

A scalable and participatory sustainable rangeland management toolkit with a holistic and multidisciplinary approach to rehabilitate degraded rangelands

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Background

- Rangelands have undergone huge transformations as a result of unsustainable land-use practices.
- Rangeland degradation is a serious threat to our ecosystems and is a complex environmental problem that combines natural and social cause-effect cycles.
- Several rangeland restoration projects have failed as they opt for 'one size fits all' approaches without considering spatio-temporal variability across landscapes.

Innovative approach

- A comprehensive diagnosis of past disturbances and current practices.
- Participatory approaches combined with local development.
- A combination of indigenous knowledge combined with science-based evidence to reverse rangeland degradation.

Outcomes

- Description of key sustainable rangeland management practices.
- Practical demonstration (scenario) to illustrate how to restore degraded rangelands across different agroecological sites.

Take home messages

- Rehabilitating degraded rangelands is technically promising using a suite of rehabilitation measures.
- Special emphasis should be given to certain overarching practices: participatory approaches (rangeland governance) and grazing management.
- Capacity development of partners is important to keep up-to-date with technological advances.

