

Global Rangelands Standard V0.2

Consultation and Development Report

August 2026

1. ABOUT THIS REPORT

The Global Rangelands Standard has been developed through an ongoing process of consultation, review and refinement. This report provides a summary of that process to date, from consultation on the initial draft through to the development and release of Version 0.2 as the Foundation Standard at UNCCD COP17 in Mongolia in August 2026.

The Global Rangelands Standard is an RSC-led initiative. It has been developed through an iterative and consultative process, with support from UNCCD, the Sustainable Fibre Alliance and the GEF-funded STELARR project, which is implemented by IUCN and executed by ILRI and partners.

The report provides an overview of who has contributed to the Standard's development, the main themes and recommendations emerging from consultation and review, and the key ways these have shaped Version 0.2. It does not provide a detailed account of every individual comment or resulting revision; further detail on the feedback received and resulting changes is provided in the accompanying **Consultation Change Log (Annex II)**.

Version 0.2 establishes the Foundation Standard: the core global normative framework of Principles, Themes and Requirements on which further guidance, implementation tools and application pathways will be built. Its release represents an important milestone in the Standard's development, while recognising that further consultation, technical review, supporting system development and pilot testing are required before the Standard proceeds through RSC's formal approval process and Version 1.0 is released.

2. CONSULTATION & DEVELOPMENT TO DATE

Development of the Global Rangelands Standard has been an iterative process, with successive drafts shaped by consultation with pastoralists, industry, rangeland experts and other stakeholders, alongside technical and strategic review.

Draft 0 – Initial consultation

Initial consultation took place across 2024 and 2025 through a series of in-person and online engagements. Seven consultation events were held in Europe, Asia, Africa and Australia, involving industry representatives, pastoralists and rangeland experts. More than 450 comments were recorded during this initial phase.

This consultation highlighted several areas requiring substantial change, including the need to better reflect pastoral, communal, customary and mobile systems; strengthen land and resource governance; recognise landscape-level and collaborative management; and better integrate pastoralists' knowledge.

Alongside this process, consultation with camel herders in Mongolia provided detailed practical feedback on proposed camel welfare requirements, including breeding and calving, nutrition and water, handling, transport and wool harvesting. This work has subsequently contributed to the development of species-specific animal welfare requirements within the Global Rangelands Standard.

Version 0.1 – Substantial revision and further consultation

The findings from the initial consultation informed a substantial revision of the Standard, including changes to its structure, scope and overall approach. Version 0.1 was then used as the basis for further consultation and technical review during 2026.

This phase included engagement with the Global Alliance for Rangelands & Pastoralists, IUCN, WWF and the UNCCD Science-Policy Interface, alongside successive reviews by the RSC Scientific and Technical Committee. Together, these brought perspectives from pastoralist and rangeland organisations, conservation and standards organisations, subject-matter experts and international science-policy bodies.

Across the development process, consultation and technical input have drawn on stakeholders and expertise from Africa, Asia, Australia and Europe, as well as organisations working at the global level.

Version 0.2 – Foundation Standard

Version 0.2 reflects the cumulative learning from these successive phases of consultation and review. Across the wider consultation and review processes that have informed the Standard to date, **15 consultation and engagement activities** have taken place and **more than 630 comments and feedback points** have been recorded and considered.

These inputs have informed significant changes intended to strengthen the Standard's relevance across diverse rangeland contexts, improve the clarity and practicality of its requirements, and strengthen its environmental, social, governance and animal welfare provisions. Version 0.2 establishes the Foundation Standard and the common global normative framework from which further application pathways, guidance, monitoring and assurance systems can be developed and tested.

A full record of consultation and engagement activities is provided in **Annex I**, while the accompanying **Consultation Change Log (Annex II)** provides a more detailed record of feedback and how it has been addressed.

3. KEY FEEDBACK AND HOW IT SHAPED THE STANDARD

Consultation and review have resulted in substantial changes to the Global Rangelands Standard. While feedback has covered a wide range of topics, several recurring themes have shaped Version 0.2 and the wider approach being developed to support its implementation.

- **Better reflecting the diversity and realities of rangeland systems**

A consistent message has been that the Standard must work for the diversity of rangeland systems, particularly communal, customary and mobile pastoral systems. Feedback highlighted the risks of assuming fixed boundaries, private tenure or individual control over resources and outcomes that may in practice be collectively managed or influenced by governments and other external factors. Early consultation similarly found that some requirements placed responsibilities on pastoralists for issues outside their direct control.

How this shaped V0.2: The Standard has been substantially restructured and reframed to better accommodate different tenure, governance and management systems. The Management Unit is more clearly treated as context-specific and defined through an appropriate participatory process, and requirements distinguish more clearly between actions within the control of the Certificate Holder and those requiring collaboration or engagement with others. Rather than creating separate pathways for different pastoral systems, the Standard establishes a common baseline that can be applied contextually.

- **Stronger land governance, tenure and landscape-level collaboration**

Feedback consistently highlighted the central importance of land and resource governance, including customary and communal tenure, shared access arrangements, land-use planning and collective decision-making. Stakeholders also emphasised that mobility, grazing resources, water, wildlife and other rangeland outcomes frequently extend beyond individual Management Units and require coordination across landscapes and jurisdictions.

How this shaped V0.2: Responsible Land Governance & Tenure is now a dedicated Principle, with stronger recognition of customary and communal rights and governance systems. Requirements have also been strengthened to safeguard continued access to shared resources and avoid inadvertently encouraging the exclusion or privatisation of commons. Collaborative rangeland management and participation in wider landscape and jurisdictional processes are more clearly recognised across the Standard.

- **Strengthening rangeland management and ecological requirements**

Consultation and technical review identified a number of areas where the rangeland management and ecological requirements could be strengthened or refined. Feedback addressed grazing pressure and sustainable grazing capacity, land degradation and restoration, biodiversity and habitat fragmentation, wildlife management, ecological monitoring, disease transmission and the use of agricultural inputs.

How this shaped V0.2: Requirements across Principle 3 (Land Management & Ecosystem Health) have been revised in response, including stronger consideration of livestock numbers and grazing pressure, clearer treatment of land degradation and restoration, and strengthened provisions for biodiversity, habitat connectivity and wildlife. Wildlife requirements have been refined to distinguish between native and non-native wildlife and to ensure that management or control measures do not inadvertently justify harm to native species, including carnivores. Provisions relating to disease transmission have been reframed around relevant risks and a One Health approach, while requirements for ecological monitoring and the use of agricultural inputs have also been refined.

