance has the capacity and resources to respond to requests from the International Steering Committee and the Coalition of Countries.

**Result 1.3: Partnerships with Pastoralists and CSOs**

Pastoralists and CSOs will build partnerships and alliances to enhance knowledge transfer, visibility, and participation in decision-making processes. Pastoralists will lead partnership activities and ensure their voices are reflected in its messaging.

* **Level of Implementation:** All Levels
* **Indicators of Success:** The voice of pastoralists is heard more strongly in global, regional, and national decision-making events, including policies.
* **Objective 1.3.1:** Establish effective coordination and governance mechanisms for pastoralists groups.
  + **Activity 1.3.1.1:** Promote leadership and governance mechanisms for pastoralist producer groups, such as WAMIP and the Global Pastoralist Youth Forum at the global level, and regional pastoralist associations such as the Central Asia Pastoralist Alliance, South Asia Pastoral Alliance, Rangelands Initiative Africa, through stakeholder engagement.
  + **Activity 1.3.1.2:** Ensure pastoralist groups engage with and participate fully in relevant global, regional, and national events.
  + **Activity 1.3.1.3:** Facilitate the Global Gathering of Women Pastoralists in 2025 and 2026.
  + **Activity 1.3.1.4:** Facilitate the Global Gathering of Pastoralists in Mongolia ahead of the UNCCD COP17.
  + **Activity 1.3.1.5:** Facilitate the Global Gathering of Pastoralists in Armenia during the CBD COP17.
  + **Activity 1.**3.1.6: Facilitate the Global Gathering of Youth Pastoralists in Spain in 2026
  + **Activity 1.**3.1.7: Facilitate a pastoralists dialogue in 2025 and 2026 with policy makers in Uganda to enhance recognition of pastoralist and their institutions in decision making and policy processes
  + **Activity 1.**3.1.8: Organizing community, district and national level events in the preparation for IYRP to validate key messages and obligations of IYRP.
  + **Activity 1.**3.1.9: Support the establishment of a pastoral caucus for the UNCCD

**Strategy 2: Knowledge Generation**

Our second strategy aims to enhance knowledge about the state, extent, benefits, threats, and opportunities related to rangelands and pastoralism. It focuses on documenting local knowledge, innovations, and best practices for sustainable rangeland management and pastoralist development.

**Result 2.1: Enhanced Knowledge on Rangelands and Pastoralism**

Knowledge about the state, extent, benefits, threats, and opportunities related to rangelands and pastoralism will be enhanced. Local knowledge, innovations, and best practices will be documented and shared.

* **Level of Implementation:** All levels (global, regional, national)
* **Indicators of Success:** Significant increase in the number of scientific and technical activities and publications at a global scale. Recognition of best practices through awards and publications.
* **Objective 2.1.1:** Promote scientific knowledge on the links between environmental, social, economic, and political factors and sustainable rangeland management.
  + **Activity 2.1.1.1:** Support working groups focused on knowledge generation.
  + **Activity 2.**1.1.2 Support a rangeland restoration champions initiative.
  + **Activity 2.**1.1.3: Support a regional conference on customary tenure rights in the Horn of Africa in Nairobi Kenya in September 24-26th 2025
  + **Activity 2.**1.1.4: Support a pastoralist learning lab in the Horn of Africa in June 2025 in Nairobi
  + **Activity 2.**1.1.5: Producing lobbying and communication materials and translating key messages into local languages for easy understanding by pastoralist communities
* **Objective 2.1.2:** Promote knowledge and data analysis on the state and extent of rangelands and pastoralism.
  + **Activity 2.1.2.1:** Launch a global rangelands data platform
  + **Activity 2.**1.2.2: Support the documentation of regional policy case studies on land tenure, mobility and policy changes in the Eastern Africa Region including lessons learnt, challenges and recommendations for policy learning, lobbying and influencing
* **Objective 2.1.3:** Influence the wide-scale adoption of pastoral land tenure indicators in mainstream policy frameworks
* Activity 2.1.3.1: Ensure that mainstream policy frameworks recognize the centrality of land tenure security for pastoralists as core to securing its future economic and environmental benefits
* Activity 2.1.3.2: Work together with the UNCCD to develop a specific module on securing land tenure for land degradation neutrality in rangelands, following also the decision on rangelands and pastoralists which reiterates the implementation of the VGGTs in pastoral contexts
* Activity 2.1.3.3: Offer data on land tenure security, and the tools for their collection, as a way to enable and empower communities to advocate for themselves
* **Objective 2.1.4:** Share and disseminate generated knowledge.
  + **Activity 2.1.4.1:** Develop MOOCs on pastoralism and rangelands.
  + **Activity 2.1.4.2:** Disseminate new knowledge through the International Rangeland Congress in Adelaide, Australia, in June 2025, and the Conference on Pastoralism in 2026.
  + **Activity 2.1.4.3:** Organize webinars and online seminars at national and regional levels.
  + **Activity 2.1.4.3** Launch a white paper on pastoralism as a sustainable food system (2025)
  + **Activity 2.1.4.4:** A working Group paper on the threat and extent of rangeland conversion
  + **Activity 2.1.4.5:** Disseminate key messages on rangelands and pastoralism for policy and advocacy ahead of IYRP 2026 through the Global Land Forum in Colombia in June 2025 and Pastoralist Week in August- September2025

