



IYRP at the 13th GASL Multistakeholder Platform

Friends of the International Year of Rangelands & Pastoralists (IYRP) met at the 13th Multistakeholder Platform (MSP) of the Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock (GASL), which was held in Chiang Mai, Thailand. The IYRP meeting was on 1 November 2023. Eighteen people from the different clusters of GASL – public sector, intergovernmental, academia, research, NGOs and other civil society organisations – were present, including some pastoralists.

The session was introduced by Nitya Ghotge of Anthra, India, who is in the Guiding Group of GASL representing the NGO cluster and also coordinates the gender working group of the IYRP. Following this, the IYRP opening film from its website was shown. Andiswa Finca (co-chair of the Regional IYRP Support Group in Eastern & Southern Africa) then made a presentation on the IYRP structure. A movie from the Hindukush Himalayas and one from Iran were also screened.

In the feedback given by participants, some important points were:

1. Give more visibility to the species yak, reindeer, camelids, buffalo and their farming systems in the IYRP process.
2. The term “rangelands” is not fully or well understood in several regions; there may be a need to use local terms and words in addition.
3. Strengthen evidence on pastoral systems as solution for adaptation to/mitigation of climate change.
4. Amplify values of pastoralists as managers of landscapes ensuring multiple ecosystem services and cultural, traditional, spiritual & indigenous knowledge.
5. Access to tenure rights and land is the most important issue facing pastoralists.
6. Continued conflict in several regions affects pastoralists and their production systems adversely.
7. Climate change is affecting pastoral systems in several ways.
8. The externalities of development in rapidly changing environments is affecting pastoral productions systems negatively.
9. Pastoralists need access to mobile services such as for formal education and human and animal health
10. The GASL Platform could be important to leverage action leading up to 2026. We need some dedicated space or session in 2024 and 2025 within GASL to discuss (all together) and propose how the MSP can contribute to support pastoral systems, and how GASL can contribute to the IYRP. Action should use the added value of GASL as an MSP.
11. The GASL MSP meeting in 2025 or '26 to happen in a country where pastoralism is very important, in order to link up with efforts of the IYRP.