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**Atelier regional sur la gestion durable et inclusive des écosystèmes  
pastoraux et leur potentiel socio-économique dans les pays du Proche  
Orient et de l'Afrique du Nord**

**Pastoral territorial development as key  
driver for rangeland restoration and  
governance**

Tunis, 14-15 décembre 2022

**Region : CWANA**

**Aymen Frija (ICARDA)**



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## **Introduction: rangeland restoration**



## **Usual Focus of current rangeland research and development projects**



## **Some results and how they link to ongoing investment programs**



## **Way forward: effective pastoral development**



## **Conclusions**



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# Introduction: rangeland restoration

- Many Restoration practices have been tested in the past few decades,
- Most of these are based on local traditional knowledge,
- A large trend today to capitalize and formalize this traditional knowledge into formal institutions and arrangements, which sometimes create more problems than solutions
- Pastoral communities are facing challenges which goes beyond rangeland resources (need for integrated approach to solve the problem of rangeland sustainability)

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*Dominant Research and  
Development Areas in Pastoral  
Systems Development*



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## Focus of previous & current rangeland research and development projects

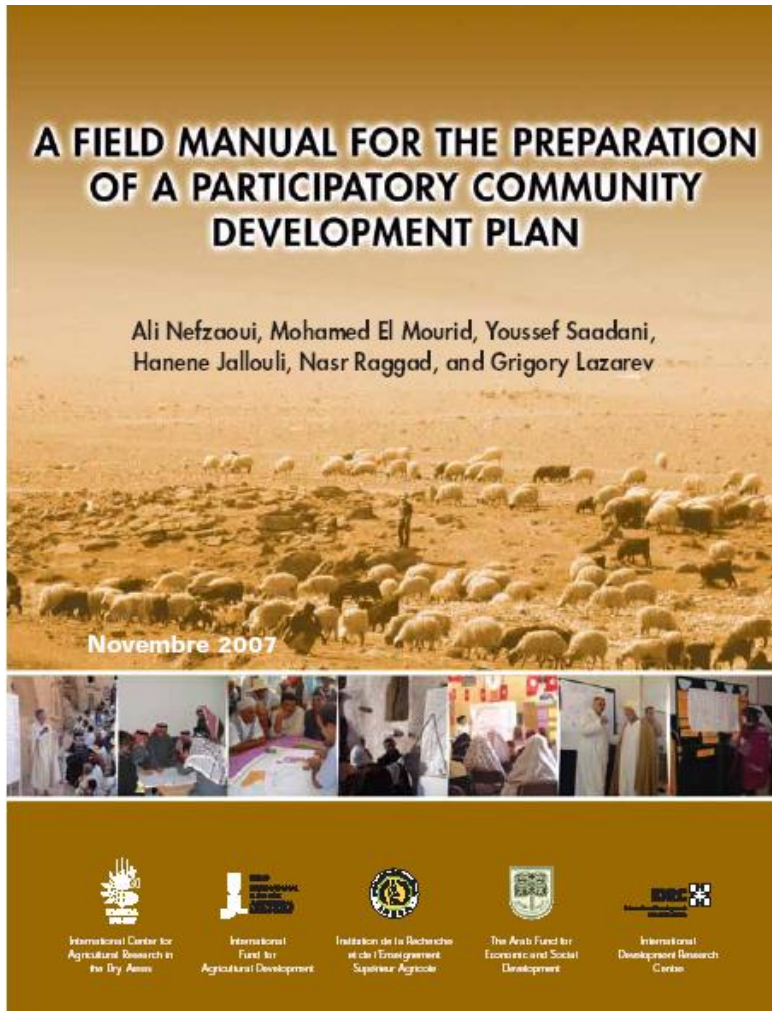
Most of these projects were focusing on the below key questions :

- How can we ensure enhanced livelihoods of agropastoral communities through better crop-livestock practices
- Technologies are not sufficient! Land tenure is a constraint, and there is a need for collective action and communities organizations.
- What is the best way to organize communities and which empowerment activities are needed?



- Increasing understanding that the problem of pastoral development is highly intricated into social and economic development dimensions

## A lot of focus was made on integrating social dimension as key (even as a starting point) constraint for restoration



Source: Nefzaoui et al., 2009. Presentation.