- **Stronger recognition of pastoralists' knowledge, rights and participation**

Feedback called for the knowledge pastoralists use to understand and manage rangelands to be recognised throughout the Standard rather than treated as a separate or

supplementary source of information. Early consultation also highlighted the importance of customary institutions and meaningful participation in decisions affecting land and resources. Consultation on Version 0.1 also prompted careful consideration of terminology. Terms such as traditional knowledge, pastoral ecological knowledge (PEK), Indigenous knowledge and local knowledge have particular meanings and do not necessarily describe the knowledge or identity of all pastoralists.

How this shaped V0.2: “*Pastoralists’ knowledge*” has been adopted as an inclusive term for the diverse knowledge held, developed and applied by pastoralists, without implying that all pastoralists are Indigenous or that their knowledge is necessarily traditional. Recognition of pastoralists’ knowledge has been strengthened across the Standard, including in ecological and wildlife monitoring, alongside stronger safeguards for knowledge governance, meaningful participation and inclusive decision-making. The Standard also recognises that people managing rangelands may identify by other terms, including herders, farmers and ranchers.

- **Strengthening animal welfare while clarifying its scope**

Animal welfare was identified early in the development process as an important component of a Standard applying to livestock-based rangeland systems. Subsequent review focused on ensuring that Principle 6 establishes robust universal welfare expectations while remaining applicable across different species and production systems. Feedback also highlighted the need to clearly distinguish animal welfare from food safety and downstream processing, which fall outside the scope of the Standard.

How this shaped V0.2: Animal Welfare is now a dedicated Principle, covering core welfare outcomes including nutrition and water, health, living conditions, behavioural needs, handling and husbandry, transport and end-of-life practices. Its scope has been clarified to include welfare during transport, pre-slaughter handling and slaughter where relevant, while excluding food safety, hygiene and processing requirements. Species-specific annexes are being developed where additional requirements are needed, drawing on relevant standards, evidence and consultation.

- **Improving clarity, practicality and local applicability**

Stakeholders highlighted requirements and terminology that were unclear, overly complex or difficult to apply consistently in practice. Feedback also identified areas of duplication or overlap within the Standard and cautioned against prescribing approaches that may not be appropriate across different legal, ecological, cultural and production contexts. Stakeholders emphasised the importance of retaining a consistent global baseline while allowing for locally appropriate approaches to implementation.

How this shaped V0.2: Requirements have been simplified and clarified, with clearer responsibilities, less duplication and greater distinction between required outcomes and context-specific approaches to achieving them. The scope and application of the Standard have also been more clearly defined. Version 0.2 establishes a common global baseline, complemented by country-level guidance, practical templates and species-specific requirements to support locally appropriate application.

- **Clarifying the role and application pathways of the Standard**

Feedback and wider strategic review also highlighted the need for the Standard to provide a common framework for responsible rangeland stewardship without assuming that certification will be the appropriate or only application in every context. Stakeholders

identified potential value in using the Standard to support benchmarking, monitoring and reporting, landscape initiatives, policy alignment, responsible sourcing, markets, finance and other forms of recognition.

How this shaped V0.2: Version 0.2 more clearly distinguishes the normative requirements of the Standard from the different pathways through which they may be applied.

Certification remains one potential pathway, but the Foundation Standard is intended to provide a common global framework that can also support benchmarking, guidance, monitoring, investment and other recognition approaches. Further guidance and systems for these application pathways will be developed and tested as part of the next phase.

- **Monitoring, assurance and interoperability**

A significant area of feedback concerned how the Standard will work in practice. Stakeholders highlighted the need for monitoring and assurance approaches that recognise the realities of pastoral systems, including mobility, shared resources, different levels of responsibility and factors outside pastoralists' control. There was also strong support for interoperability with existing standards, monitoring systems and frameworks to reduce duplication and reporting burdens and support links to markets, policy, finance and ecosystem-service mechanisms.

How this is being addressed: Much of this feedback relates to the systems that will support the Standard rather than to the normative requirements themselves. It is therefore informing the ongoing development of the RSC monitoring system, assurance system, country-level guidance and interoperability approach. These systems will be developed and tested alongside the Standard before implementation.

These themes provide a high-level summary of the principal recommendations and responses. **Annex II: Consultation Change Log** provides a more detailed record of feedback received and how it has been addressed.

4. REMAINING AREAS FOR DEVELOPMENT

Consultation and review have also helped identify areas where further development, testing and stakeholder input to the Global Rangelands Standard are needed.

Key priorities for the next phase include:

- **Further technical review:** Continued review of the Standard's normative requirements, including areas requiring additional specialist or species-specific expertise.
- **Broader stakeholder engagement:** Further engagement is needed to strengthen geographic representation and ensure the Standard reflects a wider diversity of pastoralists, rangeland systems and value chains.
- **Country-level guidance:** Country guidance will be developed for the countries and contexts in which pilot testing takes place, to support locally appropriate application of the Standard within different legal, ecological and governance contexts.

- **Species-specific animal welfare annexes:** Species-specific annexes will continue to be developed and technically reviewed to address welfare requirements that are not adequately covered by the core Animal Welfare Principle.
- **Monitoring and assurance:** The monitoring and assurance systems needed to support credible and practical implementation are still under development, including how existing monitoring systems and other sustainability standards can be recognised or used.
- **Pilot testing:** The Standard and its supporting systems will be piloted in different rangeland contexts to test their relevance, feasibility and practicality before finalisation.

These activities will provide further opportunities to refine the Standard and address remaining gaps before it proceeds to final approval.

5. NEXT STEPS AND CONTINUED CONSULTATION

The release of Version 0.2 as the Foundation Standard marks the beginning of the next phase of development. Further consultation, technical review and pilot testing will be undertaken alongside development of the monitoring, assurance and supporting guidance needed for implementation.

Feedback on Version 0.2 is welcomed and will inform subsequent revisions. RSC is particularly interested in hearing from pastoralists and producer organisations, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, rangeland and subject-matter experts, governments, civil society organisations and value-chain actors working across different rangeland contexts.

Stakeholders are invited to provide feedback on the relevance, clarity and practicality of the requirements, including areas requiring further clarification, adaptation or technical review. Opportunities for more targeted engagement will also be provided through the next phases of technical review and pilot testing.

Alongside this work, the name of the Standard will be reviewed to ensure that it appropriately reflects its scope, purpose and intended application. This will include consideration of existing standards and initiatives to ensure that the final name is sufficiently distinctive and does not create confusion with established names or acronyms already in use.

