

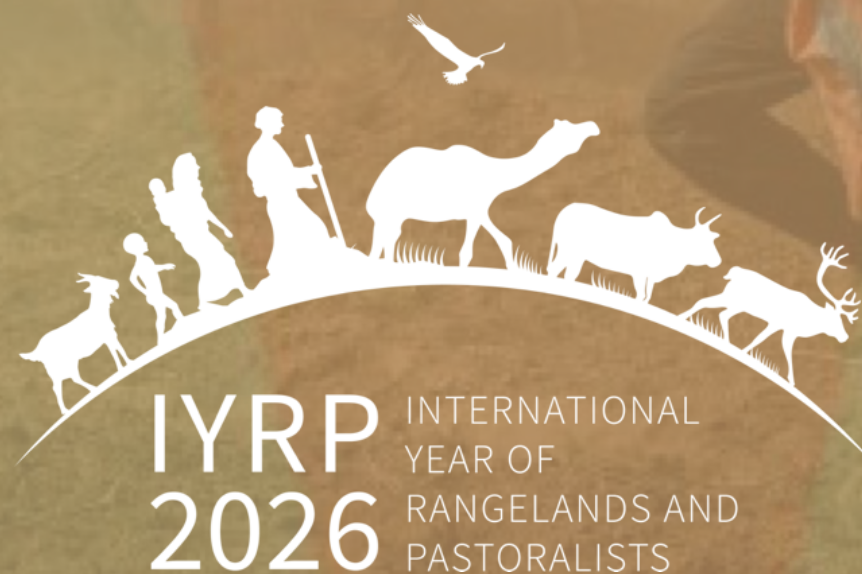
UN International Year of Rangelands & Pastoralists 2026

Ann Waters-Bayer

Agrecol Association for AgriCulture & Ecology

Coalition of European Lobbies for Eastern African Pastoralism (CELEP)

INTPA InfoPoint Brussels, 7 December 2022



www.iyrp.info

15 MARCH 2022: United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) declared 2026 as International Year of Rangelands & Pastoralists



- Movement grew since 2008 into global coalition of over 300 pastoralist & supporting organisations, including International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) & several UN agencies
- Building on these efforts, Government of Mongolia proposed resolution to UNGA in 2019, supported by over 100 countries
- Approved unanimously by UNGA in 2022
- FAO to facilitate implementation of IYRP 2026

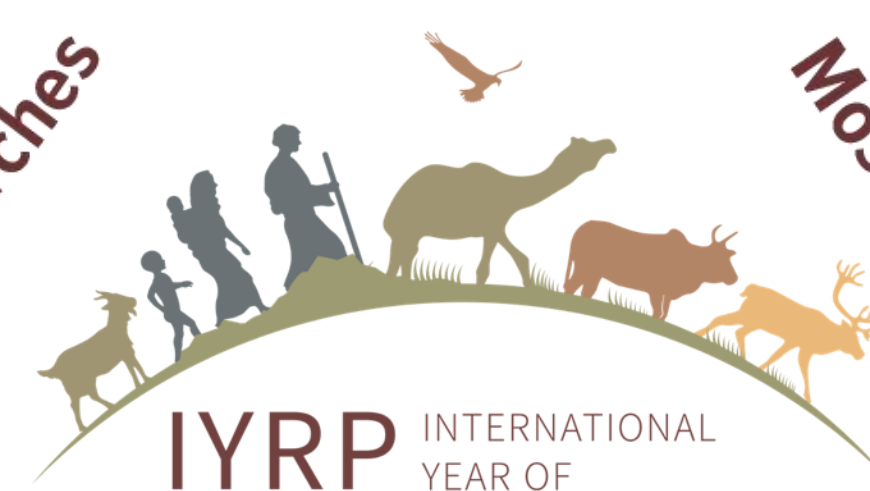


Why an IYRP?