**Strategy 3: Celebration & Awareness Raising**

The third strategy focuses on communicating and promoting the vital role of rangelands and pastoralists in conserving biocultural diversity, tackling land degradation, fostering sustainable food systems, advancing climate action, and supporting socio-ecological resilience.

**Result 3.1: Effective Communication of Key Messages**

Common messages about the importance of rangelands and pastoralism will be effectively communicated to key audiences using appropriate tools such as social media, websites, and events.

* **Level of Implementation:** All levels (global, regional, national)
* **Indicators of Success:** Increase in the number of awards, declarations, social media, and other promotional materials reaching a global audience.
* **Objective 3.1.1:** Facilitate the IYRP Global Alliance in effectively communicating common messages.
  + **Activity 3.1.1.1:** Enhance the global campaign on 12 monthly themes in 2026.
  + **Activity 3.1.1.2:** Disseminate and amplify the global campaign through Regional IYRP Support Groups, the Coalition of Countries, and other stakeholders.
  + **Activity 3.**1.1.3: Support specific campaigns towards particular policy outcomes – such as a campaign to support pastoral mobility.

**Result 3.2: Celebratory Events and Film Festivals**

Communications and promotion of key messages will be supported through social media campaigns, film festivals, and award events.

* **Level of Implementation:** Regional
* **Indicators of Success:** Successful creation and dissemination of films and award events.
* **Objective 3.2.1:** Celebrate and disseminate film festivals and award festivals.
  + **Activity 3.2.1.1:** Create and disseminate the North American Rangelands Film.
  + **Activity 3.2.1.2:** Explore other film festivals, including a potential festival in Australia.
  + **Activity 3.2.1.3:** Announce Rangeland Awards for pastoralists, communities, and local groups. Recognize individuals, communities, and groups contributing to sustainable rangeland management through awards.
* **Objective 3.2.2:** Elevate the visibility of rangelands and pastoralism at the global level.
  + **Activity 3.2.2.1:** Engage Global Ambassadors /Rangeland Champions to disseminate key messages through their activities and social media.
  + **Activity 3.2.2.1:** Develop evidence based pro-pastoralism image campaign with simple messages and images for social media, including children’s comics
  + **Activity 3.2.2.2:** Global Landscapes Forum Rangelands 2026 (TBC)

**Objective 3.3: Raise Public Awareness**

Increase public awareness of the non-agricultural ecological goods and services produced on rangelands and promote their conservation.

* **Level of Implementation:** Global
* **Indicators of Success:** Increase in public awareness and mobilization public to participate in the conservation of rangelands.
* **Objective 3.3.1**: Public media coverage of rangelands and pastoralism
  + **Activity 3.3.1.1:** Respected global media outlets carry positive coverage of IYRP 2026
  + **Activity 3.3.1.2:** Respected regional and national media outlets carry positive coverage of IYRP 2026.

**Strategy 4: Policy Advocacy**

Our fourth strategy focuses on advocating for policies that support rangelands and pastoralism over the next decade. This includes supporting international and national policies, organizing events at major global conferences, and promoting the sustainability of rangelands and pastoral livelihoods.

**Result 4.1: International Policy Support**

Key international sectoral policies will support the sustainable management of rangelands and pastoralism.

* **Level of Implementation:** Global
* **Indicators of Success:** Increase in key international sectors that pass new resolutions in support of rangelands and pastoralism.
* **Objective 4.1.1:** Organize events at the CBD COP17.
  + **Activity 4.1.1.1:** Organize side events and develop policies, guidelines, and rights on pastoralism.
* **Objective 4.1.2:** Organize events at the UNCCD COP17.
  + **Activity 4.1.2.1:** Host a trade fair for pastoralists in Mongolia.
  + **Activity 4.1.2.2:** Organize a field trip to Mongolian rangelands.
  + **Activity 4.1.2.3:** Advocate for a resolution to establish a dedicated fund for rangeland restoration and pastoralism.
  + **Activity 4.1.2.4:** Recommend the establishment of an International Day of Rangelands & Pastoralists.
* **Objective 4.1.3:** Organize events at the IUCN World Conservation Congress 2025.
  + **Activity 4.1.3.1:** Host an event on inclusive conservation and sustainable management of rangelands and pastoralism.
* Objective 4.1.4: Engage with UNESCO World Heritage events and declarations.
* Objective 4.1.5 Engage with UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage on Nauruz (Nowruz)
* Objective 4.1.6: Engage with the Convention on Migratory Species.
* Objective 4.1.7: Organize events at the UNFCCC COP.
* Objective 4.1.8: Collaborate with the Mountain Partnership Secretariat and its constituents including the Carpathian and Alpine Conventions

**Result 4.2: Government Policy Support**

Government policies at various levels will support the sustainable management of rangelands and pastoralism.

