

In Partnership with:



**GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR
RANGELANDS & PASTORALISTS**



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF
**RANGELANDS AND
PASTORALISTS**
2026

WESTERN BALKAN REGIONAL GATHERING OF PASTORALISTS

To observe IYRP 2026, The Grassroots Institute facilitates the Regional Gathering and calls for Partners and Collaborators in all 6 countries of the Western Balkans region. We are in the process of constituting Organizing Committees at the national, zonal, local levels. Interested stakeholders, including shepherd groups/ associations, national or local NGOs, municipalities, government departments, regional authorities, academic institutions, animal products business federations, farmers' cooperatives, youth groups, colleges/schools, and others are invited to join us.



Albania, Montenegro, Kosovo, North
Macedonia, Bosnia i Hercegovina, Serbia



19 April to 31 May, 2026



www.minoritymap.org/rg

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Glimpses of **Western Balkans Regional Gathering of Pastoralists – IYRP 2026**

Western Balkans Regional Gathering of Pastoralists IYRP 2026 | www.minoritymap.org

- ☐ 6 Countries: Albania, Montenegro, Kosovo, North Macedonia, Serbia, Bosnia i Herzegovina
- ☐ 15 Zonal Gatherings of 2 days each, starting from 19 April 2026 + 1 Concluding Assembly (30-31 May 2026)
- ☐ 50 Municipalities [average 3 municipalities per zonal gathering]
- ☐ 1500 Team Members [25 members per municipality x 50 = 1250 + 250 Volunteers]
- ☐ 5000 Participants/Attendees [average 100 shepherds, farmers and other stakeholders from each municipality x 50 = 5000]
- ☐ 72-90 Local Organizations involved as stakeholders
- ☐ 90-180 Partners, Collaborators, Supporters
- ☐ 1 WB Declaration of Pastoralists [divided into 6 parts] having 5000+ signatures

Western Balkans Regional Gathering of Pastoralists IYRP 2026 | www.minoritymap.org

(Apex Level) Regional Facilitation Team:

- Chief Facilitator & Global Affairs Coordinator: Dr. Hasrat Arjjumend [harjjumend@gmail.com +91 9868993710]
- WB Regional Coordinator & Volunteers Program Coordinator: Martine Wolff [martine.wolff@yahoo.com +355 68 544 3237]
- Regional Coordinator – Municipalities & Institutional Mobilization: Dr. Petrit Dobi [dobipetrit@gmail.com +355692067991]
- Regional Coordinator – Academic Networking & Veterinary Services: Dr. Luigji Turmalaj [luigjiturmalaj@ymail.com +355 68 900 2599]
- Regional Coordinator – Media & Communication: Philippe Bertinchamps [philippebertinchamps@hotmail.com + 381 637631018]
- National Coordinator – Kosovo: Dr. Blerta Mehmedi Kastrati [blerta.mehmedi@uni-pr.edu +383 44 283 346]
- National Coordinator – North Macedonia: Dr. Merije Elezi [merije.elezi@unite.edu.mk +389 72779118]
- National Coordinator – Montenegro:
- National Coordinator – Serbia:
- National Coordinator – Bosnia:

(Local Level) Zonal Gathering Team: At Municipality Level

- Zonal Coordinator x 1-3
- Municipality Coordinator x 1-2
- NGOs x 1-5 per municipality
- Academic Person(s) x 0-3 per municipality
- Veterinary Service x 1-5 per municipality
- Resource Sponsorship Mobilizer x 1-3 per municipality
- Social Media Person x 1-3 per municipality
- Press/TV/Radio x 1-2 per municipality
- School/College x 1-3 per municipality
- Government (Municipality, NP, etc.) x 1-3
- Shepherd Leaders x 3-10 per municipality

+ Interns/Volunteers [under Volunteers Program]

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Overall Facilitating Organization



The Grassroots Institute

Canada | Western Balkans

Beyond WBRG:

Mountain Alliance for Pastoralists and Minority People - MAP