Further technical review, stakeholder engagement and learning from pilot application will inform subsequent refinement of the Standard. The Standard will then proceed through RSC's formal approval process before the first formally approved version is released as Version 1.0.

ANNEX I: Record of Consultation & Engagement

Global Rangelands Standard V0.2 – August 2026

ABOUT THIS RECORD

This annex provides a consolidated record of stakeholder consultation, engagement and technical review undertaken during the development of the Global Rangelands Standard. It covers engagement on earlier drafts, Version 0.1 and the subsequent review and development that informed Version 0.2, as well as selected activities relating to supporting components considered alongside the Standard.

Date	Stakeholder category	Organisation / Group	Purpose	Location	Format
21 Mar 2024	Industry / brands	Multiple industry and brand reps	Early consultation on RSC and Draft 0 of the Global Rangelands Standard	London, UK	In person
17 Apr 2024	Industry / brands	Multiple industry and herder reps	Early consultation on RSC and Draft 0	Beijing, China	In person
6 Jun 2024	Rangeland / subject-matter experts	Multiple experts	Expert review and feedback on RSC and Draft 0	International	Virtual
6 Sep 2024	Herder consultation	Mongolian herders	Consultation with herders on RSC and Draft 0	Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia	In person
19 Sep 2024	Industry / brands	Multiple industry and brand reps	Industry feedback on RSC and Draft 0	Biella, Italy	In person
25 Oct 2024	Rangeland / subject-matter experts	Multiple experts	Expert consultation on RSC and Draft 0	Nairobi, Kenya	In person
3 May 2025	Rangeland / subject-matter experts	Multiple experts	Expert consultation on RSC and Draft 0	Adelaide, Australia	In person
27 Jan 2026	Pastoralist and rangeland orgs; subject-matter experts	Global Alliance for Rangelands and Pastoralists	Consultation on the revised Global Rangelands Standard	International	Virtual
20 Feb 2026	Conservation orgs / subject-matter experts	IUCN	Technical engagement on the Global Rangelands Standard	International	Virtual

24 Mar 2026	Conservation orgs / subject-matter experts	WWF	Introduction to and engagement on the Global Rangelands Standard	International	Virtual
25 Mar 2026	International science-policy experts	UNCCD Science-Policy Interface	Global Rangelands Standard consultation materials submitted for review	International	Written review
21 Apr 2026	Rangeland, ecological, social and other technical experts	RSC Scientific and Technical Committee	Review of the Global Rangelands Standard	International	Virtual
28 May 2026	Rangeland, ecological, social and other technical experts	RSC Scientific and Technical Committee	Further review of the Global Rangelands Standard	International	Virtual
3 Jul 2026	Rangeland, ecological, social and other technical experts	RSC Scientific and Technical Committee	Review of the Global Rangeland Health Monitoring Framework alongside development of the Standard	International	Virtual
6 Aug 2026	Rangeland, ecological, social and other technical experts	RSC Scientific and Technical Committee	Review of the Rangeland Ecosystem Services Impact Assessment alongside development of the Standard	International	Virtual

ANNEX II: Consultation Change Log

Global Rangelands Standard V0.2 – August 2026

ABOUT THIS CHANGE LOG

This change log provides a public-facing summary of the substantive feedback and recommendations received through consultation and review of the Global Rangelands Standard, and how these have been addressed in Version 0.2. It accompanies the *Global Rangelands Standard V0.2 Consultation and Development Report*.

Feedback has been consolidated and anonymised for publication. Where similar comments or recommendations were received, these have been combined where appropriate. The log focuses on the substance of the feedback, RSC's response, and the resulting change or rationale. It does not reproduce personal information, verbatim consultation records or internal review notes.

The level of detail reflects the consultation records available at different stages of the Standard's development. Feedback on Draft 0 is presented as consolidated themes, reflecting the substantial restructuring undertaken in developing Version 0.1. Feedback on Version 0.1 is presented in greater detail, reflecting the more structured review and feedback process used during this phase.

Within each phase, entries are organised according to the structure of Version 0.2, beginning with Standard-wide issues and then following the Principles and Themes. Feedback relating to supporting components or future development, rather than a specific normative requirement, is included in a separate wider-system section.

LOG OF FEEDBACK AND CHANGES

PART A – Major changes arising from initial consultation (Draft 0 to V0.1)

V0.2 Reference	Feedback / Recommendation	Response	Change Made / Rationale
Standard-wide – Pastoral applicability, scope and unit of management	Reframe the Standard around the realities of pastoral systems, including communal, customary and mobile systems, and avoid assumptions based on fixed farms, formal entities or individually controlled sites.	Accepted	The Standard was substantially restructured to better accommodate communal, customary and mobile pastoral systems, including mobility, shared resources, customary governance and adaptive decision-making. Farm-oriented assumptions around formal entities, sites and fixed boundaries were replaced with a Management Unit approach that accommodates seasonal and mobile use and different forms of governance and tenure, while retaining applicability to other rangeland management systems.
Standard-wide – Scale and responsibility	Avoid holding pastoralists responsible for matters outside their direct control or authority.	Accepted	Requirements were revised so that Certificate Holders are accountable for matters within their control, while their role in wider issues is framed around appropriate participation, engagement or collaboration.
Standard-wide – Landscape and jurisdictional approaches	Strengthen landscape and jurisdictional approaches to reflect the shared resources, mobility and interconnected governance of rangelands.	Accepted	Landscape and jurisdictional collaboration was integrated throughout the Standard, including in relation to shared grazing resources, mobility, land and resource governance, ecological connectivity and collaborative rangeland management, replacing the more site-focused approach of Draft 0.
Standard-wide – Pastoralists' knowledge	Better recognise and integrate pastoral ecological/traditional knowledge within management and decision-making.	Accepted	Recognition of pastoralists' knowledge was integrated throughout the Standard alongside scientific and other relevant knowledge. This included management planning, monitoring of rangeland condition and adaptive management, rather than remaining an isolated theme. This followed recommendations to use community-defined indicators, seasonal calendars and participatory monitoring.

