



Concurrent Sessions 3 & 4: IYRP – Conclusions & closing by Maryam Niamir-Fuller

Thank you Fiona and all those who just participated in the final Panel of the IYRP Sessions.

The IYRP is about changing the dialogue and perceptions of people and policy makers to recognize the positive role rangelands and pastoralists can play in climate/environment and food security solutions.

Our two IYRP Sessions today complement several other Sessions, Plenary Panels and Posters during this Congress. In the discussions today, I was particularly impressed with:

Panel 1: Legal recognition of pastoralist land use as a critical game changing solution

Panel 2: Capturing niche markets is not easy – need to lift barriers

Panel 3: The IYRP is about building coalitions. Already 300 organizations have signed on; these are pastoralist associations, NGOs, research community, international organizations, representing both the production and conservation sides of the equation. Lance Robinson asked a great question: How do pastoralists build a coalition with those fighting climate change?

I hope that our two Sessions today have given you, the delegates, the tools, messages and highlights with which you could convince your governments and organizations to support the designation of IYRP.

On behalf of the IYRP partner coalition, I would like to sincerely thank the Congress Organizers for the opportunity they have created to help us explain the IYRP – from Dana Kelly and Ray Smith, Presidents of the two Congresses, to the Secretariat, especially Primrose Nabwire. Many thanks also to Protel Studios, especially Gideon Kirwa, who have designed and executed a fascinating Platform for our virtual conference.

My thanks also to Dr Munkhnasan of the Government of Mongolia, who has been a steadfast leader in support of the IYRP, and to all Speakers and Moderators – it has been an amazing journey and you should be proud of the success it has achieved.

In closing, I ask all delegates to please cast your votes in support of the three Resolutions that we just finished debating. The IYRP is YOUR vehicle to raise awareness. And please take a look at the IYRP Exhibit Booth – it gives you details on how to get involved with the IYRP process.

I very much look forward to that!

Thank you all and the IYRP Session is now closed.