



Global Grasslands & Savannahs Dialogue Platform

Carbon Storage in Grassland Ecosystems

Tuesday, 29. March 2022:

Time: 14:30-16:00 CEST / 13:30-15:00 GMT / 9:30-11:00 Brasilia / 08:30-10:00 EST / 15:30-17:00 Nairobi

Grasslands and savannahs' [role in global carbon storage](#) is significant due to their wide distribution and [their four carbon pools](#): above and below ground biomass, soil and dead organic matter. The bulk of the carbon stock is stored below ground in the soil contributing to a resilience to droughts and fires. Though the extent of this is not yet fully documented, studies have demonstrated they can store carbon [more reliably](#) than other vegetation types. Grasslands alone represent [about a third of the global carbon stock](#) in terrestrial ecosystems and store in total at least three times more carbon than tropical rainforests.

The management of Grassland ecosystems has influence on carbon storage and sequestration. Soil carbon stocks are sensitive to management and land use changes. Grazing, species composition and agricultural practices can lead to losses or gains of soil carbon.

With this meeting we want to open a series of sessions on the role of soil organic carbon in grassland ecosystems, sustainable management and the potential to sequester carbon in soil. This is important in view of the upcoming COP 27 and the challenge to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the agri-food sector.

Focus of the meeting:

- Learn about Carbon sequestration and storage in Grassland Ecosystems
- Explore opportunities management of grazing to build up soil organic carbon
- Get up-date on up-coming events and activities
- Look forward for up-coming publications

Agenda:

When	What	Who
14:30 -14:35	Welcome	Martina Fleckenstein (WWF)
14:35-14:45	Introduction of new members	all
14:45 -15:00	Update: IYRP, OEWG Paper, UNCCD, Stockholm +50	all
15:00 – 15:15	Introduction to Open Ecosystem Network	Caroline Lehman, Head of Tropical Diversity Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh
15:15 – 15:35	Regenerative Grazing for Carbon Sequestration on Grasslands	Seth Itzkan, Cofounder, Soil4Climate
15:35 - 15:45	Competing Demands: Optimizing Land Use to Maximize Benefits for People and Planet	Brent Loken Global Science Lead Food Practice
15:45-16:00	Discussion	

Publications:

Hope Below Our Feet: Peer-Reviewed Publications on Well-Managed Grazing as a Means of Improving Rangeland Ecology, Building Soil Carbon, and Mitigating Global Warming

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1QR9Xk3aq3soidmob6nS9PMstKclImRlgaVDyFzRkwy/edit?usp=sharing>

Technical Brief: Estimates for Soil Carbon Drawdown Per Acre from Holistic Planned Grazing and Globally by All Means [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1WMBvBvP9-](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1WMBvBvP9-IAKEIkFBTbHiA8ly83bM7mBkzZmH4z4RO8/edit?usp=sharing)

[IAKEIkFBTbHiA8ly83bM7mBkzZmH4z4RO8/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1WMBvBvP9-IAKEIkFBTbHiA8ly83bM7mBkzZmH4z4RO8/edit?usp=sharing)