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Manual for characterisation of highland communal grassland management systems

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International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)

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Introduction

In the Ethiopian highlands many communities rely on natural communal grasslands for grazing as a significant portion of their livestock feed. These grasslands furthermore cover a large portion of the highlands, and provide ecosystem services far beyond feed and fodder, including infiltration and hydrological regulation, carbon storage and sequestration, and habitat for many of the unique plant and animal species found in the Ethiopian highlands. However, many of these lands are faced with degradation due to weak community organization of grazing management in communal grasslands. Facilitating communities to improve how they manage the communal grasslands they use for grazing and other purposes is a useful but neglected strategy for improving the ability of communities to provide public environmental goods while also benefitting in terms of improved livelihoods especially through enhanced livestock production.

This manual for characterisation of highland communal grassland management systems provides guidance on taking the first steps toward assisting communities using highland communal grasslands to improve grassland management. Characterisation of highland communal grassland management enables government and civil society facilitators to better understand the management systems in place, whether these systems are strong or weak, and what improvements to grassland management are possible in communal grasslands depending on their specific circumstances. This manual is a companion to the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)-produced tool, 'Highland communal grassland characterisation – Focus group discussion (FGD) guide,' which is provided as Appendix A to this manual. This FGD guide can be printed and carried to the community for discussions.

Characterisation is broken down into four main components: (1) mapping of the communal grassland; (2) general information on the local area around the communal grazing land; (3) characterisation of communal grassland management; and (4) grassland management governance. The manual is organized according to these components, and for each component two sections are provided, focused on the purpose and importance of each component, and the process and details for collecting information from community representatives.

The manual and the FGD guide (Appendix A) should be used at the beginning of the process by a government agency or non-governmental organization engaging with a community in the Ethiopian highlands to facilitate the community to improve management of the communal grasslands they live near and use regularly. The manual and the FGD guide should be used by these government or non-governmental organization facilitators to understand how a community currently manages a communal grassland, which elements of management are stronger or weaker, and to identify possible improvements to grassland management that are likely to be beneficial. Improvement of grassland management involves much more than technical improvements such as reseeding of grasses. The largest benefits will come from improving organization of the grazing system, institutional structures and rules for managing grazing livestock, and larger social improvements such as certification of communal grasslands.

Getting started with characterizing communal grasslands

Characterisation is conducted through a focus group discussion (FGD) with representatives of the community that uses a grassland. Before this FGD, visit the grassland to identify who from the community will form the most useful group for the FGD.

The approximately 8-10 members of the FGD group should constitute leaders and beneficiaries of the communal grassland such as:

- Community leaders (men and women)
- Elderly members of the community (men and women)
- Representatives of young members of the community (men and women)
- Members of different important committees in the community

Make sure there are some women present who can provide ideas and relate concerns of women in the community. Including youth can also bring new ideas and concerns. Having the views of the entire community, including women and youth most particularly, will help to improve the sense of community ownership over the grassland, improve community buy-in into improving the grassland, and ensure that the entire community benefits from improvements made to grassland management.

To ensure that local government is aware of that the community is being supported to manage its grassland, also invite officers from the local government to attend as observers, including kebele-level officials, development agents (DAs) and woreda-level experts.

Materials for the FGD include: (1) The ILRI-produced tool, 'Highland communal grassland characterisation – Focus group discussion (FGD) guide' (Appendix A to this manual); (2) a flip chart and markers; (3) notebooks and pens/pencils for documenting any unique notes; and (4) at least 10 seeds or stones.

Finally, decide who will open the meeting, for example with a prayer as appropriate. Your introduction of the FGD will be important, and you should cover the following points:

- The purpose of the FGD is to characterize important elements of the communal grassland in terms of: (1) access to grassland resources, (2) the importance of the resources to the community, (3) management of the grassland, and (4) the status of grassland governance and challenges to governance.
- If the community agrees, later work can include supporting the community to prepare and implement a management plan for their grassland.

-
- After the FGD, there is no further requirement for participation of the community, and they are free to end the process at any time.
 - At all points, the goals and vision of the community are at the centre of the management planning and implementation process. The only beneficiaries are the community members who use the grassland.

Mapping of resources in the communal grassland (Appendix A, Section A)

Purpose and importance

The first step in characterisation is to map the grassland (Section A in Appendix A to this manual, 'Highland communal grassland characterisation — Focus group discussion (FGD) guide'). The purpose of mapping the grassland is to briefly assess how the grassland is laid out spatially, how animals currently are grazed, and possibilities for improved grazing approaches.

