Building Sustainable Rangeland Management Systems through adoption of a One System Approach.

Sustainable Rangeland Management can be defined as the implementation of a set of activities that aim to ensure a sustained yield of rangeland resources, whilst protecting, restoring and improving the basic rangeland resources, soil, water, plant and animal life. In the context of Ethiopia's rangelands, this means a set of management activities that aim to balance; livestock management, the intensive use of grass and shrub vegetation and perennial/seasonal water resources by herds of grazing and browsing livestock within an extensive livestock production system; and crop production, the expanding use of cultivable land for rain-fed and irrigation based crop production.

In order to achieve sustainable rangeland management, it is proposed that several actors work together to build a comprehensive sustainable rangeland management system. These actors will adopt a One System Approach through combining existing institutional knowledge, skills, tools and approaches. The aim is to create a hybrid Sustainable Rangeland Management system. The actual rangeland management system design work will focus on four key approaches developed under current rangeland management systems project work. These four aspects are: Participatory Rangeland Management (PRM); implemented at scale by Mercy Corps and CARE under the USAID PRIME (2012-19) and now being implemented by the USAID RPA-North (2019-24); Remote Range Condition Monitoring, using AfriScout digital systems developed through the innovative work of PCI under the USAID REVIVE (2014-18) and now being implemented by the USAID RPA South (2017-24); Formalizing Pastoral Land Rights, developed and tested by Tetra Tech, working with PCi, under the USAID LAND (2013-18) and now being implemented by the USAID LG (2019-24); Holistic Rangeland Management, developed by the Savory Institute working in Zimbabwe over 20+ years.

Resilience in Pastoral Areas (RIPA) and Land Governance Activity (LGA)

AFRISCOUT

The SHEPHERD'S EYE IN THE SKY

A quarterly of a billion pastoralists and agro-pastoralists across Africa are experiencing significant changes in weather patterns that threaten their ability to find adequate pasture and water for their herds. Realizing that pastoralists could make more informed grazing decisions with better data, we created AfriScout. AfriScout is a mobile-based service incubated by the non-profit organization, Global Communities, along with past-oralists to enhance the traditional way of livestock production and pastoral management. We do this by leveraging near real-time satellite imagery and crowdsourced indigenous knowledge to help pastoralists in East Africa and beyond make more informed grazing decisions.

The Maro Training Centre (MTC)

Located in the world famous Masai Mara ecosystem in Kenya. Overall purpose of the program is to enhance the capacity of participants and their wider communities to create and manage the future they desire.

The steps involved in the process of securing pastoral land rights via land registration:

Investigation phase

Step 1. Identify targeted resources.
Stakeholder engagement with pastoralist communities to discuss targeted areas to use the resources for local livestock needs.

Stakeholder engagement mapping livestock use and distribution of targeted resources.

Step 3. Institutional Analysis.
Institutional analysis is conducted to identify the history of resource use and identify past, present, and potential future uses of the targeted resources.

Negotiation phase

Step 4. Defining management areas.
Defining the management areas in consultation with livestock resource users and stakeholders (establishing Mgt’ areas).

Step 5. Developing management plans.
Developing management plans for livestock resource use and distribution with livestock resource users and stakeholders (establishing Mgt’ plans).

Implementation phase

Step 6. Building the capacity of stakeholders to implement the management plans.
Building the capacity of stakeholders to implement the management plans.

Step 7. Implementing the management plans.
Implementing the management plans for livestock use and distribution.

What worked - Results

- Number of livestock management plans: +20,000,000 in coverage area.
- Number of rangeland councils: +20,000 households involved in management plans.

Key features of the App

- Current Vegetation conditions (Updated every 10 days) within your grazing areas
- Surface water detection
- Peer to peer grazing alerts
- Distance calculation from your location to anywhere on the map
- Terrain view allows users to see contours and elevations
- Historical view allows users to look at snapshots of vegetation conditions over the last 12 months

Where We Are

- To date, we have mapped more than 57 million hectares of traditional rangelands across Kenya, Tanzania, Ethiopia.
- And achieved: 20,000 downloads, 6,300 user-registered alerts, 44,000 logged sessions.