Standard-wide – Clarity, accessibility and proportionality	Simplify the language and administrative expectations so that the Standard is understandable and practical for pastoralists and does not assume corporate systems or high levels of literacy and administrative capacity.	Accepted	Requirements assuming formal organisational structures and extensive written documentation were removed or simplified. The revised Standard allows management systems, records, communication and evidence to be proportionate to the scale and context of the Management Unit, rather than requiring pastoral groups to operate like formal businesses.
Standard-wide – Existing standards and wider frameworks	Avoid unnecessary duplication with existing sustainability standards and improve alignment with national and international rangeland, biodiversity and land-restoration frameworks.	Accepted / ongoing	The revised Standard streamlines requirements and concentrates on what is unique to pastoral systems and what could be considered ‘rangeland specific gaps’. Relevant requirements and supporting material were also linked more clearly to national policy and international frameworks, including Land Degradation Neutrality, the Convention on Biological Diversity. Further interoperability work across the standard system was identified for subsequent development.
Principle 1 – Effective Management: planning and participation	Replace rigid or centrally designed planning approaches with participatory and adaptive management planning that reflects seasonal conditions, customary governance and relevant jurisdictional processes.	Accepted	The Rangeland Management Plan became a central management tool. Its development, implementation, monitoring and review were reframed as participatory and adaptive processes, with alignment to wider planning processes where appropriate. The Rangeland Management Plan was also defined in the glossary.
Principle 1 – Effective Management: records, learning and continual improvement	Avoid burdensome record-keeping and improvement systems modelled on formal enterprises. Allow evidence and improvement approaches suited to pastoral contexts and recognise the effects of climate and other external pressures.	Accepted	Record-keeping expectations were simplified and made more proportionate, with different forms of evidence recognised. Continual improvement was reframed to recognise adaptive management and maintenance of good performance, rather than requiring continual linear improvement regardless of external conditions.
Principle 2 – Responsible Land Governance & Tenure	Strengthen recognition of customary and communal tenure, access rights and collective governance, and avoid requiring pastoralists to secure formal title or resolve tenure problems that fall to the state.	Accepted	A dedicated Responsible Land Governance & Tenure Principle was introduced, recognising formal, customary, communal and other legitimate tenure arrangements and addressing participation, access, shared rules and conflict management.

Principle 3 – Rangeland management and ecological condition	Restructure environmental requirements that were considered vague, overlapping or overly prescriptive. Provide clearer, practical expectations for grazing, rangeland condition, monitoring and restoration without relying on universal stocking rates or management prescriptions.	Accepted	The environmental content was substantially reorganised around adaptive grazing and mobility, rangeland condition, biodiversity, soil, water and vegetation. Management was linked to locally appropriate knowledge, participatory monitoring and rangeland management planning rather than fixed prescriptions.
Principle 3 – Mobility, biodiversity and shared ecological resources	Better recognise mobility and ecological connectivity, wildlife coexistence and the fact that biodiversity and water resources are often managed across shared landscapes. Avoid approaches that could unnecessarily exclude livestock or pastoralists from areas used by wildlife.	Accepted	Mobility, migration routes, habitat connectivity and wildlife coexistence were more explicitly incorporated. Requirements were reframed around locally agreed management of sensitive areas and collaboration with other rangeland users and authorities rather than blanket livestock exclusion.
Principle 4 – Resilient Livelihoods	Better reflect pastoral livelihoods as adaptive systems shaped by climate variability, mobility, cooperation and risk, rather than expecting individual pastoralists to deliver broader development or climate outcomes.	Accepted	Livelihood-related provisions were reorganised into a dedicated Resilient Livelihoods Principle focused on risk identification, preparedness, adaptation, collaboration and resilience.
Principle 5 – Rights, Equity & Inclusion	Reframe Indigenous Peoples/local community and labour provisions so that pastoral communities are not treated as external beneficiaries or as conventional employer–employee workplaces, while maintaining strong fundamental rights protections.	Accepted	Rights, labour and social provisions were consolidated within the Rights, Equity & Inclusion Principle, with stronger emphasis on self-determination, participation, customary governance, gender and child rights, alongside additional labour protections where formal hired labour is used.
Principle 6 – Animal Welfare	Incorporate animal welfare within the Global Rangelands Standard rather than relying solely on separate product standards.	Accepted	Animal Welfare was introduced as a dedicated Principle covering core welfare expectations across livestock and working animals, with species-specific guidance to be developed progressively through supporting annexes.

PART B – Changes arising from consultation and review of V0.1 (V0.1 → V0.2)

STANDARD WIDE CHANGES			
V0.2 Reference	Feedback / Recommendation	Response	Change Made / Rationale
Standard-wide – Flexible application	Allow sufficient flexibility for the Standard to work across different pastoral and rangeland systems rather than assuming a single implementation pathway.	Accepted / ongoing	V0.2 retains a common global set of requirements while allowing their application to reflect different governance, tenure, production and ecological contexts. Further context-specific application pathways and supporting guidance will be developed and tested as implementation systems are developed. The feedback specifically proposed different pathways for different pastoral systems.
Scope – Mixed production systems	Clarify how the Standard applies where a farm or Management Unit includes both rangeland and cultivated or other non-rangeland areas.	Accepted	The scope was clarified so that the Standard applies to rangeland areas and the activities associated with their management and use, rather than automatically applying to all land or production activities within a wider farm or enterprise. This allows the rangeland component of mixed systems to fall within scope without treating cultivated land as rangeland.
Scope – Eligible and excluded production systems	Clarify whether large commercial ranching systems fall within scope and make inclusion and exclusion criteria more explicit.	Accepted	Scope wording was clarified so that eligibility is determined by the rangeland-based nature of the production system rather than operation size or commercial status. Large ranching systems are therefore not excluded solely because of their scale, while confinement, feedlot and other systems where rangeland grazing is incidental rather than integral remain outside scope.
Management Unit – Participatory definition	Ensure that Management Units are defined through participatory processes informed by pastoralists and other land stewards, rather than being externally imposed according to fixed scientific or administrative boundaries.	Accepted	The Management Unit was clarified as context-specific and defined through an appropriate participatory process, taking account of how rangelands are actually accessed, used and governed. It can include seasonal, mobile, shared and overlapping use areas rather than requiring a single fixed or contiguous land parcel.