Early entry point: Natural resources (researchers / conservative approach) – Not well appreciated by development partners.

The entry point is rather the territory (Economic and territorial intelligence)

Uni-disciplinary research / aims at providing technical solutions TO development agents (extension / adoption)

**Multi-disciplinary research (Holistic/system approach).** The objective was to provide mostly technical solutions that can be adopted (through extension).

**Research 4 development « Partnership »**  
Multi-disciplinary, holistic (System)

Shift of paradigm – Value chains vision

**R4D – Scaling and impact « Partnership and alliances »** Multidisciplinary, Multi-disciplinary, Holistic (System), Multi-sectoral (Ecosystem services, entrepreneurship, social and civil society, NGOs, farmers groups, etc.)

- No research on rangeland governance, land tenure, etc. as the value was not yet very appreciated.
- Land tenure was considered as a development constraint. The objective was how to abolish it and not how to « deal with it »
- Development agents/agencies are only involved to take research findings to scale (adoption).

- The question was how to link research to extension!?
- Socioeconomic discipline was involved to work on land tenure system
- Development agents starts to be involved in research projects ('research in involving development partners') To ensure high acceptance of the technical solutions developed

- Socioeconomic research on land tenure systems, and farmers livelihood.
- All research activities are undertaken based on early consultation with development partners and with their full involvement,

- Research is facilitating the (larger public & private) innovation process by responding to the needs of local development actors.
- Tackle land tenure from a land security perspective and not from a rigid privatization perspective.
- Alliances, innovation hubs, living labs for higher impact of R&D activities.

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Les années 80

Les années 90

Les années 2000

2020 et perspectives

Source: Own Elaboration by Sghaier & Frija 2020..

## Entry points of R&D projects: a change of paradigms





## Main research questions recently tackled



- Identification of pathways for enhancing rangeland governance under constraining land tenure systems?
- Comparative assessment of rangeland CBOs performances based on a set of developed indicators (why some CBOs are performing better than others? And which effect of tenure systems in place?)
- Characterization of social networks and property right systems in Rangelands
- Assessment of the effect of land tenure and stakeholders perceptions for rangeland restoration.
- Inputs to Pastoral codes, laws, and reforms







WHICH LAND  
TENURE SYSTEM IS  
THE MOST  
CONSTRAINING AND  
NEEDS THE MOST OF  
ATTENTION. HOW  
CAN WE IMPROVE  
RANGELAND  
GOVERNANCE  
UNDER THESE  
TENURE SYSTEMS?



NEED FOR  
INSTITUTIONAL  
EMPOWERMEN  
T OF CBO (WHY  
SOME OF THEM  
ARE LESS  
PERFORMING  
THEN OTHERS)



PATHWAYS FOR  
BETTER DIALOGUE  
BETWEEN  
STAKEHOLDERS  
FOR RANGELAND  
RESTORATION IN  
COLLECTIVE  
RANGELANDS ....



