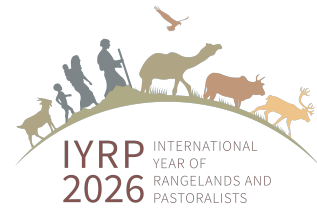


The IYRP Working Group (WG) on pastoralism & gender believes that the future of pastoralism depends on:



1. A deeper understanding of gender in pastoralism

This WG advocates for a gender-inclusive approach to all aspects of pastoralism. While it recognises diversity in systems of pastoralism, it calls attention to critical issues such as gender identity, gender roles, caregiving and other responsibilities such as family, productive and reproductive duties and asks that they be viewed within an equitable framework.

This WG supports pastoralist women's social movements and lends voice to their demands. It also advocates for the incorporation of these movements into the IYRP, along with initiatives supporting sustainable pastoralism and rangeland management.

2. Equitable and inalienable rights to access and use land, natural resources, biodiversity, knowledge and information

This WG advocates for the equitable and inalienable recognition of pastoralist women's rights to access and use critical pastoral resources and assets, including land, water, forage, biodiversity, knowledge and information. Pastoralist women should enjoy the same rights and privileges as pastoralist men with regard to ownership and inheritance of livestock and access to pasture, rangeland and other resources.

This WG seeks recognition of and respect for the specific knowledge that women pastoralists have and their contribution to maintaining healthy rangelands and sustainable pastoralist livelihoods.

This WG aims to promote an equitable voice and equal representation for pastoralist women in all fora, institutions and initiatives representing, supporting or advocating for pastoralism and rangelands.

This WG supports collaborative action of pastoralist women and is working towards a global gathering of pastoralist women to give them opportunity to exchange experiences, promote their rights, increase their voice and representation, and update the Mera Declaration (to make a Mera Declaration+16) as a key action point for the IYRP.

3. Enhanced and equitable participation of women in research, policymaking and governance related to pastoralism and rangelands

This WG aims for a gender-sensitive dialogue between traditional and scientific knowledge-holders, promoting equitable and participatory solutions based on pastoralists' capacity to identify their own problems and devise sound approaches to solving them. It endorses the increased participation of women in policy- and decision-making and in matters of governance related to pastoralism and rangelands.

This WG advocates for recognition and promotion of women in the various areas related to co-production of knowledge about pastoralism and rangelands, aspiring to genuine gender-sensitive research, development and innovation and thereby improving the way in which issues such as research, planning, management, policymaking and training are addressed.

This WG considers that the pastoralism and rangeland sectors should provide safe, non-discriminatory, violence-free and gender-sensitive workplaces. Sexual harassment, bullying and other kinds of violence should be eradicated. Support for parenting, family care and diversity should be enhanced and promoted.