Explain to the community that it is important to create a map of their grassland, first and foremost so that everyone—community, government, and others—know roughly the grassland that the community is managing.

The map from the FGD is only a draft that will be used in management planning.

If the grassland is registered with government, use the formally registered boundaries.

If the grassland is **not** registered with government, use boundaries suggested by the community. This will normally be the case. Mention to the community that mapping and improving management of their grassland can be very useful if they eventually wish to register their grassland with government authorities.

Note: The mapping is **not** a formal documentation of boundaries. The boundaries, names, and other items on the map do not reflect any opinion of ILRI, local or other government, or any others, concerning the legal status of any grassland or other lands.

Process and details

In the FGD with the community, use a flip chart to map resources in the communal grassland. Use different colours and symbols for each and provide a key on the map.

The map should include any of the following that apply to the grassland:

- which areas are grazed or not grazed;
- in which seasons of the year areas are grazed or not grazed (if there are seasonal differences);
- by which main livestock types areas are grazed;
- different grazing resources (wet/dry season);

- fodder growing areas (exclosure or area closure); and
- what other resources are in the grassland, such as trees, stone quarries, salt licks, etc.

When finished, transfer the map onto paper. Make sure all symbols and colours are clear, and that the key includes all map attributes.

Make sure any notes taken during the mapping are written on separate sheets of paper, combined with the paper map.

General information on the local area around the communal grazing land (Appendix A, Section B)

Purpose and importance

The next step after mapping is to collect some essential information about the grassland to understand its role in the larger agricultural system of mixed cropping, livestock keeping, etc. With this known, the information from the FGD will be more likely to suit the needs of the community. If the community sees the discussion as suiting their needs, they are likely to be more motivated to listen and to contribute effectively. Without this information, it is unlikely that any management plan will suit the overall needs of the community.

In Section B, move quickly through the questions and allow the community to answer the questions mostly as stated, without extensive discussion to clarify the precision of their responses. These questions are coarse and even a rapid assessment will give clear information.

Process and details

The essential information collected begins with how most community members derive their livelihoods—from crops, livestock, etc. and whether they rank these sources of livelihoods in any general way (Section B, Question 1). The average household livestock holding in the community is noted for important species—cattle, sheep, goats, and equines (Section B, Question 2). It is also important to know whether most households have similar livestock holdings (Section B, Question 3), or if some households have many livestock and others have few—where it is more even, and households have similar numbers of livestock, grassland management may be easier since benefits may be more evenly distributed among community members.

Asking which livestock types are most important (Section B, Question 4) in the area can help guide management planning to best suit the priority livestock in the eyes of the community. Livestock types can include the species (cattle, sheep, goats, donkeys, horses, etc.), sex and use (for example, cows for dairy versus oxen for plowing), and age class (for example with sheep, yearling ewes versus breeding ewes). Start by asking generally which livestock they prefer most. Then narrow the discussion to something more specific, such as 'dairy cows', 'dairy cows and oxen', 'sheep for market', 'sheep for meat and market, females preferred,' etc. Describe the preferred livestock types in as much detail as possible.

Another set of questions covers basic numbers. The size of the grassland area (Section B, Question 5) is best estimated in hectares (or in 'timad' but be sure to note the soil colour). The number of households around the grassland (Section B, Question 6) is a general estimate of the total number of households within a short enough distance to use the communal grassland—this includes those who use the grassland, and those who do not use the

grassland. Then, out of these total households around the communal grassland, estimate the percentage of these households that actively use the grassland (Section B, Question 7). Households using the grassland *include all users*, whether with or without use rights, legal or illegal, etc. It is important to consider all users for realistic management planning.

Characterisation of communal grassland (Appendix A, Section C)

Purpose and importance

Section C provides the core information on grassland management, in terms of the use of the grassland for different purposes, and who benefits from the grassland and how. Information is also collected on factors that may affect management positively or negatively, such as market access, feed and grassland management issues, within the grassland and otherwise, and any possible links of grassland management to livestock disease.

