

## Recommended films on pastoralist women and girls (as of 15.07.24)

Title	Country/ies where filmed	Language	Year made	Length of film	Filmmaker	Description	Key words	Comments about screening
Little fleece	France	French / English	2023	45:00 min	Matthias Berger	Laines Paysannes (Peasant Wools), a young company based in Ariège, southwest France, collects wool to make hand-woven high-quality clothes, carpets and wall hangings. It seeks to revive the wool sector, once so important in the region. Economic difficulties constantly upset the balance in this ambitious venture. Driven by ethical values and a passion for craftsmanship, the "obstinate" team – almost all women – struggles to keep the business going and pursues the luxury market. The film clearly shows the role of women in raising sheep and in processing and marketing wool products – and their commitment to this work.	processing, marketing, pastoral economy	The film could be shown in a series of 3-4 films about the value chain for pastoral products in different countries/ continents or in a collection of European films about pastoralism and its products.
Living in the mountains of Ladakh	India	English subtitles	2023	3:05 min	Patrick Augenstein	A pastoralist woman talks about her daily life in Ladakh in the mountainous Kashmir region, highlighting the challenges to livestock keeping posed by changing rainfall patterns and the migration of youth to the cities.	climate change, youth	Useful short film to include in series of women's voices from different parts of the world.
<i>Pasto raiz pasto semilla</i> (Root pasture seed pasture)	Argentina	Spanish with English subtitles	2023	39:29 min	Daniela Seggiaro / Mariana Quiroga Mendiola	Subtitled "Dialogues of knowledges in the Puna", this documentary on Participatory Action Research (PAR) shows interactions between camelid and sheep herders (mainly women) and researchers (mainly women) studying soil-plant-water-animal interactions in Andean communities in the high grasslands of northwestern Argentina.	participatory research, camelids	Slow-paced, people-oriented film about research approach; very suitable for a scientific/academic audience.
Pastoral development and gender	n/a	English, French	2023	3:27 min	Saverio Krätli	Animated video prepared for Massive Open OnlineCourse (MOOC) on Pastoralism & Development, explaining gender issues in pastoral development worldwide.	focused on gender	Suitable primarily for development practitioners.
Pregnancy and giving birth in the Arctic: northern nomads	Russia	English subtitles	2023	10:07 min	Patrushevs	Documentary made in a pastoralist community herding reindeer in the Siberian tundra, focused on a pregnant woman who continues to work until shortly before she delivers. According to tradition, the woman give birth in a tent close to but separate from the family dwelling ( <i>choum</i> ), assisted by other women in the family.	focused on gender	Useful short film to include in series of women's voices from different parts of the world.
<i>Sorelle pastore: the strength of women</i>	Italy	Italian (English subtitles)	2023	21:02 min	Women herders in Italy and Anna Kauber	Choral testimony of solidarity and affection from Italian women pastoralists for Assunta Valente, transhumant herder in mountains of Lazio who is attacked by "pasture mafia" wanting to grab her grazing land, for which she regularly pays rent, so that the "mafia" can obtain grants from the European Union - a frequent problem in Europe resulting from the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).	policy, land, focused on gender	Most suitable for screening in Europe unless context is explained to non-European audience.
The time of Italian pastoralist women	Italy	Italian / English	2023	11:05 min	Anna Kauber	Elderly women (70–90 years old) recall the roles they played in pastoralist settings in Italy – in livestock rearing, transhumance, grazing, shearing, milking and cheesemaking. They speak of their personal lives, of hardship, poverty, and gender and class discrimination, but also of solidarity and joy.	transhumance, focused on gender	Of particular interest for European and North American audience.
The unique life of Pakistan's Wakhi shepherdesses	Pakistan	English	2023	23:17 min; trailer 3:53 min	Nayyar Abbas & Sajjad Beyge	Shimshal Valley in the Karakoram Mountains is home to Wakhi shepherdesses. Over generations, they have taken their herds to high pastures (4800 masl) for grazing in the warm season and have made dairy products to barter. Their income brought prosperity to the village and allowed them to build roads and provide an education for their children, but their tradition is about to end.	transhumance, pastoral economy, youth, education	Useful to generate discussion about change in pastoralist communities.

