



Rangelands in Medinine South of Tunisia. Photo Dhekra El Hidri

## Context

- Women's contribution to rangeland management in Tunisia and climate change implications on their livelihoods in rangeland areas are a policy blind spot.
- Current perceptions in rangeland policy circles is based on a widely held stereotype that women are seldom involved in livestock grazing despite women's growing contributions due to male-outmigration and increased availability of off-farm income for men.
- We studied two areas of Southern and Central Tunisia to address this gap and inform the current reforms in the pastoral code.

## Our innovative approach

- We used focus groups and interviews (total of 220 respondents) for in-depth analysis of men's and women's involvement in rangeland management.
- We worked with women enumerators in order to have access to women in conservative pastoral rural areas.
- We examined roles, needs and impacts of climate change for diverse types of women and men involved in groups or projects, of different social status, and entrepreneurship levels.



## GENDER EQUALITY, YOUTH & SOCIAL INCLUSION

# Gender and climate change adaptation in livestock production in Tunisia

- Both men and women are negatively affected by rangeland degradation and lack of water.
- Women are additionally disadvantaged by drought-mitigation strategies related to rangeland degradation which only target men.
- Our findings reveal that women are more involved in rangeland grazing than is generally believed in practitioner and policy circles, and in different ways than men. Women practice grazing closer to homes and do not stay overnight in distant locations. Accepting this participation in rangelands use is a necessary first step to enable women to benefit and participate in rangeland-related decisions and projects.
- Women's involvement and opinions are important to be considered for the sustainable and equitable use of rangelands and reaping benefits from related interventions.



LIVESTOCK & HEALTH

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## Outcomes

- This study was launched to support the ongoing development of the pastoral code in Tunisia and ensure it is gender-sensitive.
- Results were shared at a stakeholder policy workshop held in 2018 on the pastoral code, participants found the findings revealing, particularly that women are articulate about their needs in rangelands and the negative implications of climate change on their roles in livestock management. This study is contributing to changing stakeholders' and policy makers' perceptions.

## Future steps

- Continue to be involved in the future policy dialogues to impact upcoming institutional changes.
- Contribute to the development of a "Land governance toolkit", led by CRPs and other donors in Tunisia to ensure it is gender sensitive.

## Partners

Ministry of Agriculture, Hydraulic Resources, and Fisheries, Tunisia

GIZ – Tunisia



The CGIAR Research Program on Livestock thanks all donors & organizations which globally support its work through their contributions to the CGIAR Trust Fund. [cgiar.org/funders](http://cgiar.org/funders)



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