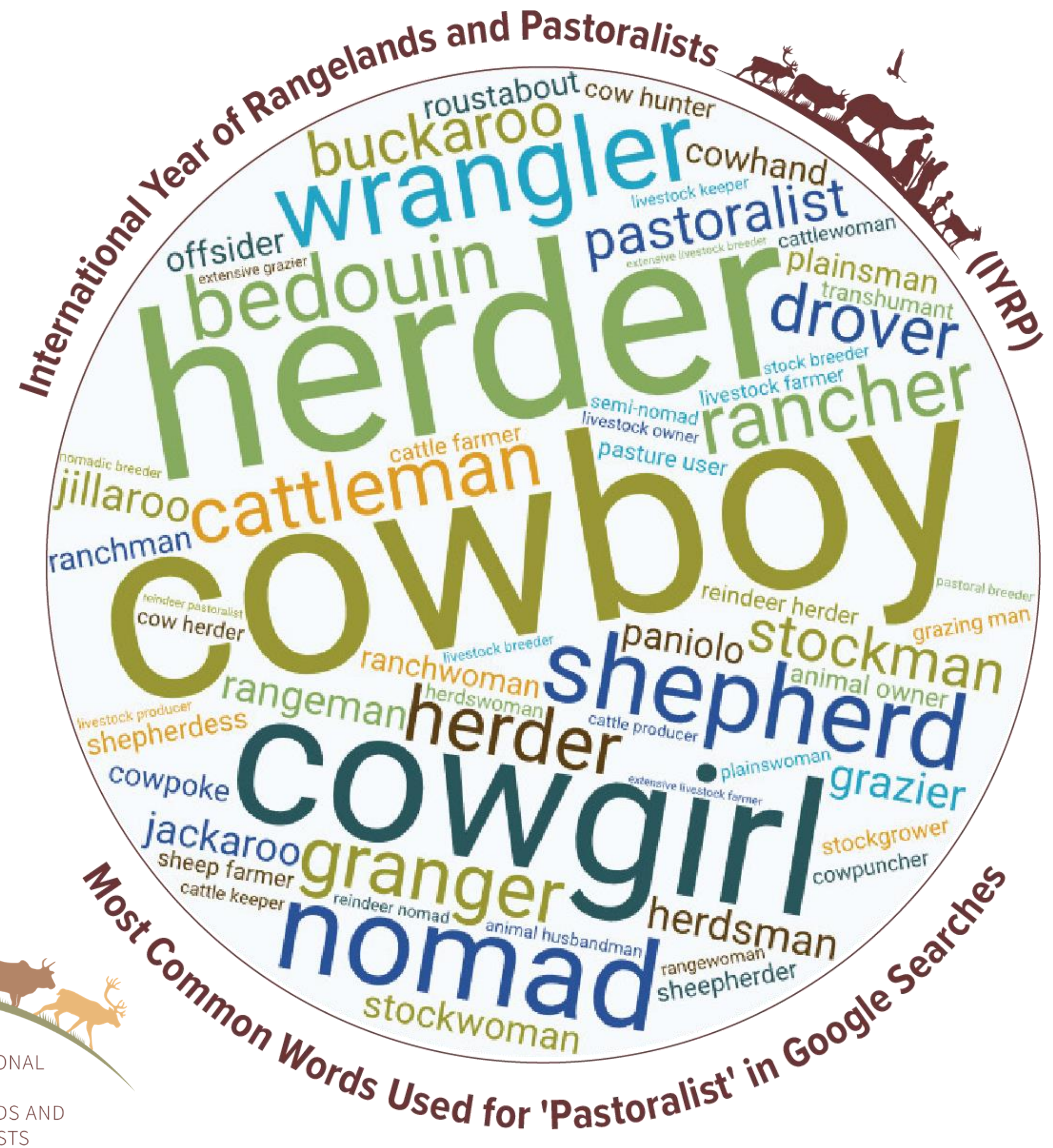


- To reveal critical contributions of rangelands & pastoralists for food security, economy, ecosystem services, climate resilience & culture
- To promote informed, science-based policy & legislation for current & future generations
- To mobilise people worldwide to grasp new opportunities in rangelands & pastoralism
- To increase sustainable and ethical investment in rangelands & pastoralist livelihoods