Time of Hungarian women herders ( <i>Pásztor nők ideje</i> )	Hungary	Hungarian / Spanish (English subtitles)	2023	14:49 min	Csányi Nikolett	Documentary about women working in pastoralism in Hungary. In 2021, several of them formed a group called 'Hungarian Women Herders' to increase the visibility and recognition of women who are actively engaged in caring for and herding sheep, cattle, horses etc. They seek mutual support and want to show their knowledge to the world through their own personal stories.	women's organisation, focused on gender	Of particular interest for European, Australian and North American audiences.
Transhumance: the seasonal droving of livestock	10 countries in Europe	Several (English subtitles)	2023	21:20 min	Several filmmakers, coordinator: Francesca Pasetti	Film for UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage, celebrating transhumance in Albania, Andorra, Austria, Croatia, Spain, France, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg and Romania, with considerable emphasis on women's role. Shows socio-economic systems that developed around transhumance (gastronomy, local handicrafts, festivities etc), contribute to social inclusion and strengthen cultural identity and links between communities and territories.	transhumance, traditional culture	Good introduction to transhumance in Europe, suitable for general public.
Tsomo	China	Chinese/English	2023	10:41 min	Wangyang Liu	Short drama about young girl, Tsomo, who has been living in the grasslands but is moving to the county town. When she brings the last sheep to the slaughterhouse, the animal she had raised as a lamb jumps out of the vehicle and escapes. The next morning, Tsomo sees the animal at a crossroads and they share a moment together before sunrise. A moving story about bidding pastoral life farewell.	youth, migration	Useful for stimulating discussion about generational change.
Wool: the diamond of Spain	Spain	Spanish / English	2023	18:34 min	Concha Salguero	This film brings insights into Spain's local wool production and processing sector through passionate testimonials by people deeply involved in it. This sector has great potential, especially in view of the environmental damage caused by unsustainable fabric supply chains. It serves as a nurturing ground for niche markets and as a powerful force that could revolutionise wool supply chains, meeting the social and environmental standards of today and tomorrow.	processing, marketing, environment	The film could be shown in a series of 3-4 films about the value chain for pastoral products in different countries/continents or in a collection of European films about pastoralism and its products.
<i>15 Oct Día Internacional de las Mujeres Rurales</i> (15 Oct International Day of Rural Women)	Spain	Spanish (no English subtitles)	2022	1:50 min	Ganaderas en Red	On 15 October each year, rural women continue to highlight their invisible contribution to rural, agricultural and livestock development, to eradicating poverty and improving food security. A film made by members of the Spanish network of women livestock-keepers for this day.	focused on gender	Made for 15 Oct but could be shown on International Women's Day (8 Mar). Automatic English subtitles suffice for understanding.
Reversing, reviving, regenerating: pastoralist women restoring rangelands	Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Spain	English	2022	15:56 min	Marco Buemi	Describes how three pastoralist women in Kenya, Kyrgyzstan and Spain are restoring rangelands to improve livelihoods, and thus benefit wider society and the environment. Shows that, to secure a future with prosperous rangelands and pastoralist communities, women must play a central role in rangeland restoration and resource governance.	environment, biodiversity, focused on gender	Depicts women in 3 continents; useful in collection of films of women in different parts of the world.
<i>Tejedoras del agua: cría de alpacas y seguridad hídrica en Perú</i> (Weavers of water: alpaca rearing and water security in Peru)	Peru	Spanish	2022	25:49 min	Deutsche Welle (DW)	Documentary showing the importance of women in rearing alpacas and sheep and managing water resources in the Andean highlands. Highlights the potential for local people to generate more income from camelid products and gives good attention to gender and generational issues in the local communities.	water, pastoral economy, youth	Good-quality film covering several aspects of pastoralism: economy, environmental conservation, value addition to livestock products.
The last of their kind: Turkey's nomads	Turkey	English, German	2022	12:00 min	Nevin Sungur & Gunnar Köhne	Transhumant herders in Turkey spend winter on the Mediterranean coastal plains and move each spring with their goats and camels into the Taurus Mountains. But the government, military and landowners constantly put new obstacles in their path. The resolute 63-year-old woman Pervin Savran leads the transhumant movements and the herders' fight for their rights to continue their traditional herding system and lifestyle.	transhumance, conflict	Gives impression that these are the last "nomads" but there are other transhumant groups in Turkey; depicts challenges faced by herders common in many other countries. Good for showing strong woman in lead related to transhumance.

