

IYRP NORTH AMERICA

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF RANGELANDS AND PASTORALISTS



WHAT IS A RANGELAND?

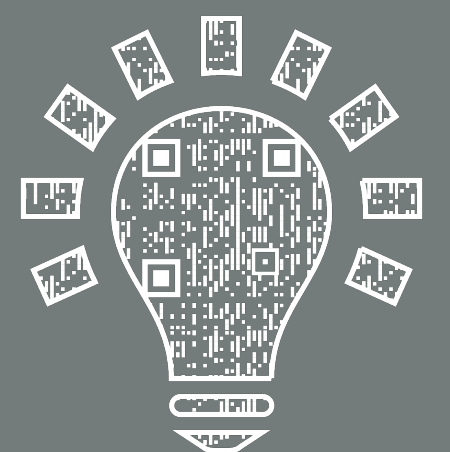
Rangelands cover nearly half of the Earth's land surface. Grasslands, savannas, and tundra nourish livestock, provide wildlife habitat and climate regulation, and support resilient and adaptable food systems. Globally, more than half a billion pastoralist peoples care for these lands through ecological knowledge rooted in place.

WHY ARE GLOBAL RANGELANDS THREATENED?

Rangelands are under increasing pressure. Pastoralists, such as herders, shepherds, and ranchers, are finding it harder to sustain their livelihoods. Biodiversity is declining, climate impacts are growing, invasive species are displacing native plants and wildlife, and perennial grazing lands are being converted to annual crops or fragmented by development.

HOW WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

This is a critical moment for rangelands, and for the people, livestock, wildlife, and cultures they support. The United Nations declared 2026 the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists as a global effort to build understanding, visibility, and care for essential ecosystems. We invite you to experience these landscapes through their sights, sounds, textures, and stories. Follow the links to find an exhibit or event near you, and explore artwork that celebrates pastoral peoples, and the global grasslands and grazing animals they steward.



LEARN MORE

www.grasslandsproject.org

