

Terms of Reference for IYRP 2026 ISG co-chair

In March 2022, the UN General Assembly approved the Government of Mongolia's resolution and designated 2026 as the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP). The IYRP 2026 reflects the importance of rangelands in creating a sustainable planet and supporting economic growth and resilient livelihoods for pastoralist communities around the world. To support this process, an IYRP 2026 International Support Group (ISG) was established made up of representatives from organisations worldwide working in rangelands and/or with pastoralists.

The goals of the ISG include:

- To assist the Mongolian Government to mobilise support for the IYRP 2026,
- To organise awareness-raising events at key forums or meetings for the IYRP 2026,
- To develop supporting publicity and outreach material on the IYRP 2026 including maintaining its website,
- To contribute ideas, resources, networks and other means for implementing the IYRP 2026
- To assist regions and countries to develop action plans of activities for 2026 in support of the IYRP 2026.



The IYRP 2026 ISG co-chair is a volunteer position and he/she will be part of the Global Secretariat and will implement a component of the following responsibilities, where he/she is expected to lead some of the Global Secretariat functions:

- These responsibilities of the co-chair will be shared with other co-chairs and members of the Global Secretariat):
 - **Strategic Leadership and Oversight:** The co-chair should have the ability to provide strategic direction and oversight for the activities and plans of the ISG and Global Coordinating Group (GCG), ensuring equitable consideration of diverse perspectives and interests.
 - **Coordination and Strengthening of Regional IYRP Support Groups (RISGs):** The co-chair should be adept at coordinating and supporting the RISGs. This involves facilitating

communication, sharing best practices, and ensuring that regional activities align with global objectives.

- **Stakeholder Engagement:** The co-chair must effectively engage with a diverse range of stakeholders, starting with the Government of Mongolia, FAO and other key partners.
- **Partnership Development:** The co-chair should focus on expanding and strengthening the ISG partnership. This involves networking, building relationships, and enhancing the visibility and influence of the ISG.
- **Internal Communication:** Regular communication with the ISG and the IYRP 2026 general mailing list is crucial. The co-chair should maintain the Master List of IYRP 2026 supporters and ensure that all stakeholders are kept informed and engaged.
- **External Communication:** The co-chair is responsible for leading and coordinating external outreach and promotion activities to enhance the visibility and impact of the IYRP 2026. This includes working closely with the communications teams (both global and regional) to develop and disseminate effective media packages, messaging materials (such as posters, flyers, etc.).
- **Event Organisation:** The ability to organise and lead global IYRP 2026 events, including those in association with other global fora, is essential.
- **Fundraising:** Assisting with fundraising for the IYRP 2026 ISG is a critical responsibility. The co-chair should have experience or skills in fundraising strategies and donor engagement.

➤ Competencies of the co-chair include:

- **Expertise in Rangelands and Pastoralism:** Extensive knowledge in these areas is fundamental to provide credible leadership and make informed decisions.
- **Communication Skills:** The co-chair must be able to independently communicate with various stakeholders, adapting the communication style as needed for different audiences. This includes proficiency in English, which is essential for engaging with a global audience. Proficiency in virtual collaboration tools and techniques is also important, considering the global nature of the team and virtual meetings.
- **Cultural Sensitivity:** Understanding and respecting diverse cultural perspectives is crucial, especially given the global scope of the IYRP 2026.
- **Leadership and Team Management:** The co-chair should possess strong leadership qualities, including the ability to inspire, motivate and manage a diverse team.
- **Adaptability and Flexibility:** Given the dynamic nature of the role, the co-chair should be adaptable and flexible, able to respond to changing circumstances and challenges.

The IYRP 2026 ISG co-chair position will be held for one year, with the option to extend. The Global Secretariat will meet virtually as needed, to discuss progress, opportunities and challenges in fulfilling IYRP 2026 activities and goals.