This information is collected because the resource base that is being used by the community and how the community is benefitting from the communal grassland are at the centre of management objectives, which will determine any effective management actions. If the management objectives for the grassland make a direct contribution to how the community benefits from the grassland, the increase in benefits will cultivate greater ownership or buy-in from the community, improving collective action for effective management. The benefits are considered to include all users of the grassland. Important elements of the production system are recorded to help identify critical issues regarding land potential, grassland management options, livestock disease and economic opportunity, as these factors can either accelerate or slow down the improvement of grassland management by the community. Management decisions must always be taken in light of the constraints that face the community, as otherwise they are likely to fail or be ignored by community members.

In Section C, move slowly through the questions and encourage the community to answer the questions directly and precisely. Extensive discussion may be required to clarify their responses.

Process and details

Characterisation of the core management system of the grassland begins with assessing what resources from the grassland are used, and who can use them. First list for the community the 'Purposes' (top of the table in Section C, Question 8) for which the grassland is used, starting with grazing but including all other purposes. Then use the table to record with a tick or 'X' whether each group of stakeholders in the left-side column of the table can use the grassland for that purpose.

The responsibilities of users of the grassland (Section C, Question 9) are assessed. This question is general and relates to any and all resources used—from grazing to stone quarrying, etc. The question is asked broadly to identify rules or by-laws created by *any* local institutions that regulate *any* resource in the grassland. Any such institution will therefore be important to consider in management planning, as they are already operating on the ground and must be consulted for effective management. 'Responsibilities' of users may include following any rules or by-laws, seeking permission to use resources from leaders or institutions, communication or sensitization of other users, etc.

The role of the grassland in local livelihoods (Section C, Question 10) is asked generally to identify the most important ways that the grassland provides tangible benefits to community members. Any and all answers are acceptable.

Who can and does benefit from the grassland (Section C, Questions 11 to 13) is asked to clarify which subgroups of the community are benefitting from the grassland. It is important to clarify who has the rights to access and use the grassland, although all users of the grassland are considered in management planning, including users who do not have use rights.

Market linkages, transport, and other constraints are assessed (Section C, Questions 14 to 18) to determine whether there are significant or limited economic benefits and potential from livestock production in the area, and what other major constraints may need to be alleviated to effectively incentivize land improvement to tangibly benefit the community. Constraints such as market access and transport can significantly affect the ability and willingness to invest in improvement of the grassland, with market access especially affecting financial investment (as opposed to labour or manure, etc.). Similarly, access to credit and extension may also be constraints (Section C, Questions 22 and 23).

The local feed basket is documented (Section C, Question 19) before further questions on grassland management are asked. The feed basket includes all feeds used locally for feeding all types of livestock. Sources or types of feed can include grazing (of grass), browsing (of shrubs), cut-and-carry from enclosure, grass cut from other areas, residue of crops (barley, wheat, maize, sorghum, finger millet, teff, etc.), supplements such as oil seed cake, and mixtures such as crop residue infused with by-products (e.g. from making of *arake* local liquor). Here use the 'seed technique' where 10 seeds are given to the community group. Ask them to group the seeds for different feeds, so that it represents how much of the total each feed comprises. Each seed then represents 10% of the total feed. For example, a group may put 6 seeds for crop residue (60% of feed), 3 seeds for grazing of grass (30% of feed), and 1 seed for supplements (10% of feed).

At this point the grassland management itself is assessed (Section C, Questions 20, 21, 24, and 25). These questions include identifying the main seasons of the year in which the grassland is used (Section C, Questions 20 and 21). To understand which grassland plant species are most useful as forage (Section C, Question 24) and which plant species cause significant problems (Section C, Question 25), ask the community group to collect 'good grasses' (or forages) in their right hands, and to collect 'bad' plant species (weeds, unpalatable species, invasive species) in their left hands. For the 'good' species record why they are important.

Finally, document any strong linkages of grassland management and grassland use to animal diseases (Section C, Questions 26 and 27) to assess whether grassland management and disease management can be practically linked for 'win-wins' in community management.

Grassland management governance (Appendix A, Section D)

Purpose and importance

Once the core management systems of the grassland are understood, we add in other elements of the larger, linked biophysical–institutional management system as it exists under the influence of all of the important local factors that may affect grassland management, including agricultural, economic and social factors.

Governance of grassland management refers to all institutions, rules and social norms that significantly influence how the grassland is managed. Institutions and rules or by-laws can be formal or informal. Social norms are always informal and relate to the general way of thinking and the values of the community, which may be informed by tradition, science, religion, or other philosophical or value systems. Since these institutions, rules and norms change over time, we also document major trends of change in the grassland and factors that may affect the grassland.

