Healthy Ecosystems for Rangeland Development (HERD)
A global initiative for large-scale rangeland restoration

Global Grassland and Savannah Dialogue Platform: 2

The International Union for Conservation of Nature
Rangelands:
“Land on which the indigenous vegetation...is predominantly grasses, grass-like plants, forbs or shrubs that are grazed or have the potential to be grazed...” (Allen et al., 2011).

The World’s Drylands
- Significant overlap with the world’s drylands
- Large areas of arid and semi-arid land
- 30-50% of all land (depending on definition)
- 200-500 million livestock keepers
- UP to 30% of rangelands may be degraded

Source: Society for Range Management
Major challenges to sustainable rangelands management

- High levels of poverty, low levels of investment, poorly adapted policies
- Heterogeneous resources and seasonal availability on a vast scale
- Complex governance arrangements, which are weakening
- Increasing exposure to natural hazards due to climate change, biodiversity loss and land degradation
- Highly adapted biodiversity and societies; data is scarce and adaptations are poorly understood (e.g. herd mobility, fire management, water management, land tenure)
Common Factors in Sustainable Rangeland Management

- Evidence-based and participatory decision making
- Effective institutions for communal resource governance on a large scale
- Active management of livestock herd movements to optimise the relationship between animals and vegetation
- Incentives for both livestock production and environmental stewardship
- Access to markets for diverse goods and services
History of global rangeland advocacy

➢ Forest Landscape Restoration and the Bonn Challenge
History of global rangeland advocacy

➢ World Initiative on Sustainable Pastoralism (2005)
• **Goal 15:** Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

• **Target 15.3:** by 2030, combat desertification, and restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and **strive to achieve a land-degradation neutral world**
IUCN

Land Degradation Neutrality

UNCCD

15 LIFE ON LAND

THE GLOBAL GOALS For Sustainable Development
- Majority of member countries have drylands
- 77 countries have set targets so far
- 75 million Km$^2$ land committed for restoration
- 600 million direct beneficiaries
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Protecting rangelands through sustainable pastoral management to safeguard rangeland ecosystem services

The International Union for Conservation of Nature
HERD Countries up to 2019

- Burkina Faso
- Chad
- Egypt
- Jordan
- Kenya
- Kyrgyzstan
- Lebanon
- Mauritania
- Nepal
- South Africa
- Tanzania
Goal: “to protect the rangelands through sustainable pastoral management in order to safeguard rangeland ecosystem services”

Objective: “restore and sustainably manage rangelands through stronger local governance and increased benefit-capture of the multiple environmental benefits of pastoralism”

- **Jordan**
  - Four landscapes
  - 192,000 ha

- **Egypt**
  - Two landscapes
  - 332,000 ha

- **Kenya**
  - Two landscapes
  - 2,500,000 ha

- **Others**
  - Multiple landscapes
  - 5,000,000 ha
Components at the global initiative

HERD’s approach

- **Component 1.** Evidence-based and participatory decision-making hedged in effective rangeland governance at scale
- **Component 2.** Promote and support investment in sustainable pastoralism as a sustainable land management option
- **Component 3.** Evidence generation and knowledge management for policy implementation
Further information: www.iucn.org/drylands