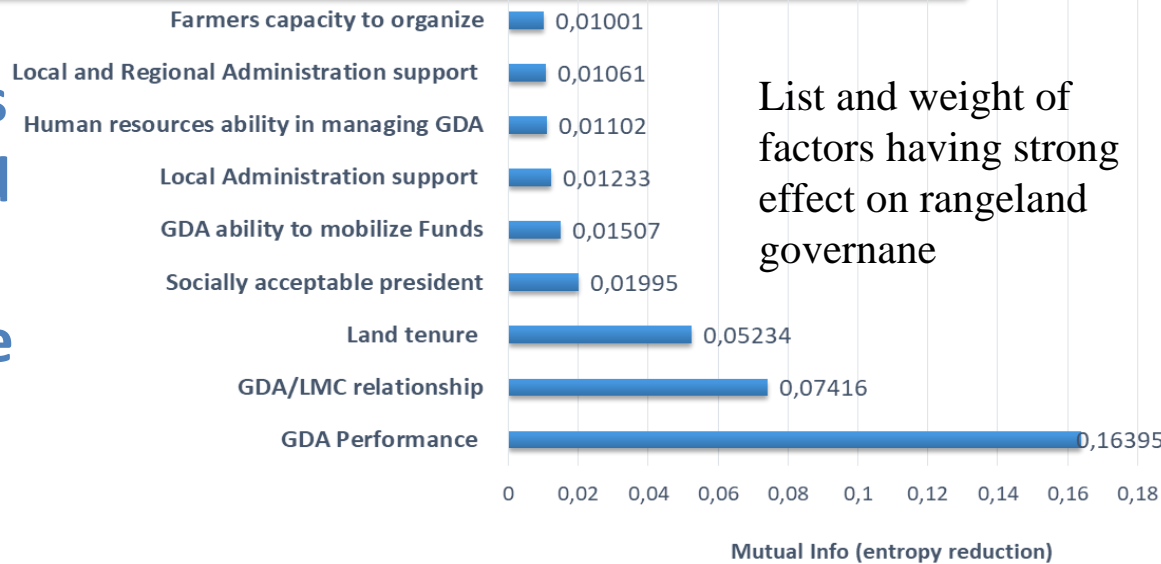
OVERALL  
GOVERNANCE  
FAILURES AND  
HOW CAN WE  
DEAL WITH THEM  
THROUGH  
FUTURE  
REGULATORY AND  
POLICY  
DIALOGUES

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*Some results and how they link to ongoing investment programs*



# Some results –Pathways for enhancing rangeland governance under constraining land tenure systems



List and weight of factors having strong effect on rangeland governance

- overall improvement of rangeland governance is highly related to the type of tenure system.
- Even under restrictive tenure systems, the improvement of a set of local institutional attributes can lead to better governance.
- Diversification of local economic activities can lead to lower pressure and better rangeland governance.

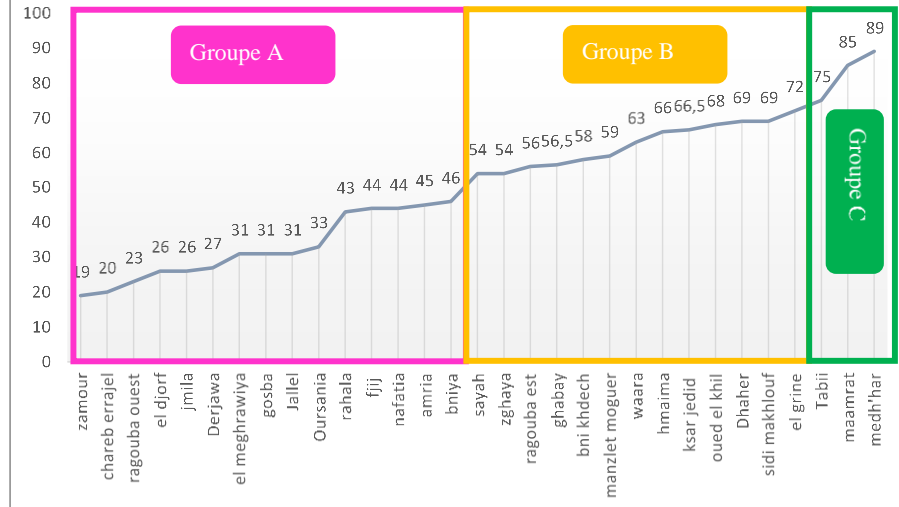
## Recommended actions under different land tenure systems

	Private and collective	Collective only	Private only
Relationship between GDA - LMC	Increase	Increase	Neutral
Perception about GDA performance	Strongly Increase	Moderate	Neutral
GDA capacity to raise funds	Increase	Increase	Neutral
GDA president socially acceptable	Increase	Neutral	Moderate
Competition over rangelands	Reduce	Increase	Highly Increase
Well defined boundaries of rangelands	Increase	Highly Increase	Highly Increase
Beneficiary from development projects	Increase	Neutral	Neutral

