

MERA GGPW, 2010

The Mera Global Gathering of Pastoralist Women 2010, organized in Gujarat, India, was a milestone conference that unstered more than 100 women pastoralists from 32 nations as representatives of their respective communities. Organized by MARAG and sponsored by international partners, the pioneering gathering created a much-needed platform for experience-sharing, networking, and generating global awareness of pastoralism's significance as a means of livelihood and land-use practice.

Women pastoralists, doubly marginalized, came together to raise their important leadership status, share concerns, and build empowerment. The meeting led to the powerful MERA Declaration, a 23-point charter of demands calling for recognition, equal representation, and policy reform. The meeting galvanized a campaign for the rights of pastoralist women, unity, and continuous action at regional and global levels.



FOR MORE DETAILS

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South Asia Pastoral Alliance**

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**INTERNATIONAL
LAND
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ASIA PASTORALIST WOMEN GATHERING

RISING FOR RECOGNITION

15 YEARS OF MERA DECLARATION



**10-11-12 December, 2025
Gujarat India**



WHY PASTORALISM AND WOMEN?

Pastoralist women are the backbone of their communities—managing livestock, stewarding the land, conserving biodiversity, and passing down traditional wisdom. Despite their pivotal roles, their leadership and contributions often remain undervalued and unrecognized.

WHY MERA +15 & IYRP?

Join us at APWG, as this is marking 15 years since the MERA Declaration. This milestone event brings together pastoralist women leaders, organisations, and partners from across Asia to celebrate achievements, amplify voices, and launch the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP) and International Year for Women Farmer (IYWF) 2026 at the Asia level.

PARTICIPANT

The gathering will unite approximately 100 pastoralist women from across Asia, each serving as an ambassador for their community. Participants will be chosen by the Organising Committee based on a set of established selection criteria and conditions.



OBJECTIVES

1. A charter of demands/a policy brief highlighting pastoralist women's priorities and concrete recommendations for IYRP 2026 will be prepared and submitted to IYRP committees, FAO etc.
2. Updating MERA Declaration reflecting the current challenges, climate, and environmental context
3. Selecting a few women representatives to convey key messages from the Mera+15 gathering to policymakers worldwide during 2026, in both the IYRP and the IYWF arenas.
4. Promoting a solid network of networks and organizations working on women pastoralist issues for continued policy advocacy and campaign beyond IYRP

REQUEST FOR SPONSORSHIP

This event primarily provides funding for pastoralist women participants from Asia, covering accommodation and logistics, with limited sponsorship available for travel. Sponsorships for participants from non-Asian countries, as well as additional Asian sponsorships, are welcomed. All sponsors will be duly acknowledged. For further details, please contact the Gathering Secretariat and organisers.