Standard-wide – Control and external factors	Ensure that assessment distinguishes between outcomes resulting from the Certificate Holder’s management and those affected by factors beyond their control, such as government policy, climate or actions by other land users.	Accepted	Requirements were reviewed to distinguish more clearly between matters within the Certificate Holder’s control and those requiring engagement or collaboration with others. The Standard’s continual-improvement approach also recognises climatic variability, governance constraints and other external pressures, rather than requiring continuous improvement in biophysical outcomes regardless of context.
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PRINCIPLE 1 CHANGES – EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT			
V0.2 Reference	Feedback / Recommendation	Response	Change Made / Rationale
Principle 1 – Collaborative rangeland management	Avoid making coordination and communication a universal requirement where this is not necessary or relevant, for example for a single landholder.	Partially accepted	Requirement 3.1.4 was revised to remove the universal expectation for “communication” and ensure that coordination requirements are applicable to both individual landholders and multi-user systems.
Principle 1 – Climate risk and resilience	Strengthen consideration of climate adaptation and other risks within management and planning.	Accepted	The Principle 1 intent was revised to include the need to anticipate and respond to climatic and other risks. Requirement 1.5.3(b) was strengthened to give greater emphasis to climate and risk, and risk management was added to 1.5.8.
Principle 1 – Adaptive management, learning and improvement	Reconsider the emphasis on continual improvement and formal improvement planning, and give greater recognition to adaptive management and learning.	Accepted	Theme 1.4 was renamed “Adaptive management and learning”. Requirements and guidance were revised to clarify the relationship between continual improvement, learning and adaptive management, and the requirement for a “simple improvement plan” was removed because this could be unnecessarily burdensome in some contexts.

Principle 1 – Record keeping and monitoring	Ensure record keeping supports management across the Standard and enables changes in ecological outcomes, including soil condition, vegetation and important wildlife, to be tracked over time.	Accepted	Animal-specific monitoring requirements were moved from Principle 1 to Principle 6 – Animal Welfare, leaving Principle 1 to provide overarching record-keeping expectations. Requirement 1.2.1 was expanded to include monitoring results and observations relevant to management outcomes and changes in rangeland condition, and 1.5.3(e) was strengthened to require monitoring and recording that enables changes and trends to be tracked over time.
Principle 1 – Mobility and Management Units	Ensure that management arrangements do not assume fixed physical or ownership boundaries that are inconsistent with pastoral mobility, seasonal movement and overlapping use.	Partially accepted	Clearly defined certification boundaries were retained because they are needed for assurance, but the Management Unit provisions were clarified so that boundaries can reflect seasonal, customary and shared management arrangements rather than fixed physical or ownership boundaries, and are defined through a participatory process.

PRINCIPLE 2 CHANGES – RESPONSIBLE LAND GOVERNANCE & TENURE			
V0.2 Reference	Feedback / Recommendation	Response	Change Made / Rationale
Principle 2 – Communal and customary tenure	Ensure that the Standard recognises communal governance, customary rights and shared stewardship and does not favour private ownership.	Partially accepted	Principle 2 was strengthened to explicitly recognise communal governance systems, customary tenure and shared stewardship.
Principle 2 – Communal and customary tenure	Explicitly safeguard against land-use planning or management decisions that knowingly result in the exclusion, privatisation or appropriation of common land in ways that undermine legitimate access, mobility or customary governance.	Accepted	A new requirement (2.2.3) was added to safeguard against exclusion, privatisation or appropriation of common land.
Principle 2 – Indigenous and locally recognised governance	Strengthen recognition of Indigenous governance and rights alongside customary and other locally recognised governance arrangements.	Partially accepted	Indigenous rights were added to the Standard’s intended sustainability outcomes and to the intent statements for Principles 2 and 5. Relevant wording was also revised to refer to “customary, Indigenous or other locally recognised governance arrangements.”

Principle 2 – External pressures and responsibility	Avoid placing an excessive burden on rangeland users to understand and address external policy and governance factors that may be outside their control.	Partially accepted	Requirements that users identify and describe wider external pressures were moved to improvement level. A minimum expectation was retained in Theme 2.6 (Integration with National and Regional Frameworks) that rangeland-use practices do not knowingly conflict with applicable statutory requirements or recognised customary arrangements (see requirement 2.6.1).
Principle 2 – Legality and legitimate tenure	Clarify how recognition of customary and communal tenure relates to applicable law, including situations where formal title is absent, while ensuring the Standard does not legitimise knowingly illegal land use.	Partially accepted	Guidance under Theme 2.1 was expanded to clarify that recognition of customary, communal or other locally legitimate tenure does not override applicable law. Certificate Holders should be able to demonstrate that land or resource use is not knowingly unlawful where statutory requirements apply, while formal title or statutory documentation is not required where the law does not require it.

PRINCIPLE 3 CHANGES – LAND MANAGEMENT AND ECOSYSTEM HEALTH			
V0.2 Reference	Feedback / Recommendation	Response	Change Made / Rationale
Principle 3 – Terminology	Avoid or limit use of the term “regenerative”, which may be interpreted inconsistently and does not necessarily reflect all rangeland management contexts.	Partially accepted	Use of “regenerative” was reduced, and the Principle was renamed from “Regenerative Management & Ecosystem Health” to “Land Management & Ecosystem Health”. The term may still be used selectively where relevant.
Principle 3 – Ecosystem services	Strengthen recognition of ecosystem services, including biodiversity, carbon, soils and cultural values.	Partially accepted	The Standard retains its primary focus on stewardship rather than ecosystem-service assessment, which will be addressed separately through other tools. However, ecosystem services were added to the intended sustainability outcomes and explicitly referenced in the Principle 3 intent statement.

Principle 3 – Management outcomes	Better balance process-based requirements with clearer expectations for the outcomes that responsible management should support.	Partially accepted	The Standard remains primarily structured around stewardship practices, with outcome measurement to be developed through the monitoring framework. However, intended outcomes were made more explicit in relevant requirements, including 3.1.5 and 3.2.6, as well as through Principle intent statements and overarching sustainability outcomes.
Theme 3.1 – Grazing pressure and livestock numbers	Explicitly address livestock numbers, grazing pressure and sustainable grazing capacity; good grazing practices may still result in degradation if overall pressure is too high.	Accepted	Requirement 3.1.2 was strengthened to explicitly address livestock numbers and grazing pressure relative to forage availability, ecological condition and sustainable grazing capacity. This was distinguished from the spatial and temporal grazing strategies addressed under 3.1.3.
Theme 3.2 – Lawful and sustainable wildlife use	Clarify that biodiversity requirements should not unintentionally prohibit lawful and sustainable hunting or other legitimate wildlife use.	Accepted	Requirement 3.2.3 was revised to clarify that the Standard does not prohibit lawful and sustainable wildlife use. Guidance for Theme 3.2 was also expanded to explain the treatment of hunting.
Themes 3.2 and 3.3 – Biodiversity and ecosystem condition	Clarify the distinction between the biodiversity requirements and requirements relating to soil, water and plant communities, which overlapped and could be confusing.	Accepted	The two Themes were retained but their scope and guidance were clarified and differentiated. Theme 3.3 was renamed “Rangeland condition and ecological function”, and requirements in Themes 3.2 and 3.3 were adjusted to reduce overlap.
Theme 3.2 – Habitat fragmentation and fencing	Explicitly recognise fencing and other barriers as potential causes of fragmentation and disruption of wildlife movement, while avoiding a blanket prohibition on fencing.	Partially accepted	A blanket prohibition on fencing was not introduced, because fencing may be legitimate or necessary in some contexts. However, fencing was explicitly identified in 3.2.2 as a potential source of fragmentation, strengthening the requirement to maintain wildlife movement and ecological connectivity.
Theme 3.2 – Conversion and fragmentation	Avoid an absolute prohibition on all rangeland conversion, since limited conversion may sometimes support grazing resilience or food security, while retaining safeguards against harmful conversion and fragmentation.	Partially accepted	A note was added to requirement 3.2.2 to clarify that not all land-use change is necessarily unacceptable, while retaining safeguards against conversion and fragmentation that undermine rangeland ecological values and connectivity.

