

LARMAT SCOOPS THE BEST OVERALL POSTER IN THE AGRO- CONFERENCE 2023

On 26th October, 2023 Ms. Margeret Nyaga, a PhD student (Range Management) from the Department of Land Resource Management and Agricultural Technology (LARMAT), University of Nairobi, presented a poster entitled “*Rangeland restoration for resilient livelihoods through Livestock Cafés in the drylands of East Africa*” during the AGRO-CONFERENCE 2023 organized by the Faculty of Agriculture. She was awarded as the **best overall poster presenter**. The poster focused on the various rangeland restoration interventions that have been demonstrated by [Drylands Transform](#) project in the Livestock Cafés in the Karamoja border region of Kenya and Uganda. Livestock cafes are demonstration and knowledge sharing hubs that bring together local communities, extension workers, practitioners, and researchers to co-create and co-generate knowledge on rangeland restoration and management options for feed, food and nutrition resilience. Restoration of rangelands for resilient livelihoods through the Livestock Café Model presents a holistic approach to address the intertwined challenges of rangeland degradation, climate change, and livelihood vulnerability in East Africa's drylands.



Fig. 1. Mageret Nyaga presenting her poster during the Agro-Conference 2023 at the University of Nairobi's Faculty of Agriculture



Rangeland restoration for resilient livelihoods through Livestock Cafés in the drylands of East Africa



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Introduction

- Rangelands cover 40% of global terrestrial surface and are crucial to people's livelihoods worldwide, particularly in lower and middle income countries.
- They provide a variety of ecosystem services such as fodder, food, fiber, water, income and fuel (Lal et al. 2016).
- They face multiple challenges, including land degradation, climate change, land use changes and socio-economic vulnerabilities.

Aims and Objectives

To co-develop sustainable rangeland restoration and management options with local communities and other stakeholders using a Livestock Café model.

Livestock Cafés in the Karamoja border region of Kenya and Uganda

Livestock Cafés are demonstration sites and knowledge sharing hubs that bring together local communities, extension workers, practitioners, and researchers to co-create and co-generate knowledge on different rangeland restoration and management options.



Uttara reforestation **revegetation**



Fig. 1 A view and a ground-perspective of one of the Livestock Cafés in New Prata, Kenya

Restoration Interventions for soil and water conservation



Fig. 2 Water harvesting using half-moon pits (revegetation)



Fig. 3 Various types of *Strombosolen* (acacia) species planted in well-traced contour lines and resulting in reduced soil erosion, improved grasses and legumes

Results



Fig. 4 The impact of the restoration interventions on degraded lands

Conclusion

Restoration of rangelands for resilient livelihoods through the Livestock Café Model presents a holistic approach to address the interconnected challenges of rangeland degradation, climate change, and livelihood vulnerability in East Africa's drylands.

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