

May 14, 2025.

H.E. Mr. Enkhbayar Jamdamba

Minister of Food, Agriculture, and Light Industry of Mongolia (MoFALI)
13381 Governmental Building 9th, Peace Avenue 16^a,
Bayanzurkh District, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
info@mofa.gov.mn

Dear Sir,

**SUBJECT: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF
RANGELANDS AND PASTORALISTS (IYRP 2026)**

We are the Rural Agroindustry Network of Peru (REDAR PERU); we are an organization committed to rural development, for which we use the added value of the products of small producers and indigenous communities through rural agroindustry. In the Andean countries, we support indigenous peoples in Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Bolivia, Argentina, and Chile in the rescue and visibility of ancestral knowledge and practices through spaces for meeting indigenous leaders, academia, and science. This has led to the creation of the Andean Network of Knowledge and Practices.

A) The importance of the IYRP for Redar Peru and the rural communities of the Andes.

In the high Andean mountains, between 3,500 and 4,800 meters above sea level, there is an estimated population of more than one million producers (César Germana Caverio et al. 2016), made up primarily of indigenous communities who make their living from extensive, and in some cases itinerant, grazing of South American camelids. These include alpacas, llamas, and wild species like vicuñas and guanacos, as well as introduced species like sheep and cattle. These populations live in poverty and extreme poverty; they are the forgotten of our societies. However, they possess knowledge, skills, and resources with great potential, such as South American camelids, which are essential for the economy and food security. Alpaca and vicuña fiber are highly valued in national and international markets. There are companies dedicated to producing clothing, but the breeders do not receive the benefits of added value. Once a year, they shear their animals and sell the fiber to traders and collectors at rock-bottom prices. These resources supplement their precarious diet, which consists of meat from their animals, which is consumed fresh and processed into jerky. In addition, they use llama and alpaca fiber for domestic and artisanal textiles to make clothing and shelters.

These are the reasons why we support and endorse the International Year of Pastoralists and Grasslands initiative, which will allow us to highlight their lifestyle, knowledge, practices, challenges, and potential, which will benefit not only themselves but also humanity.

B) Types of activities that Redar Perú could carry out or participate in.

Our institution promotes the recovery of knowledge and practices as a measure to address climate change. We foster partnerships with public and private institutions to support communities in strengthening sustainable practices in their territories. We advocate locally for the implementation of sustainable environmental policies.

From August 4th to 6th of this year, we are organizing the 13th Gathering of Ancestral Knowledge and Practices in Tiquipaya, Bolivia. The main topics will be the practices and knowledge associated with raising alpacas, llamas, and vicuñas, as well as Andean handicrafts made by shepherds. Andean leaders and shepherds from six Andean countries will participate in this event: Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Chile, and Argentina.

I propose co-organizing this event as a regional preparatory meeting for the International Year of Pastoralists and Rangelands.

We can also Document and share traditional knowledge and best practices for handling south american camelids.

Advocacy and Policy Dialogue: Conduct advocacy campaigns to influence national and regional policies related to pastoralism and rangeland management.

Rangeland Restoration Initiatives support community-led rangeland restoration projects.

Participate in national and international IYRP events.

C) Indication of funding or possible funding strategy.

We do not have our own financial resources; we seek to practice Andean reciprocity at our meetings: the hosts, in this case Bolivia, will provide accommodation and food, and we are seeking resources to mobilize the pastors, as well as individuals who could contribute to the event.

Sincerely,



Sonia Salas Domínguez

President

Rural Agroindustry Network of Peru (REDAR PERU)

With copy to:

Munkhnasan Tsevegmed, Officer at MoFALI, and Secretary of Mongolia Natinal Task Force for IYRP

Gregorio Velasco-Gil, AGAG, FAO

Igshaan Samuels, Co-Chair IYRP Global Alliance