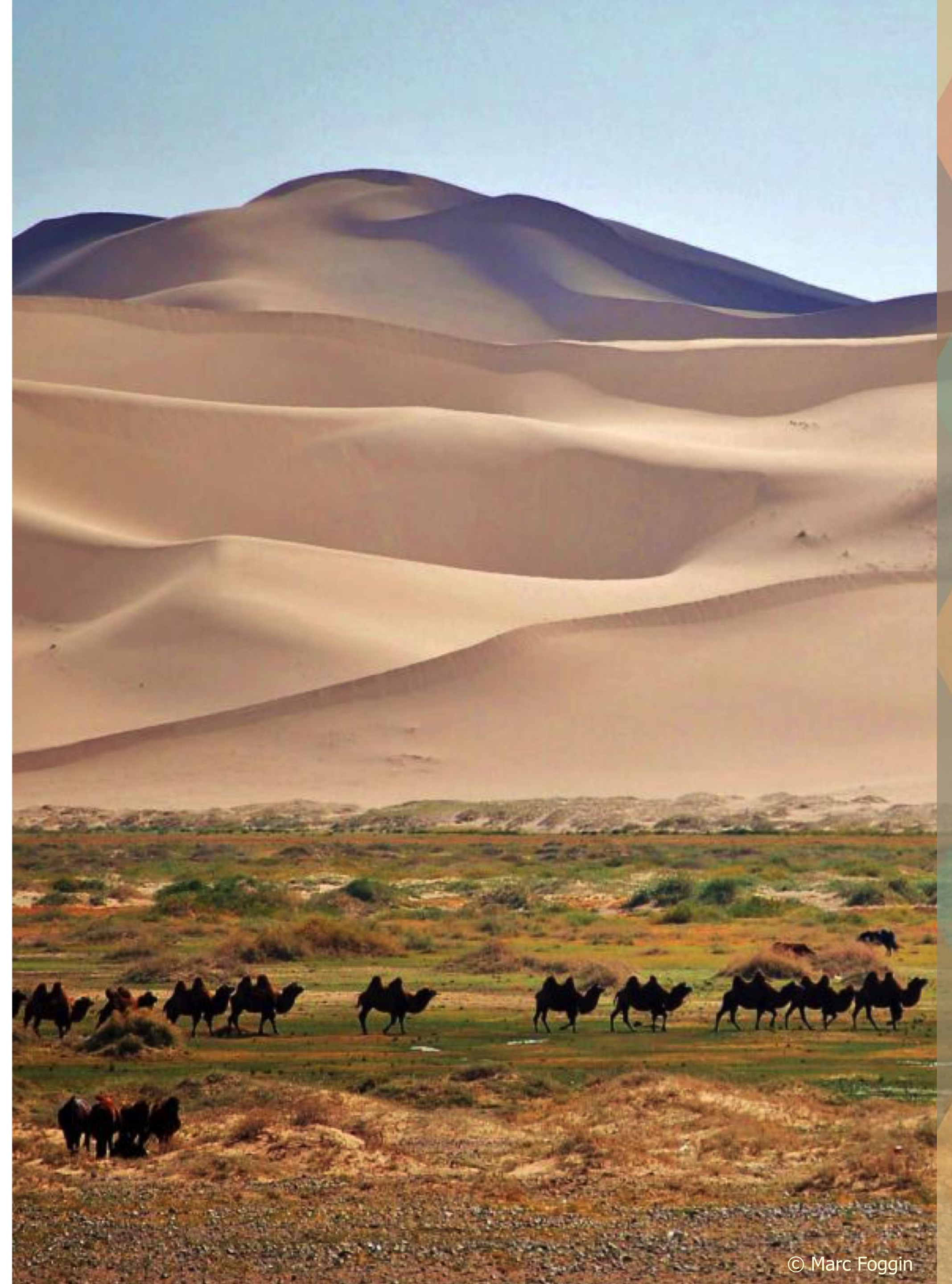


IYRP INTERNATIONAL
2026 YEAR OF
RANGELANDS AND
PASTORALISTS



Significance of rangelands & pastoralism

- ◆ Rangelands cover over half of the Earth's land – yet most endangered & least protected ecosystem
- ◆ They support livelihoods of 500 million people plus another 2 billion people along value chains.
- ◆ Pastoralists use livestock to convert short-lived vegetation that cannot be consumed by humans into food rich in nutrients and high-value protein.



Yet they are ignored or underestimated

- ◆ Pastoralists are dispossessed of their traditional pastures & their migration routes are blocked.
- ◆ This disrupts their herd movements to make optimal use of land & endangers their continued contribution to nutrition & food security.
- ◆ Little awareness of pastoralists' & rangeland's vital role in maintaining biodiversity & providing ecosystem services, e.g. carbon sequestration:
 - Carbon sinks can be significant in rangelands.
 - Rangelands are global biodiversity hotspots & habitats for numerous endangered species while being grazed by livestock & wildlife.





