In Memoriam

Dr. Mohammad Taghi Farvar
(1942 – 2018)

Ghanimat Azhdari
Rangelands and Indigenous Mobile Pastoralists of Iran

Challenges, Struggles and Practices on the Governance of Territories of Life and Territory Based Sustainable Range Management

Virtual Workshop on Rangelands & Pastoralism in Asia, 16 July 2021
Political and policy changes impacting mobile pastoralists’ governance of natural resources and “territories of life” in the past century.
- Assessment of Current Predicament
- Desirable Future Visioning
- Developing Roadmaps (Strategy & Action Plan)
Response to Current Predicament

- **Re-empowering** mobile pastoralists & their traditional *governance* institutions;
- **Registering** their **tribal organizations**;
- **Re-claiming** appropriate recognition of their governance over their territories of life;
- **Establishment** of UniNomad & UniCamel;
Policy Influence & Advocacy

• Revision of the natural resource law;
• Participatory governance assessment of Protected & Conserved Areas;
• Advocacy and lobby with policy & decision makers in recognition of the concept of territory and avoid fragmentation the territories of life at various levels;
• Advocacy for the rights of mobile pastoralists over their territories of life within the framework of national & international laws.
Participatory Geographic Information System (PGIS)

- Delineating accurate territories of life of mobile pastoralists;
- Identifying threats, occupations, and governance re-allocations;
- Preparing the community restitution plan and institute a legal support plan;
- Advocacy to change policies, promoting the right to tribal territories as a critical element for conservation of rangelands and revival and existence of mobile pastoralists.
Involvement of mobile pastoralists organisations in various Actions

• Several GEF/SGP projects to cope with climate change issues, drought and promotion of ICCAs;
• Promoting and understanding territories of life - ICCAs in Iran and Beyond;
• **Territory-Based** Sustainable Range Management Program (TBSRM);
• Organizational Cohesion, Policy influence;
• Restoration of degraded rangelands;
• Promoting innovative livelihoods;
• Governance Assessment of Protected and Conserved Areas of Iran.
Conservation of Namdan Plain (Kushke-Zar Wetland), summering ground of Qashqai tribal confederacy

First pilot project focusing on “Indigenous Peoples Territories and Community Conserved Areas (ICCAs)” in Iran, recognition of the first ICCA through the issue of an official letter from DOE
Understanding and Promoting Territories of Life/ICCAs in Iran and beyond
Reviving Indigenous Community Conserved Areas (ICCAs) in Customary Territories of Abolhassani indigenous nomadic tribe—Coping with the Effects of Climate Change and Drought through Local Initiatives and Ecological Management
Sustainable management of natural resources and livelihood improvement—Chodari nomadic pastoralist tribe—through adaptation to climate change and drought mitigation
Kharturan Region, Central Desert of Iran
Restoring traditional Inverted Tulip ICCA (Indigenous and Community Conserved Area) in the midpoint resting territories of the Bakhtiar Tribes, Farrokhvand Tribe
Empowering Iran’s Indigenous Nomadic Tribes: towards Poverty Eradication and Nature Conservation through Diversification of Income and Wealth Generation
Reintroducing red spotted trout to Ali Darvish River in order to rehabilitate the population of brown bear in Summering Ground of Takle Tribe, Shahsevan Tribal Confederacy
Planning and implementation of Indigenous & Community Conserved Areas (ICCA)-based Ecotourism by the Heybətli clan of the Kuhi Sub-tribe of Shish Bayli tribe of the Qashqai Tribal Confederacy
Strengthening the productive capacity of the tribal territory to produce fodder while coinciding with the improvement of Rangelands

Qurt Sub-tribe of Shish Bayli Tribe, Qashqai Tribal Confederacy
Capacity Building to Promote Organizational Cohesion of Union of Nomads of Migratory Tribes and Sub-tribe

Currently under execution

IRA/CCA-GSI/2019/32 (254)
Documentation of traditional knowledge by Hamule sub-tribe of Bakhtiari Nomadic Tribe on customary management of livestock and rangelands during drought conditions

Currently under execution

IRA/CCA-GSI/2019/22(244)
Revival of customary management of natural resources & CCAs in Mazeh-kuh by Farokhvand Tribe in Bakhtiari Tribal Confederacy

Currently under execution

IRA/CCA-GSI/2019/27(249)
Empowerment of Abolhssani Nomadic Tribe Against Climate Change Resilience Through Promoting Innovative Livelihoods

Currently under execution
IRA/CCA-GSI/2019/20(242)
Currently under execution

Revival of Seikavand Rangelands in Bakhtiari Tribal Confederacy, Rostami sub-tribe

IRA/CCA-GSI/2019/11(233)
Final Remarks

- Call for stronger support at policy and practice arena for recognition of territories of life/ICCAs and promote the role of mobile pastoralists and their governance systems to achieve Territory Based Sustainable Range Management, conservation of bio-cultural diversity and restoration of rangelands and ecosystems within their territories of life;

- Call for building alliances among all right-holders and stakeholders (at national and international) to actively support and take action on The International Year of Pastoralists and Rangelands (IYPR)