



IYRP2026 East Africa Pastoralist Youth Gathering: Advancing pastoralist youth voices on peace, climate justice and resilience in East Africa

Location: Moroto, Uganda **Date:** 20th to 21st November 2025

Background

Globally, there are 500 million pastoralists and 1.3 billion people benefiting from pastoral value chains. In Eastern Africa, rangelands sustain livelihoods and vital ecosystem services but face growing pressure from land demand, unsustainable use, and climate change. Pastoralism dominates the ASALs, which cover 75% of the Horn and East Africa, supporting food security for countries like Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, and Uganda. It directly supports 20 million people, provides 90% of East Africa's meat, and 80% of Ethiopia's milk. Youth are central to pastoral mobility and resilience yet remain largely excluded from governance and climate policy processes.

About pastoralist youth Gathering:

The IYRP 2026 Eastern Africa Pastoralist Youth Gathering will take place in Moroto, Uganda, bringing together 150 rural pastoralist youth from Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Ethiopia, and South Sudan. The event aims to elevate youth voices on peace, climate justice, and resilience, raise awareness on IYRP 2026, and promote knowledge sharing ahead of regional and global gatherings in Madrid, Nanyuki, and Mongolia. Through a field learning visit to a pastoralist landscape, the gathering seeks to spark a regional movement that recognizes the crucial role of pastoralist youth in sustaining ecosystems and livelihoods, while uniting policymakers, civil society, and partners to shape sustainable rangeland management in East Africa.

This important gathering brings grassroot pastoralist youth (shepherds and herders youth women and men) from Uganda, Kenya, Ethiopia, South Sudan and Tanzania to share their experiences and co-create on the IYRP2026 roadmap.

- o Share and learn knowledge production on the contribution of rangeland youth to the sustainability of pastoralism across the Eastern Africa Community.
- o Contribute to defining the youth position on pastoralism and IYRP2026 roadmap.
- o Co-creation of knowledge, networking and experience sharing at the field level learning traditional practices of Karamojong and Turkana co-existence.

CONTACTS

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