

Rangelands Flagship Initiative

Prelims: Current events of national and international importance | Environment

Why in News?

Recently, the Rangelands Flagship Initiative was launched at UNCCD COP13 in Mongolia.

Rangelands Initiative

- A **multi-partner global initiative** led by the **United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)**.
- **Launched at** - [UNCCD COP17](#) in Mongolia during the International Year on Rangelands and Pastoralists (2026).
- **Goal** - To reduce poverty and increase food security, targeting synergy between combatting desertification, conserving biodiversity and mitigating and adapting to climate change.
- Supported by - Several Resolutions of Parties to the Convention, including [COP16/L.15](#) on Rangelands and Pastoralists.
- **Objectives** - To mobilise greater **public and private investment** for conserving, sustainably managing and restoring rangelands.
- It focuses on achieving **Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN)** in rangeland ecosystems.
- It seeks to create synergy between **desertification control, biodiversity conservation and climate action**.
- **3 components**
- **Knowledge** - Develop supporting knowledge products, including
 - "LDN Principles for Sustainable Rangeland",
 - Sustainable Rangelands Standard,
 - Guidance on assessment of rangeland health and cost-benefit analysis of rangeland restoration.
- **Investment** - Increase public and private investment in rangelands.
- Develop a portfolio of rangeland restoration investment projects addressing
 - Land degradation,
 - Drought resilience,
 - Biodiversity loss,
 - Carbon sequestration,
 - Climate adaptation,
 - Cultural heritage,
 - Food security and livestock value chains.
- **Institutions** - Strengthen institutions to promote rangeland policy and investment

and establish a global coalition to advocate for rangeland policy and investment.



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Rangelands Flagship Initiative

Thematic focus of projects



1

**Land degradation and
landscape restoration**



2

Drought resilience



3

**Livestock value chains and
pastoral livelihoods**



4

Food security



5

**Biodiversity conservation and
sustainable management**



6

Carbon sequestration



7

Climate change adaptation



8

Cultural heritage



9

**Digital rangeland
analytical system**

- **Significance**

- It supports measures to increase conservation of biodiversity, in line with the

Global Biodiversity Framework.

- It will advance sustainable land management to improve resilience to climate change impacts.
- It integrates rangelands and sustainable grazing into **Nationally Determined Contributions** in line with recommendations from **UNFCCC COP27**.

Reference

[UNCCD | Rangelands Flagship Initiative](#)