* **Level of Implementation:** All levels (global, regional, national)
* **Indicators of Success:** Increase in the number of new policies that support rangelands and pastoralist rights.
* **Objective 4.2.1:** Promote regional and national policies in support of sustainable rangelands and pastoralism.
  + **Activity 4.2.1.1:** Restrict afforestation and protect pastoralist migration routes.
  + **Activity 4.2.1.2:** Launch and exchange new policies supporting rangelands and pastoralist rights.

**Result 4.3: Advocate for Public Land Conservation and Protection**

Advocate for policies to maintain rangelands on public lands and keep public land ownership intact.

* **Level of Implementation:** All levels
* **Indicators of Success:** Increase in the commitments for conservation of rangelands.

**Result 4.4: Advocate for Private Land Conservation and Protection**

Advocate for policies to maintain rangelands on private lands and deter the conversion of permanent cover to annual crop agriculture and other unsuitable uses.

* **Level of Implementation:** All levels
* **Indicators of Success:** Increase in the commitments for conservation of rangelands.

**Result 4.5: Advocate for Native Vegetation Conservation**

Advocate for policies to maintain native vegetation on rangelands and deter conversion to agronomic species, annual cereal crops or planting of non-native trees.

* **Level of Implementation:** All levels
* **Indicators of Success:** Increase in the commitments for conservation of rangelands.

**Result 4.6: Advocate for sustainable pastoralist livelihoods**

Advocate for policies to support pastoralist livelihoods now and into the future, including provision of social (health, education), economic (insurance, finance, markets, balanced subsidies), and production infrastructure (internet, renewable energy, livestock movement corridors and bridges, veterinary support) services.

* Level of implementation: All levels.
* Indicators of success: Increase in commitments for achieving sustainable pastoralism.

All Results 4.3 to 4.6 will have the following Objective**:**

* Increase in number of relevant policy resolutions decided by relevant stakeholders.
  + **Activity 4. 1**: Relevant policy decisions adopted during UNCCD, CBD and UNFCCC Conferences of Parties
  + **Activity 4. 2:** Relevant policy decisions adopted by Coalition of Countries
  + **Activity 4. 3**: Relevant policy declarations adopted by pastoralists during global, regional, and national gatherings

**Strategy 5: Appropriate Investment**

The fifth strategy is to increase more appropriate investment for rangelands and pastoralists. In the past, there have been inappropriate investments such as forced sedentarisation, introduction of invasive species for soil and water conservation, privatisation of resources, and badly planned water point development. The year will be an important point of reflection on past and current investments, correcting our mistakes, better planning for investment in the future, and mobilising public and private sector funds for such investments.

**Result 5.1: Donor engagement for increased and more appropriate funding for rangelands and pastoralists.**

Engage with donors to discuss and influence funding of development and humanitarian projects that better respond to the needs of rangelands and pastoralists, and which do no harm to them.

• Level of implementation: Global and national

• Indicators of success: Increase in funding based on pastoralists’ demand

Activities:

5.1.1 Donor-government-pastoralist roundtables

5.1.2 Policy briefs

5.1.3 Launch of UNFSS Coalition on Pastoralism as a Sustainable Food System at Addis Ababa UNFSS Stocktake July 2025

5.1.4 Consolidation of good practice

**Result 5.2: Private sector investment in rangelands and pastoralists**

Engage with donors and private sector to channel funds to rangelands and pastoralists to support greater private sector engagement

• Level of implementation: Global and national

• Indicators of success: Increase in private sector funding and initiatives in rangelands and pastoralists

Activities:

5.2.1 Private sector targeted round tables on rangelands and pastoralist value chain investments

5.2.2 Development of a global rangelands standard and supporting monitoring system, overseen by a Rangelands Stewardship Council

5.2.3 Influencing donors to provide greater funding for private sector partnership development and initiatives in pastoralist areas.

5.2.4 Raising rangelands and pastoralists at the GLF 2025 and 2026 Business Investment Symposium

5.2.5 Facilitating private sector investment in rangeland restoration.

**Result 5.3: Support capacity of pastoralists to develop investment**

Activities:

5.3.1 Exchange on experiences of good investment in rangelands and pastoralists.