

Motivation for IYRP 2026 ISG co-chair

My interest in working as a co-chair for the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP) as I feel this is a place where I can combine my skills and passion, preserving traditional knowledge, combined with rural development. Since my country is one of the 10 megadiverse countries, we are also having a third part of our population that belongs to IPLC (Indigenous people and Local Communities), where pastoralism is an ancestral activity performed for more than 6 thousand years ago. It is also important to mention that important domestication processes occur in the Andean area, with the outcomes of two new species: alpacas from wild vicuñas and llamas from wild guanacos. Pastoralism is the expression of this very old relation with the animals in mountain ranges.

With over fifteen years of international experience in the implementation of projects related to climate change, biodiversity, and rural development, I have office and field experience in a wide range of countries and issues including livestock production and health management, wildlife management, pastoralism and a particular passion for camelids and high-altitude livestock. I have a strong interest in current issues of global importance such as management of biodiversity and vulnerability to climate change. I also have field experience in implementing rural development projects related to natural resources. My working experience include years living among pastoralist people, related to traditional and local knowledge, alpaca and llama biodiversity and natural color conservation, pastoralism, conservation in Tolconí-Arequipa, located in the southern Andes of Peru at 4,800 meters above sea level. I've also worked with wild populations of vicunas that still use traditional practices (for example chaccus) and ecosystem conservation preserving local cosmovision.

During my field work, I have traveled extensively, which allowed me to experience different realities. I am an English native speaker, which allowed me participate in many international events, and also work as a translator. I was also leading author in chapter 1 of the Sustainable Use of Wild Species Assessment of IPBES, and member of the ILK-Liasson group (Indigenous and Local Knowledge). Actually, I am working as National Director of Wild Species at the National Forestry Service in Peru, where I'm also the co-chair of the Livelihoods Working Group of CITES.

In this sense, there is a need for an interdisciplinary approach that take into account the complexity of factors and capable of developing a framework that understand the specificities and complexities of animal breeding, including the OneHealth approach with a traditional and local knowledge input. My intercultural background, soft skills and ability to speak languages (Spanish, Quechua and English) allow me to deliver results in different cultural environments and will allow me to integrate into different cultural settings and deliver the expected results. At the same time, I have experience in the implementation of projects, the coordination of multi-stakeholder working groups, and the development of partnerships and collaborations with agencies and the public and private sector. Since this position requires someone with experience in rangelands and pastoralism, I am confident that my academic preparation, multilingual skills, and relevant experience qualify me for this role.

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