

## OVERVIEW OF IYRP WORKSHOPS AT THE 75<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT(SRM), ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO, USA



The International Affairs Committee (IAC) of the SRM and the IYRP ISG (International Support Group for the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists) will convene two virtual workshops at the 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of SRM in early 2022. These workshops will engage IYRP stakeholders worldwide in preliminary deliberations to identify regional and global priority actions associated with 12 global themes identified by the IYRP ISG (see Figure 1). The objective is to gain a better understanding of similarities and differences across regions. Using the examples of a few priority actions selected by participants before and during the workshops, details such as implementation time line and “who does what” can be identified on a preliminary basis. These workshops are a follow-up to the IYRP virtual sessions held at the [Joint International Rangeland and Grassland Congresses \(IRC/IGC\)](#) during October 2021 in Nairobi, Kenya. This effort with SRM will continue the momentum of coalition building to promote rangelands and pastoralists while we await approval of the IYRP 2026 by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 2022.

The “IYRP at SRM” program consists of several linked events: two virtual workshops (2 hours each), one hybrid symposium, and a post-conference survey of IYRP participants. IYRP friends and supporters worldwide are invited to register for free (registration information will follow). The main language for the workshops will be English and simultaneous translation into Spanish and French will be provided.

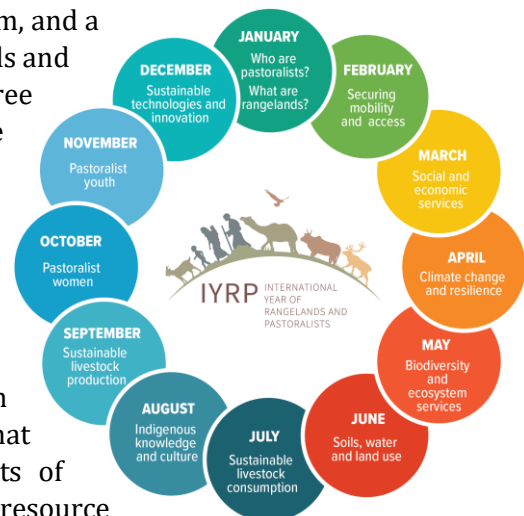
### ***IYRP Symposium, 8 February 2022***

The symposium will be held during the main SRM Conference. The overall focus of the symposium is how to move global rangelands from the “marginalization narrative” to a “global value narrative”, a process that focuses on ecosystem services and economic benefits of pastoralism, and asks how we can improve natural resource management, create more effective policy frameworks, and mitigate poverty and poor governance. The gathering will address how the IYRP can stimulate more impactful, integrated projects for rangeland landscapes and rangeland users. Thirteen papers will be presented by eminent scholars. More details are forthcoming.

### ***IYRP Virtual Workshops, 31 January and 1 February 2022***

The overall focus of the workshops is to consider how the 12 IYRP themes (Figure 1), developed in 2017, can translate into priority actions by the 11 Regional Support Groups of the IYRP (RISGs), and what similarities and complementarities might be drawn around the globe. The workshops will begin to develop partnerships around a few common priority activities as examples and models, including suggestions on how best to implement actions. This exercise is meant as a preliminary step towards global and regional action planning. If

**Figure 1: IYRP 12 themes**



enough momentum is generated at the workshops, it is hoped that coalitions that come together to promote particular priorities will commit to working together in the future.

The RISGs will undertake a participatory **pre-workshop exercise** starting in early January 2022. They will map out the 12 proposed IYRP themes into priority issues. If we take the IYRP theme “Climate change and resilience,” then the RISGs would decide on two priority issues within that theme; for example, ‘methane from livestock’ and ‘indigenous knowledge and resilience.’ They will then identify at least one activity that would raise awareness or fill knowledge gaps for rangelands and pastoralists related to each of those two issues. The RISG Chairs will submit their findings by 25 January to the Workshop Facilitators, who will then summarize and compare/contrast the findings and create a short list of examples that could be discussed in more detail during the workshops. The Workshop Facilitators will create summary tables that will be sent to all workshop participants by 29 January.

**Workshop 1: “Priority Actions for IYRP Themes 1–6”:** Monday, 31 January, 07:00–09:00 USA Mountain Standard Time (MST). The structure of the workshop would be:

- Facilitator presentation of a summary table for the first 6 IYRP themes and the short list of up to 10 priority activities common across all regions (15 minutes)
- Participants will then take an instant online poll to choose one of these 10 priority activities as example for further elaboration. The main criteria will be which priority activity a) involves the most regions, and b) needs to be started soonest so that results could be observable before the end of 2026.
- The RISG Chairs involved with this chosen priority activity will briefly describe it from their regional perspective as a way to start the discussion on how to implement the chosen example: what, who, how, when, etc.

**Workshop 2: “Priority Actions for IYRP Themes 7–12”:** Tuesday, 1 February, 07:00–09:00 USA MST.

This will be run exactly the same as Workshop 1, except that the focus will be on the second set of 6 IYRP themes.

The results of both workshops will be synthesized and presented by the Facilitators at the IYRP Symposium on 8 February. Furthermore, in the weeks following the Conference, the Facilitators will write a brief report that summarizes the workshop and symposium findings, including results from a brief, online post-Conference participant survey intended to reveal lessons learned as to how the stakeholder engagement process for IYRP could be improved.