Theme 3.2 – Wildlife management and carnivores	Strengthen safeguards around wildlife control so that exceptions for livestock or human safety do not justify routine removal of predators or competing wildlife. Recognise the ecological importance of viable native wildlife populations, including carnivores.	Accepted	Requirement 3.2.3 was substantially revised to clarify when killing wildlife may be acceptable and to include explicit reference to carnivores, recognising the particular potential for human–carnivore conflict. The revised provisions seek to distinguish legitimate management of problem animals from actions that could undermine native wildlife populations. “Problem Animal” was also defined in the glossary as an individual wild animal that repeatedly causes, or presents a significant risk of causing, harm to people, livestock or livelihoods.
Theme 3.2 – Native wildlife monitoring and knowledge	Make clearer that wildlife conservation requirements relate to native wildlife, and recognise pastoralists’ knowledge as a legitimate source of information on wildlife populations and trends.	Accepted	Wildlife requirements were revised to refer explicitly to native wildlife, and the monitoring provisions were strengthened to recognise pastoralists’ knowledge alongside other relevant sources of information when assessing or remaining aware of wildlife population status.
Theme 3.2 – Disease transmission and One Health	Address disease transmission between wildlife, livestock and people, rather than framing disease risk only as wildlife transmitting disease to livestock.	Partially accepted	The requirement was reframed around managing relevant disease-transmission risks associated with livestock–wildlife interactions, avoiding the assumption that wildlife is inherently the source of disease risk. The wording was revised to better reflect a One Health approach.
Theme 3.3 – Preventing land degradation	Make prevention of degradation more explicit, including degradation, desertification and the spread of invasive species, rather than focusing primarily on responding after degradation occurs.	Partially accepted	A separate new requirement was not added. Instead, 3.3.2 was strengthened to explicitly reference land degradation, overlap with 3.3.3 was reduced, and the Theme 3.3 guidance was revised to make prevention of land degradation a clearer objective.
Theme 3.3 – Location of degradation requirement	Add an explicit degradation safeguard within the biodiversity/habitat requirement.	Not accepted	A separate degradation requirement was not added under Theme 3.2 because land degradation is addressed substantively under Theme 3.3 – Rangeland condition and ecological function. This avoided duplicating requirements across the two Themes.

Theme 3.3 – Restoration and rehabilitation	Simplify overlapping restoration requirements and combine planning and implementation into a clearer single expectation.	Accepted	The two overlapping restoration requirements were combined into a single requirement (3.3.4) covering feasible restoration or rehabilitation actions where degradation is identified, including addressing underlying causes and reflecting local capacity and ecological context.
Themes 3.2 and 3.3 – Ecological monitoring	Reduce duplication between biodiversity monitoring and monitoring of wider rangeland condition.	Partially accepted	Separate monitoring requirements were retained because they address different ecological values, but 3.2.7 was revised to better reflect the clarified scope of the biodiversity Theme and reduce unnecessary overlap with Theme 3.3 monitoring.
Principle 3 / Principle 1 – Recording ecological change	Ensure monitoring and record keeping allow changes in ecological outcomes such as soil condition, vegetation and important wildlife to be tracked over time.	Accepted	Under Principle 1, requirement 1.2.1 on record keeping was strengthened to include monitoring results and observations relevant to management outcomes and changes in rangeland condition over time. The continual-improvement requirement 1.2.3 was also revised to require monitoring and recording in a way that enables trends to be tracked.
Theme 3.4 – Fertilisers, pesticides and veterinary products	Strengthen the requirement so that fertiliser and pesticide use is minimised, rather than simply managed appropriately, while ensuring veterinary medicines are only used when necessary.	Partially accepted	Requirement 3.4.4 was revised so that fertiliser and pesticide use is minimised, while veterinary products may be used as necessary to maintain animal health. All such inputs must be used in ways that minimise risks to human health and the environment.

PRINCIPLE 4 CHANGES – RESILIENT LIVELIHOODS			
V0.2 Reference	Feedback / Recommendation	Response	Change Made / Rationale
Principle 4 – Livelihood diversity and diversification	Avoid presenting livelihood diversification as something that is necessarily introduced from outside. Recognise that diversity of livestock, products and livelihood strategies is already a core source of resilience in many pastoral systems. Consider whether investments should support this existing diversity.	Partially accepted	Guidance for Theme 4.2 was revised to recognise livelihood diversity as an existing and important feature of pastoral systems, and “new” was added to Requirement 4.2.1 so that the requirement applies specifically to new diversification activities. A specific requirement that investments support pastoral livelihood diversity was not added, because investment decisions may fall outside the control and scope of the Certificate Holder.

