

THREADS for DREAMS

September 8th, 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
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**SUBJECT: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF
RANGELANDS AND PASTORALISTS (IYRP 2026)**

Dear Sir,

We are Illa Biodiversidad y Desarrollo SAC, a private initiative supporting a social entrepreneurship with a commercial brand named **“Threads for Dreams”**; we are an organization committed to rural development and gender equality, promoting social and sustainable practices of small producers, local and indigenous communities in the production of value-added alpaca products through fair trade, rural textile agroindustry, circular and slow fashion. In the Andean countries, we support indigenous peoples in Peru, in the rescue and visibility of ancestral knowledge and practices through spaces for meeting indigenous leaders, academia, and science. We are a network of 35 artisan women from Tolconi, a peasant community in Arequipa, Peru, located at 4,500 meters above sea level in the southern Andes.

Our work is oriented by the promotion, distribution, and marketing of garments handmade with alpaca fiber, guaranteeing quality, sustainability, and recognition of the artisanal work of artisan women with the aim of strengthening their economy and promoting the value of traditional textile crafts. We also explore the ethnobiological aspects of domesticated alpacas (*Vicugna pacos*), llamas (*Lama glama*), wild vicuñas (*Vicugna vicugna*) and their relationship with indigenous people and local communities (IPLC). Our main concerns are the conservation and sustainability of the pastoral socioecosystem, and how traditional knowledge and local practices together can contribute value to its relationship with a conventional world and a global economy, which have established markets and consumption demands that sometimes do not meet the dimensions of balance for sustainability. In a globalized world disconnected from biodiversity, our task falls short within this value chain, but we strive to bring artisans to the markets and the markets to the community, and to share the information for the people who do not realize the relevance and significance of these livelihoods for humanity and how they can support and connect with them.



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A) The importance of the IYRP for Threads for Dreams and the rural communities of the Andes.

South American Camels have a natural adaptation to the Puna ecosystems. They are grazers with low environmental impact. Peru has worldwide the biggest population of South American Camels, with slightly more than 5 million head among the four species: domestic llama (*Lama glama*) and alpaca (*Vicugna pacos*); and the wild guanaco (*Lama guanicoe*) and vicuña (*Vicugna vicugna*). In the harsh Andean highlands population lives between 2500 - 4500 m.a.s.l and is widely dispersed. Communities located at higher elevations or altitudes often have more limited resources, which can increase their vulnerability to climate change. This vulnerability is further influenced by socioeconomic aspects such as changes in land tenure, migration patterns, market competition, and rising input costs. These are the reasons why we support and endorse the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP 2026), which will allow us to share knowledge, practices, challenges, and potential, that benefit not only themselves but also humanity.

The designation of 2026 as the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP) is significant in raising awareness about a way of life centered on animal husbandry and pastoral landscapes, along with their unique characteristics and challenges. Now more than ever, it is essential to unite not only pastoralist communities but also everyone involved in academia and science to conserve these environments and ensure the well-being of the communities that depend on them.

B) Types of activities that Threads for Dreams 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.

- 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.
- Present our traditional dances and apply for UNESCO recognition.
- Rangeland Restoration Initiatives support community-led rangeland restoration projects.
- Participate in national and international IYRP events.
- Provide high-quality alpaca garments, meeting the standards required by national and international markets.



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- Ensure sustainable and circular production processes aligned with good environmental and social practices.
- Provide information on products, costs, and delivery times.
- Support the marketing of alpaca garments through its sales and distribution channels.
- Develop marketing and advertising strategies to boost product sales as an activity of artisans pastoralists.
- Provide exhibition spaces and promote garments at trade shows and events.

C) Indication of funding or possible funding strategy.

We are a private social entrepreneurship started with and supported by an Angel capital fund, we do not have financial resources of our own; we seek to promote Andean practices as reciprocity in our meetings and within our community. We also look for partnerships with strategic allies and project-based funding to continue our mission and efforts in the Peruvian Andes.

Sincerely,



Ursula Delgado López
President and founder
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