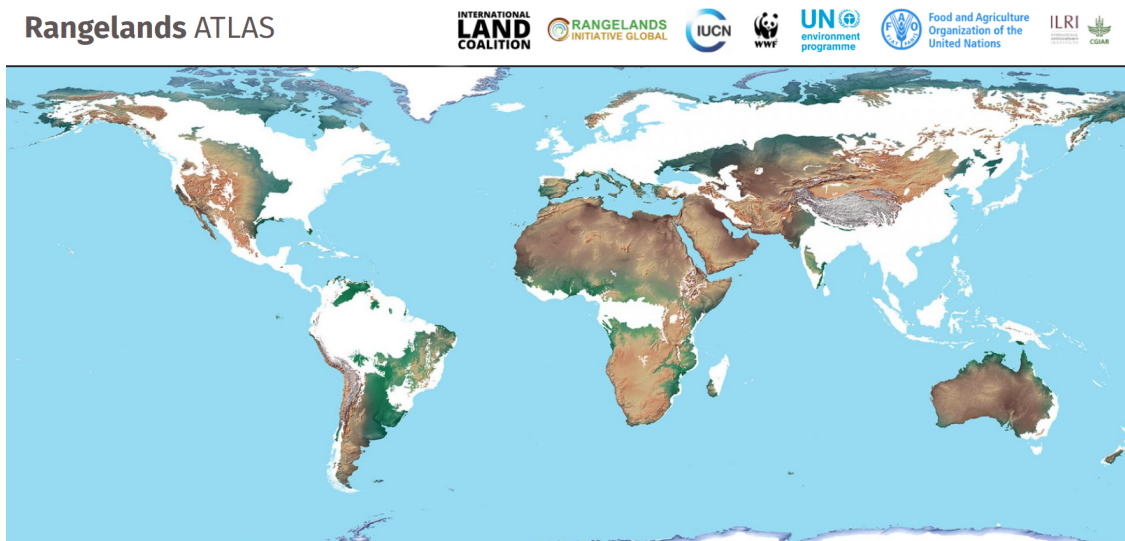


**From:** WWF Food <pmcfeely@wwfint.org>  
**Sent:** May 26, 2021 3:37 AM  
**To:** =?utf-8?Q??=  
**Subject:** Rangelands Atlas published by WWF and partners

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## **Recognising the importance of all our land, for people, nature and climate**

Today, we announce the publication of the [Rangelands Atlas](#), a first-of-its-kind mapping of the world's grass-dominated landscapes, depicting how they are used, their values and benefits, and how they are threatened by land-use change and climate change.

The Atlas finds that 54% of all the world's terrestrial surface is rangelands - reinforcing their importance in conservation and climate agendas. It is already known that these ecosystems play an important role in sequestering carbon, providing habitat for wildlife, supporting the world's largest rivers and wetlands,

and providing homes and livelihoods to hundreds of millions of people - but they are often ignored in global agendas. This has partially been due to a lack of definitive data on their size and value, but the [Rangelands Atlas](#) helps to fill that void.



The Rangelands Atlas is a collaborative initiative of the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and the global Rangelands Initiative of the International Land Coalition (ILC). It will be continually updated with new data.

## WHAT ARE RANGELANDS?

Rangelands can be described as land on which the vegetation is predominantly grasses, grass-like plants, forbs or shrubs, and often with trees that are grazed or have the potential to be grazed by livestock and wildlife. The Rangelands Atlas encompasses seven distinct ecological biomes: flooded grasslands and savannahs; montane grasslands and shrublands; temperate grasslands, savannahs and shrublands; tropical and subtropical grasslands, savannahs and shrublands, mediterranean forests, woodlands and scrub, deserts and xeric shrublands; and tundra.

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[Read more](#) from Karina Berg, WWF's Global Grasslands and Savannahs Initiative Lead, on how we must reframe our thinking on grass-dominated ecosystems, given the fact that effective conservation requires including and going beyond forests.



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Want to learn more about WWF's area-based conservation work? Read about the [Global Grasslands and Savannahs Initiative](#) and work being done in multiple landscapes, including in the US, Brazil, South Africa, Nepal, India and Australia.

Follow WWF Food on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) for more updates on our work in grasslands and savannahs, nature-positive production and other areas of food systems transformation, like shifts to planet-based diets and saving the one third of food that is lost or wasted.

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