PRINCIPLE 5 CHANGES – RIGHTS, EQUITY & INCLUSION			
V0.2 Reference	Feedback / Recommendation	Response	Change Made / Rationale
Principle 5 – Meaningful participation and influence	Strengthen requirements so that participation by women, youth and other marginalised groups involves meaningful influence in decision-making, rather than simply being present or consulted.	Accepted	The Principle 5 intent was revised to explicitly refer to meaningful influence in decision-making, and requirements 5.1.4, 5.2.1, 5.2.3 and 5.2.4 were strengthened to reinforce participation, agency and inclusion.
Principle 5 – Inclusive decision-making and elite capture	Make clear that decision-making processes should be inclusive and should not allow participation to be dominated by more powerful individuals or groups.	Partially accepted	The existing requirement was retained because its underlying wording was considered stronger than the proposed alternative, but “inclusive” was added explicitly to Requirement 5.2.1 to reinforce the expectation that decision-making processes should not exclude less powerful groups.
Principle 5 – Indigenous rights and governance	Strengthen recognition of Indigenous rights, governance arrangements and locally defined priorities, and ensure these are visible within the Standard rather than implied through broader customary-rights language.	Partially accepted	Indigenous rights were added to the intended sustainability outcomes and to the intent statements for Principles 2 and 5. Relevant terminology was also revised from “customary or locally recognised governance arrangements” to “customary, Indigenous or other locally recognised governance arrangements.” Culturally defined measures of success are being addressed primarily through the monitoring framework rather than as a separate normative requirement.
Principle 5 / Standard-wide – Pastoralists’ knowledge	Avoid using “Indigenous”, “traditional”, “local” or “ecological” knowledge as broad umbrella terms where the intended meaning is specifically the knowledge held and developed by pastoralists. Recognise pastoralists’ knowledge as a valid knowledge system in its own right.	Accepted	“Pastoralists’ knowledge” was added to the glossary and terminology was made consistent across the Standard. The definition explicitly recognises pastoralists’ knowledge as a valuable source of knowledge and evidence in its own right, without requiring scientific validation. Requirements were also revised where previous wording could imply that pastoralists’ knowledge was less valid than other forms of knowledge.

Principle 5 – Knowledge governance and data sovereignty	Protect pastoralists’ and communities’ authority over knowledge and community-generated data, including how information is collected, documented, accessed, used and shared. Consent should be ongoing, and sensitive information should remain protected.	Accepted	Requirement 5.1.2 was substantially strengthened. Where pastoralists’ knowledge or community-generated data are collected, documented, used or shared through implementation of the Standard, relevant knowledge holders retain appropriate authority over access, use and sharing, including the ability to review or change permissions over time. Sensitive information must also be protected in accordance with relevant community governance arrangements.
Principle 5 / Standard-wide – Inclusive terminology	Recognise that not all people managing rangelands identify with the term “pastoralist”; depending on context, people may identify as herders, farmers, ranchers or other locally relevant terms. Ensure the Standard’s terminology does not unintentionally exclude intended users.	Accepted	“Pastoralist” was retained as an overarching term where appropriate, but definitions of “Pastoralism” and “Pastoralist” were revised in the glossary, clarifying that these are used as umbrella terms and may encompass systems and people locally described as farming, ranching, herding, livestock production or other context-specific terms. Wording across the Standard was also reviewed to avoid implying that use of the Standard depends on self-identification as a pastoralist.

PRINCIPLE 6 CHANGES – ANIMAL WELFARE			
V0.2 Reference	Feedback / Recommendation	Response	Change Made / Rationale
Principle 6 – Animal welfare framework	Base the Animal Welfare Principle on an internationally recognised welfare framework and align with WOAHA and other recognised animal-welfare standards where appropriate.	Accepted / ongoing	Principle 6 was developed around the Five Domains of Animal Welfare, with WOAHA and other recognised standards used as reference points for benchmarking and alignment. Further technical review and benchmarking will continue.
Principle 6 – Scope across animals and responsibility	Clarify which animals and activities are covered, including working animals, and focus requirements on welfare matters within the Certificate Holder’s control or responsibility.	Accepted	The scope was explicitly defined to cover all livestock and working animals, including animals used for herding, transport or other work. It covers animal health, nutrition, handling, husbandry, veterinary treatment and living conditions where these fall under the Certificate Holder’s control or responsibility.

Principle 6 – Food safety, processing and legal requirements	Avoid duplicating detailed food-safety, hygiene, processing and slaughterhouse requirements already governed through legislation, while making clear that Certificate Holders must comply with applicable legal requirements.	Accepted	Food safety, hygiene, processing and other technical post-slaughter requirements were explicitly placed outside the scope of Principle 6, and the Standard states that Certificate Holders must comply with applicable legislation in these areas.
Theme 6.5 – Transport and pre-slaughter welfare	Retain concise welfare requirements for transport, handling and holding before slaughter rather than treating these entirely as external regulatory matters.	Accepted	Theme 6.5 was retained to cover animal welfare during transport and slaughter where these activities are under the Certificate Holder’s responsibility, including humane handling and protection from avoidable distress prior to slaughter. Detailed slaughterhouse and food-safety requirements remain outside scope.
Principle 6 – Species-specific requirements	Establish a common welfare baseline while recognising that some practices, welfare risks and technical thresholds are species-specific.	Accepted / ongoing development	Principle 6 contains core requirements applicable across livestock and working animals, with additional species-specific requirements provided through annexes. Annexes will be developed progressively according to pilot and implementation needs.
Theme 6.1 – Welfare assessment, observation and care	Strengthen welfare monitoring by using animal-based indicators and clearer expectations for observing animals and responding promptly to sickness, injury, lameness or abnormal behaviour.	Accepted	Requirements were added for welfare assessment using relevant animal-based indicators (6.1.2), routine observation at a frequency appropriate to species and risk (6.1.4), and more frequent monitoring and care for animals already identified as sick, injured, lame or otherwise vulnerable (6.1.5).
Theme 6.1 – Disease prevention and introduction of animals	Strengthen prevention and management of contagious disease, including risks associated with newly acquired or returning animals.	Accepted	Principle 6 now requires contagious conditions to be managed to reduce transmission while maintaining welfare, and requires appropriate health checks and disease-control measures before newly acquired or returning animals are mixed with the herd or flock. Species-specific quarantine periods can be addressed through annexes or guidance.
Theme 6.1 – Severe illness, mortality and emergencies	Strengthen requirements for animals experiencing severe suffering, significant mortality or disease outbreaks, and foreseeable emergencies such as extreme weather or feed and water disruption.	Accepted	Requirements now cover timely humane euthanasia (6.1.7), investigation of significant mortality and disease outbreaks (6.1.9), appropriate management of dead animals (6.1.10), and measures to protect welfare during foreseeable emergencies and exceptional conditions (6.1.11).

