

Montevideo, June 24, 2024

H.E. Mr. Bolorchuluun Khayangaa
Minister of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry of Mongolia (MoFALI)

The International Year of Grasslands is crucial for Aves Uruguay, the organization that leads the Grassland Alliance in the country. This thematic year highlights the importance of the country's main ecosystem, the natural grasslands, fundamental for biodiversity and environmental sustainability. For Aves Uruguay, it represents an opportunity to raise public and political awareness of these ecosystems, which are essential for many species of birds and other organisms.

The initiative allows Aves Uruguay to strengthen its relationship with livestock producers, promoting sustainable management practices that benefit both agricultural production and nature conservation. The Alianza del Pastizal promotes grazing techniques that conserve and restore natural grasslands.

In addition, the International Year of Grasslands is a platform for education and community participation, encouraging people to get involved in protecting their environment. Through educational activities, awareness campaigns and conservation projects, Aves Uruguay seeks to inspire positive change in the management and protection of grasslands, ensuring a sustainable future for generations to come.

Aves Uruguay could carry out several activities before and after the International Year:

Before the International Year of Grasslands:

1. Preparation of Agreements and Alliances

- o Sign agreements with governmental and private entities for support and collaboration such as the Mesa de Campo Natural, Ministry of Environment, Universities and private companies.
- o Establish alliances with local and international organizations.

2. Planning and Promotion

- o Develop a communication strategy to promote the activities of the thematic year with a focus on the GAME OF THE PASTIZAL.[1]
- o Participate in fairs and events to raise awareness and support.

[1] Game developed with the Cultural Incentive Fund of Uruguay

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During the International Year of Grasslands:

1. Implementation of Programs and Workshops

- o Conduct training workshops for livestock producers, rural schools and avitourism guides/companies.
- o Organize seminars and workshops on rangeland production and conservation.

2. Events and Awareness Campaigns

- o Coordinate seminars and meetings of producers to discuss grassland conservation.
- o Hold fairs and exhibitions to highlight the importance of these ecosystems.

3. Research and Citizen Science Projects

- o Encourage research and data collection through citizen science projects with the Ebird platform.
- o Publish articles and research results to disseminate knowledge.

4. Product and Service Development

- o Implement certification programs for sustainable products, such as meat, wool, honey and others, supporting sustainable production and conservation.

The Alianza del Pastizal initiative, active since 2006, relies on donations from various international institutions and is constantly seeking projects and donations.



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