Bitterbrush	USA	English	2021	90 min, trailer 1:56 min	Emelie Mahdavian	Documentary following two young women, Hollyn Patterson and Colie Moline, herding cattle in a remote part of Idaho. With only their dogs as companions, they brave inclement weather and perilous work conditions while pondering their futures. A portrait of friendship, life transitions and the work of skilled herders in the isolated and beautiful landscape of the American West.	focused on gender	Clearance needs to be obtained from distributor before screening. <i>Contacts for distributor available.</i>
Hey, Gunesh!	Georgia	Azerbaijani / Georgian / English	2021	22:00 min	Ana Jegnaradze	Fasha, an Azeri shepherd in the Georgian mountains, wants his 9-year-old daughter Gunesh to go to school and learn a profession. Most people, especially women and girls in the Azeri ethnic minority, cannot speak Georgian, as the girls leave school and marry at an early age. While herding, Gunesh recalls all the words she knows in Georgian including notebook, teacher and school. She dreams of becoming a teacher and helping children in her village learn how to read and write.	youth, education	Relatively negative image of herding, encouraging youth to leave traditional way of life; could be shown together with more positive depiction as basis for discussion about appropriate types of formal schooling for pastoralist children.
<i>Kulning</i> : the ancient Scandinavian herding calls	Sweden	English	2021	4:03 min	Jens von Larcher / Niklas Forshell	In Scandinavia, a unique singing technique evolved over centuries to call free-roaming cows and pigs to return home in the evening: <i>kulning</i> . Today, <i>kulning</i> has become an art form in its own right.	traditional culture	Can be included in series of short films about women herders in different parts of the world.
Pastoralism, a sustainable and nature-positive production system	Italy	English	2021	6:12 min	Marco Buemi	Filmed in Sardinia, the Italian Alps and Abruzzo, this documentary brings the views of different stakeholders – including pastoralist women and youth – on the benefits, challenges and opportunities of pastoralism in Italy. It portrays the different pastoral systems in these areas as sustainable nature-positive ways of producing food and explains pastoralists’ contribution to the economy, society and the environment through ecosystem services.	youth, pastoral economy, environment	Useful for stimulating discussion about generational change. Can also be included in series of short films about pastoralist women in different parts of the world.
Raika women speak: articulation from four villages around Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, Rajasthan	India	English subtitles	2020	17:53 min	Shruti Ajit & Meenal Tatpati	Film fictionally portrays worldviews of pastoralist Godwar Raika women living around Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary in Rajasthan. Provides glimpse of changes in community over generations and how women cope with shrinking commons because of exclusionary conservation policies leading to restricted access and privatisation of grazing commons and breakdown of relationships among various communities in the landscape who used to depend on each other.	nature conservation, focused on gender	
Sharing the land	Spain	Spanish, English	2020	13:58 min	Ofelia de Pablo, Javier Zurita	Testimonies of a woman herder and two male herders who have learnt to live with wolves and protect their herds. They explain how they deal with challenges and opportunities that come with the presence of wolves and how they have come to accept or even appreciate wolves. Shows that coexistence is possible, if those living close to wolves receive enough support to reduce conflict.	biodiversity, nature conservation	Brings perspectives of both women and men. Contact film-festival team for link to full film.
Beloved	Iran	Persian / English	2018	54:00 min	Yaser Talebi	Documentary film that follows Firouzeh, a strong-minded 80-year-old woman, in her daily work through the seasons in northern Iran, while she tells the story of her life. As a young girl, her marriage was arranged with an older man, and she had 11 children. She spends the winter in the lower-lying village and enjoys the summer herding her cattle in the Alborz Mountains, living under simple and solitary conditions and enjoying the ever-changing nature around her.	transhumance	Somewhat long; could be used only in lengthier film festivals.
<i>In questo mondo</i> (In this world)	Italy	Italian (English subtitles)	2018	97 min, trailer 2:56 min	Anna Kauber	Documentary depicting lives of women herders in Italy, based on 100 interviews with women aged 20 to 102 years. The filmmaker lived with each for a few days, immersing herself in their daily lives. Women talk spontaneously about their motivations and challenges and satisfaction with their lives. They show how they care for the animals, value and safeguard biodiversity and preserve the landscape. Reveals that goat husbandry is becoming feminised in a society where previously only men were known as herders.	biodiversity, focused on gender	Feature-length film; could be used only in longer film festivals, in a separate session.