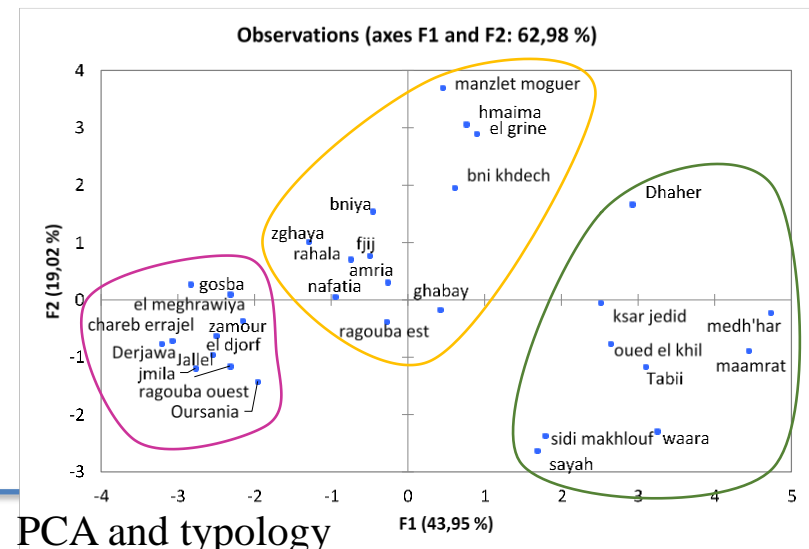
## Some results – Comparative assessment of GDA performances

- Scoring method based on three criterions: governance, management and service to identify the most performant CBOs
- Two factors of seggregation of the existent CBOs :
  - governance and financial management (Control, documentation, meetings, coordination)
  - Partnership and additional services for members (Networking capacity of the CBOs)

Positioning GDAPs on the classification scale



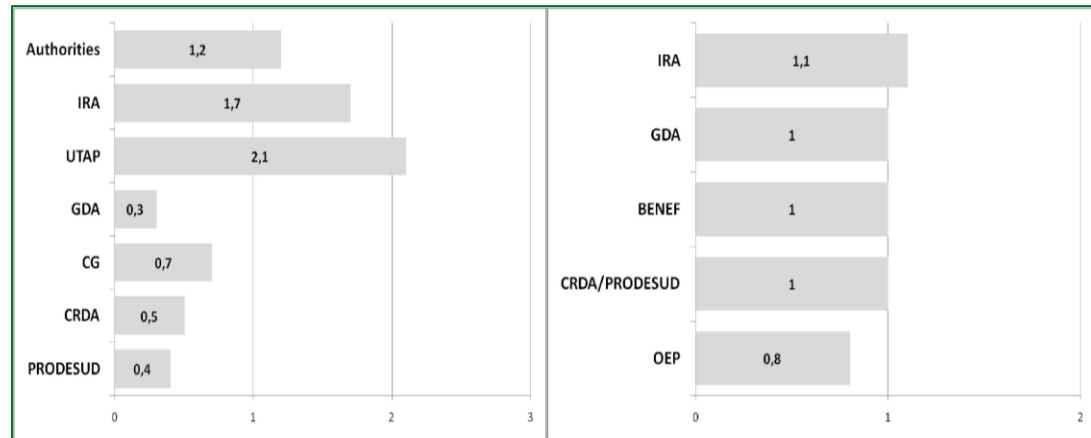
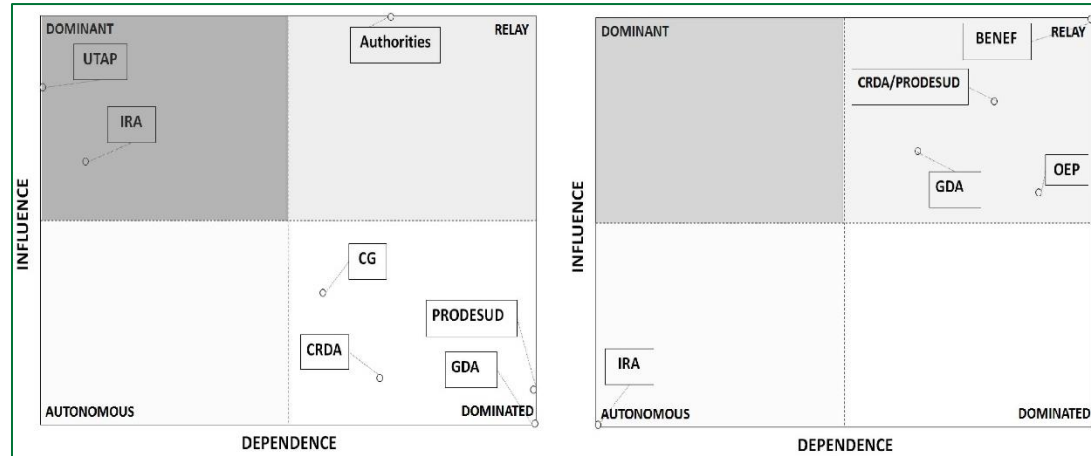
Ranking GDAs based on a multicriteria assessment/score.