Collaborating in IYRP 2026 initiative

General IYRP e-list

~700 addresses mostly for info only

International Support Group (ISG)

~380 addresses of active partners, including GCG members & 2 co-chairs

Global Coordinating Group (GCG)

~40 members (co-chairs, comms team, RISG chairs & reps from key supporting partners (FAO, Govt of Mongolia, ILRI, IUCN, UNEP, WAMIP))

**Global
Communications
Team**

Working Groups:

- Afforestation
- Desertification & Land Degradation
- Mountains
- Water

**Regional IYRP
Support Groups
(RISGs)**

Regional IYRP Support Groups (RISGs)



Arctic
East Asia
South Asia
Central Asia & Mongolia
Australasia
North Africa & Middle East
Eastern & Southern Africa
West & Central Africa
Europe
North America
South America

Multi-stakeholder RISGs formed to generate more support & partnership:

- to expand network of supporting organisations and governments in 11 regions of the world
- to work with Government of Mongolia, FAO and others in International Support Group to plan and implement IYRP activities in these regions

Central role for pastoralist organisations in RISG planning & activities



@ J.Dillan/MercyCorps

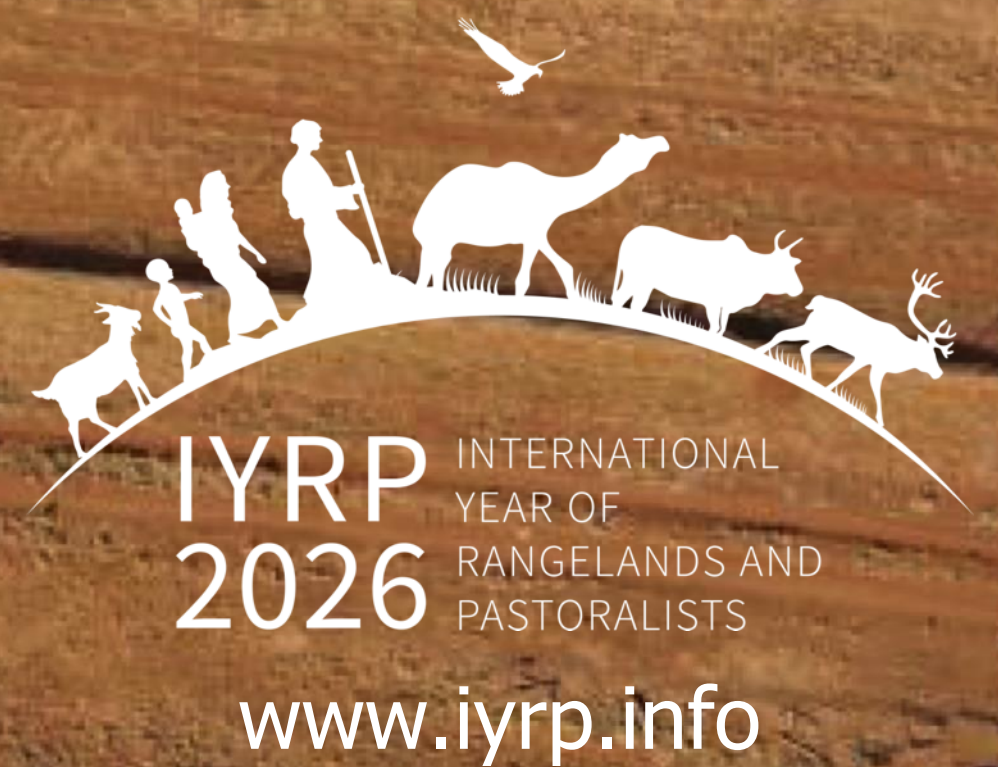
Activities up to & during IYRP 2026

- Joint research
- Policy briefs / statements
- Pastoralist gatherings
- Social media campaigns
- Films / photo exhibits
- Pastoralist innovation fairs
- Side events
- Conferences / webinars ... etc



JOIN THE MOVEMENT TO CELEBRATE RANGELANDS & PASTORALISTS IN IYRP 2026 !

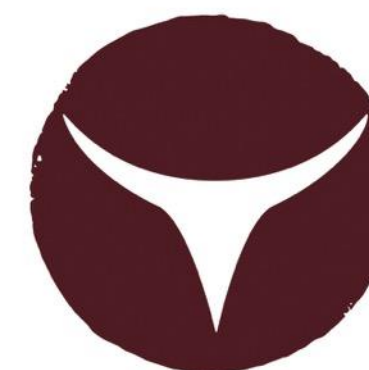
Contact: iyrp@iyrp.info



MISEREOR
IHR HILFSWERK



Vétérinaires
Sans Frontières
Dierenartsen
Zonder Grenzen



WATCH THESE FILMS !

Pastoralism is the future !
Pastoralists

International Year of Rangelands &

8 DECEMBER 2022 – 18h00
CINÉMA GALERIES

PERSPECTIVES ON PASTORALISM
FILM FESTIVAL

AN UNCERTAIN WORLD
PHOTO EXHIBITION