Two girls – two worlds	Kenya	English	2018	23:26 min	Petra Dilthey	Two Samburu girls in northern Kenya are the same age and live in the same family. One grew up traditionally, herded the animals and did not attend school. At 13 years of age, she was circumcised and married into the family of the other girl, who is in secondary school and wants to become a teacher. The two girls, going through their daily routines, talk about their very different worlds.	education, youth, focused on gender	One-sided view of tradition; viewers need some contextualisation about topics raised (child marriage, circumcision, schooling, male dominance). Could be used in series of
<i>Despacito: mujeres al viento</i> (Women in the wind)	Spain	Spanish only	2017	4:08 min	Ganaderas en Red	Several Spanish women pastoralists sing "Despacito" accompanied by their animals in winter and summer, and show the women's everyday life.	focused on gender	Good for opening or closing a series of films to create good atmosphere, although film not in English.
The unsung heroines: pastoral women in Ethiopia	Ethiopia	English	2017	30:35 min	Sisay Wagnew	Celebrates efforts and achievements of pastoralist women in four ethnic groups in southern Ethiopia who overcome challenges to play vital yet often hidden roles in local livelihood systems. Highlights women's roles not only in their households and communities but also in using and managing natural resources, caring for and herding livestock, and processing and marketing pastoral products for the family and to generate income.	processing, marketing, pastoral economy, focused on gender	Film of modest technical quality and several years old, but very strong in portraying women as agents of change and giving them voice.
Shepherdess of the glaciers	India	English	2016	74 min, trailer 4:36 min	Stanzin Dorjai & Christiana Mordelet	Tsering is a shepherdess who lives with her flock in the heights of the Gya-Miru valley in Ladakh. At 50, she is the youngest in her village to drive her 350 goats and sheep in transhumance in this Himalaya region 4000–6000 masl. A harsh and precarious life, often solitary, challenged by difficult climatic conditions, does not prevent her from singing, laughing & philosophising.	transhumance	Trailer can be included in series of short films; otherwise, plan separate session for showing full-length film. Link can be obtained from film festival team.
Olosho	Tanzania	Maa, English	2015	16 min, trailer 1:39 min	6 Maasai community members, mainly women	Participatory video on land-rights struggles of Maasai in northern Tanzania. In 1992, a hunting company from the United Arab Emirates occupied 1500 km <sup>2</sup> of village land in Loliondo to set up a private game reserve beside the Serengeti National Park. The Maasai suffered mass eviction from their villages and were denied access to vital pasture and water for their herds.	land	Maasai – mainly women – decided what was to be filmed and express themselves; showing a struggle that continues to this day. Current situation should be explained.
<i>Cailleach</i> (Old woman)	Scotland	English + Gaelic (English subtitles)	2014	14 min	Rosy Reed Hillman	Morag, 86, lives alone on her croft on Outer Hebrides with her sheep. She was born in this house and has lived here all her life as the 6th generation of her family. Shows her simple and peaceful life as she contemplates her death, shares her sense of independence and her connection to her island home.	aging	Of particular interest for European and North American audience.
Fatuma and Assya - two Afar girls in Ethiopia	Ethiopia	Afar (English subtitles)	2014	20:46 min	Francesco Sincich	Documentary about two Afar girls facing challenges: Fatuma trying to avoid traditional arranged marriage; Asya trying to deal with livestock theft and conflict with Somali Issa. These teenagers explain their daily lives from their own perspective.	conflict, youth, focused on gender	Extract from full-length film (59:26 min); trailer 2:46 min; available upon request. Could be used in series of films about pastoralist youth.
Waynaabe: life scenes of the Wodaabe	Niger	Fulfulde / English	2012	17:57 min	Francesco Sincich	Documentary showing the life of nomadic Wodaabe pastoralists through the eyes of the young mother Mooro. Her unmarried niece Mariama explains the <i>worso</i> , a ceremonial clan gathering in Akadaney. Highlights how the Wodaabe value their cattle and deal with the challenges of gaining a livelihood in the drylands of Niger.	youth, traditional culture	Over 10 years old but gives insight into life especially of young people in a traditional pastoralist society.