PCA and typology

## Some results – Strategies and alliances for private and collective rangeland restoration

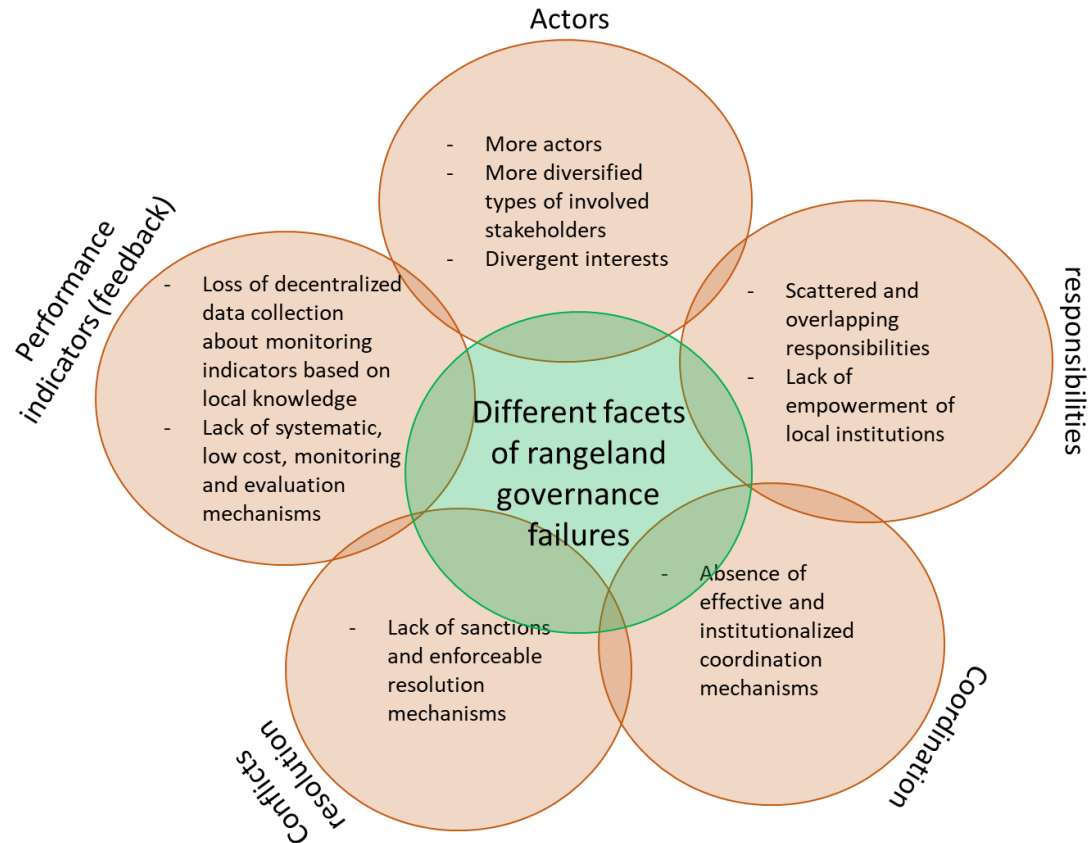
- In private rangelands, equal levels of stakeholder influence and power lead to a much more stable and flexible rangeland restoration process.
- Heavy presence of the administration in collective rangelands which creates a strong dependency of local actors.





## Some results – Potential inputs and arguments (regarding major rangeland governance failures) for the adoption of the new pastoral code of Tunisia

- Institutional analysis of different facets of rangeland governance failures at different levels:
  - Scattered responsibilities
  - Need for coordinating institutions.
  - Nested (multi-level) governance frameworks,
  - Etc.