Principle 6 / Principle 1 – Animal-welfare monitoring and records	Place substantive animal-health and welfare monitoring expectations within Principle 6 rather than treating them primarily as general management or record-keeping requirements.	Accepted	Animal-specific monitoring requirements were moved into Principle 6, while Principle 1 retains overarching record-keeping expectations.
Theme 6.5 – Exposure to slaughter	Strengthen protection from distress caused by animals seeing, hearing or otherwise being exposed to the slaughter of other animals.	Accepted	The slaughter provisions were strengthened so that animals awaiting slaughter are protected from avoidable distress associated with exposure to the slaughter of other animals, rather than referring only to visual exposure (6.5.4).
Theme 6.5 – Processing animals while alive	Explicitly prohibit live skinning, dressing and other processing while an animal is still alive.	Accepted	A core safeguard was added requiring death to be confirmed before skinning, dressing or other processing begins (6.5.6).
Theme 6.5 – Stunning before slaughter	Require animals to be stunned before slaughter.	Not accepted / further review needed	A universal pre-slaughter stunning requirement was not introduced at this stage, recognising the range of slaughter contexts covered by a global Standard. Core requirements instead focus on humane handling, minimising pain, fear and distress, effective killing and confirmation of death. This remains subject to further technical review.
Principle 6 / species annexes – Species-specific prohibited practices	Elevate practices such as mulesing and lamb-cutting to Principle-level prohibitions.	Not accepted	These practices were not included as universal Principle 6 prohibitions because they are species-specific. They are instead addressed through the relevant species welfare annexes, consistent with the core-plus-annex structure.

WIDER SYSTEM AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENT			
V0.2 Reference	Feedback / Recommendation	Response	Change Made / Rationale
Standard-wide – Pastoralist testing and refinement	Do not assume that the Standard is fully fit for pastoral systems until it has been tested with pastoralists in real implementation contexts.	Accepted – further development needed	V0.2 is explicitly being treated as a development milestone rather than the final Standard. Pilot testing and further pastoralist engagement will be used to assess the practicality and relevance of the requirements and supporting systems, with findings informing subsequent revision before Version 1.0.

Interoperability – Reducing duplication	Prioritise interoperability where it can reduce duplicated reporting and data collection and make it easier for pastoralists to navigate multiple sustainability systems.	Accepted – further development needed	Reducing duplication and enabling reuse of existing data and evidence has been identified as a priority for development of the monitoring, assurance and interoperability systems. This is not treated as fully resolved within the normative requirements of V0.2.
Interoperability – Alignment with existing systems and global targets	Align with relevant existing standards, monitoring systems and global targets where this creates practical value, while retaining flexibility for national and regional contexts.	Accepted – further development	RSC will map and prioritise relevant standards, frameworks and monitoring systems rather than seeking alignment with every system. Development of the monitoring framework will consider how indicators can contribute to wider frameworks and targets while allowing locally appropriate implementation.
Interoperability – Practical applications	Consider interoperability not only as technical alignment between standards, but as a way to improve access to markets and finance, policy alignment, MRV, ecosystem-service finance and reduced reporting burden.	Accepted – further development	These use cases have been recognised as priorities to inform development of the wider RSC sustainability system. Interoperability work will consider where alignment can create the greatest practical value for rangeland users.
Assurance – Flexible accountability arrangements	Develop assurance approaches that can accommodate communal, mobile and overlapping systems without forcing them into artificially fixed boundaries, while still making clear where accountability begins and ends.	Accepted – further development	V0.2 maintains the Certificate Holder and Management Unit as the basis for defining responsibility and scope, while allowing Management Units to reflect mobile, seasonal, shared and overlapping use. How these arrangements are verified in practice will be further developed through the monitoring and assurance systems.
Assurance – Risk-based and proportionate approaches	Consider risk-based assurance so that assessment resources are focused where risks are greatest, and consider whether assurance should be proportionate to factors such as production intensity.	Accepted for consideration – further development	These recommendations do not require changes to the normative Standard and will instead be considered during development of the assurance system, including whether risk-based and proportionate approaches can improve credibility and efficiency across different rangeland production contexts.

Country-level guidance	Clarify the respective roles of the global Standard and country-level guidance, recognising that legal, tenure, governance and other implementation conditions vary between countries.	Partially accepted – further development	Core safeguards remain within the global Standard, while country-level guidance will provide context-specific interpretation for national legal, tenure, governance, ecological and cultural conditions without changing the normative requirements. The distinction was clarified in V0.2, with detailed country guidance to be developed for countries where pilot testing and implementation occur.
Monitoring and data systems	Consider existing tools and monitoring systems that could support implementation, evidence collection and monitoring, and enable data to contribute to wider national and global reporting.	Accepted – further development	Relevant monitoring tools and systems will be considered as the Global Rangeland Health Monitoring Framework and wider MRV system are developed. This will include opportunities to reuse existing data, support locally appropriate monitoring and link indicators where useful to national and global frameworks.
Knowledge systems guidance	Develop additional supporting guidance explaining different knowledge systems and appropriate terminology, including pastoral, Indigenous, traditional, scientific and ecological knowledge.	Partially addressed – further development	V0.2 partly addresses this recommendation through the new glossary definition of Pastoralists' Knowledge and revisions to terminology throughout the Standard. More detailed supporting guidance or an annex on knowledge systems remains for future development and technical review.
Animal welfare – national and sector alignment	Build on existing national animal-welfare legislation and sector standards rather than duplicating detailed requirements within the global Standard.	Accepted – further development	Principle 6 establishes a global welfare baseline and explicitly recognises applicable legal requirements. Country-level guidance and continued benchmarking will be used to address relevant national requirements and alignment with other animal-welfare systems as implementation expands.
Species-specific animal welfare annexes	Develop species-specific requirements where welfare needs, practices or technical thresholds cannot appropriately be addressed through universal core requirements.	Accepted – further development	Species-specific annexes will be developed progressively alongside Principle 6. Annexes needed for initial pilot contexts will be prioritised, with further technical review, consultation and species-specific expertise used before wider adoption.

NEXT STEPS

This change log records how substantive feedback received to date has informed the development of Version 0.2 of the Global Rangelands Standard. Version 0.2 constitutes the Foundation Standard: the core global normative framework on which further guidance, implementation tools and application pathways will be built. It remains subject to further consultation, technical review, pilot testing and refinement before the Standard proceeds through RSC's formal approval process and the first formally approved version is released as Version 1.0.

Further work will include development and testing of the monitoring and assurance systems, country-level guidance and species-specific animal welfare annexes, alongside continued engagement with pastoralists and other stakeholders across different rangeland contexts.

Feedback on Version 0.2 is welcomed and will inform the next stage of development. Please visit www.rangelandstewardship.org or email consultation@rangelandstewardship.org for more information and how to get involved.

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