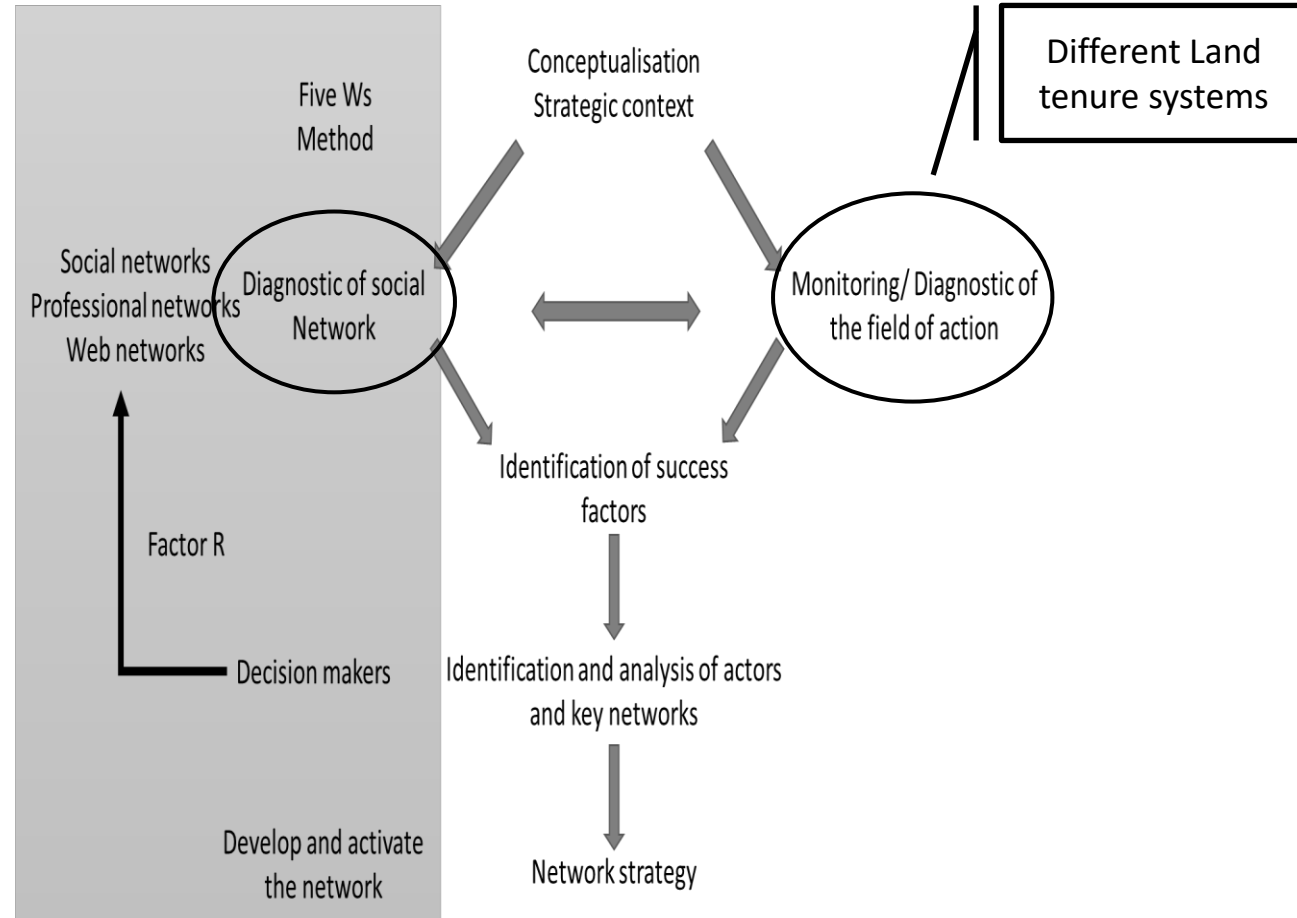
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*Ways forward – Effective Pastoral  
Territorial Development (investment)  
is key for enhancing rangeland  
governance and restoration*

## Ways forward – developing a toolbox for enhanced implementation of pastoral investment projects

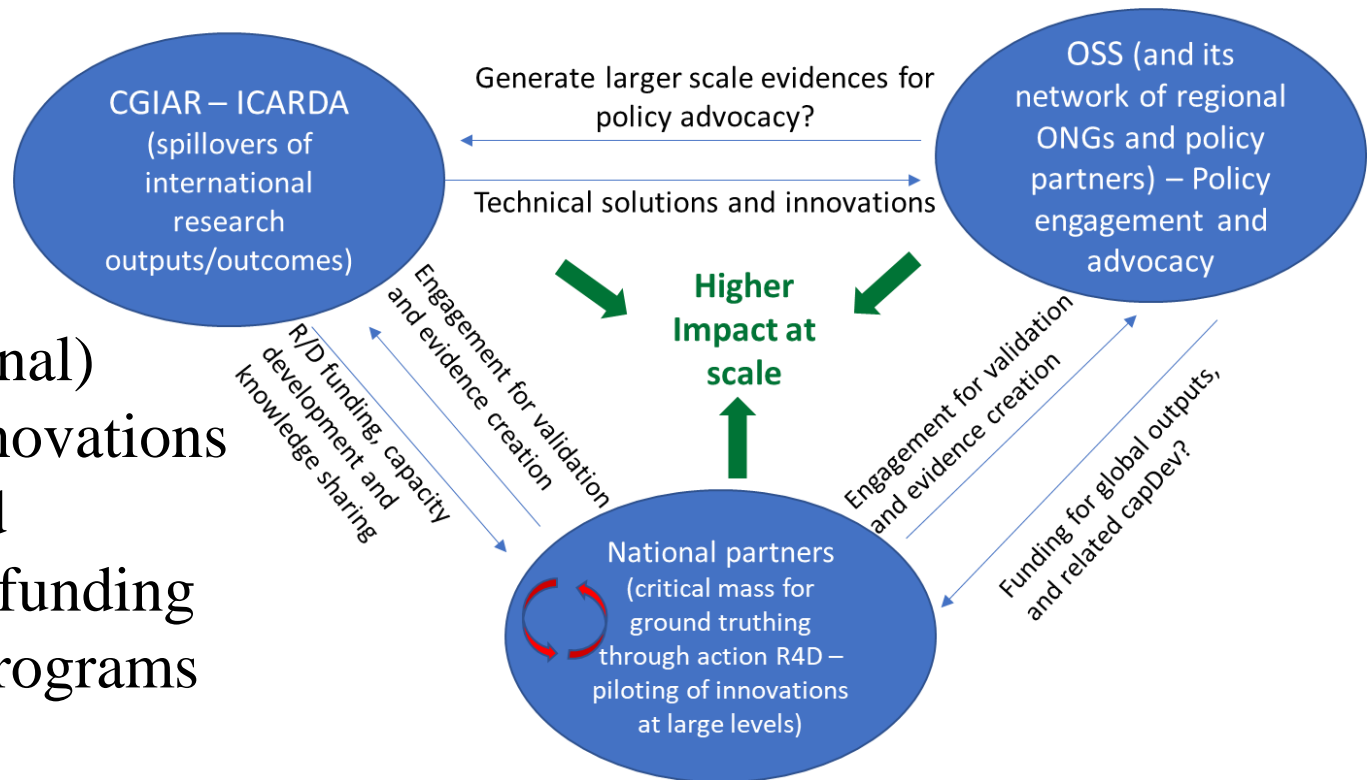
Operate as a network!

- Activate and manage the existent network → better coordination between actors and create cooperation opportunities
- Integrate pastoral systems to wider agrifood systems!





# Importance of international cooperation and Alliances with countries



Link (international) research and innovations to advocacy and policies, and to funding of investment programs

ICARDA/ CGIAR / OSS .... Other technical and funding agencies



## Conclusions

Mixed performances of CBOs, which continue to have a strong effect on rangeland governance

Many of the tools, manuals, approaches which have been developed through previous projects are being used, but we also need up to date development engineering tools (rare).

Need for new value chain and entrepreneurship guidelines to align investments in pastoral systems with the new agri-food system approaches.

Regional collaboration and benchmarking is Key for quick adaptations of pastoral systems to the ongoing changes



# Thank You !