Section D includes a number of questions related to the legal status of the grassland and its management, and the role of government and traditional leaders. Proceed slowly with these questions to ensure accurate responses, be sensitive to any concerns of the community, and if any question faces resistance from the community, slow down, ask the question in a different way, or skip the question and move to the next question.

Process and details

Begin by asking generally whether there is any kind of formal or informal institution (or institutions) managing resources in the grassland in place (Section D, Question 28). Proceed to clarify the scale and nature of the management institution (Section D, Question 29), and its general responsibilities (Section D, Question 30) in managing resources in the grassland, including which resources it is responsible for.

The structure and decision-making processes of the formal or informal institution (or institutions) are then documented (Section D, Questions 31 to 33), to better understand how changes in grassland management will fit better into their governance system.

Clarify whether there are any rules or by-laws created by any institution or body responsible for grassland management (Section D, Questions 34 and 35), and when these rules or by-laws began to be implemented in the grassland (Section D, Question 36). Document also who makes the decisions to create or change rules or by-laws (Section D, Question 37), and who has implemented rules or by-laws in the grassland (Section D, Question 38).

The general legal status of grasslands in the area is recorded (Section D, Questions 39 to 43) as a prelude to the following questions on the details regarding rules or by-laws including penalties or punishments and how they are implemented (Section D, Questions 44 to 49). The roles and actions of government related to the grassland are

documented in terms of planning, community consultation, direction, support, and restrictions on grassland use, and how these roles can be enhanced through multi-stakeholder collaboration (Section D, Questions 50 to 54). Land tenure status significantly influences the willingness of the community to invest in grassland management and improvement or restoration (Section D, Questions 55 to 57). In grassland where user rights are certified, the community will be much more likely to invest in long-term sustainable grassland management. Those who fear the grassland may disappear at any time will be unlikely to invest.

Since conflict within the community and with neighbouring communities can greatly disrupt grassland management, ask whether there are any conflicts (Section D, Question 58) and how these conflicts can be mediated or resolved (Section D, Question 59). Record whether there are systems in place for preventing such disruption of grassland management, and what type of system exists if any (Section D, Questions 60 to 61). Since conflicts often relate to the boundaries of communities and grassland areas, ask how the boundary of the grassland was delineated (Section D, Question 62).

It is important to document major trends of change in the area over time. Start by recording whether the grassland has increased or decreased in size over the past decade or so (Section D, Question 63) to assess whether individualization of communal lands is occurring, or alternatively whether communal lands may possibly be expanding. Next, go through the series of questions documenting major changes over the past decade affecting the grassland, livestock production, use of the grassland by the community and its subgroups, and economic or livelihood opportunities (Section D, Questions 64 to 71). For those questions with tables for recording responses (Section D, Questions 65, 67, and 68) tick the boxes with an 'X' to indicate what changes have occurred.

Management factors and land use planning that may affect the efficiency and sustainability of grassland use are assessed (Section D, Question 72), first generally. The community is then pressed to give details on any grazing management system they have in place (Section D, Question 73) such as rotational grazing or a seasonal pattern of use. For example, seasonal grazing patterns in the highlands often include avoiding swampy areas during the rainy season due to flooding, which helps to avoid degradation of these key wetland pastures.

Further details on the sustainability of management are provided by asking whether the current number of livestock grazing the grassland can be sustained by the grassland or not (Section D, Questions 74 to 75), and whether there exist any organized efforts to invest in restoring or improving certain sections of the grassland through more intensive measures (Section D, Questions 76 to 78), such as removal of invasive or weedy plant species, soil and water conservation measures, and who has been leading or pushing for these measures.

The final set of questions in Section D relates to major challenges faced by the community in managing the grassland (Section D, Questions 79 to 82), including who they share the grassland with and where those communities are located, conflicts and uncertainties, and problems in accessing grassland resources, as well as possible means of overcoming these challenges as proposed by the community.

Appendix A: Highland communal grassland characterisation – Focus group discussion (FGD) guide

The guide that follows in the coming pages is a practical tool for use in community discussions. The sections and questions referred to in the text above relate directly to the sections and questions in the guide below.

Highland communal grassland characterisation Focus group discussion (FGD) guide

Name of researcher: _____

Date: _____

Region: _____

District: _____

PA/kebele: _____

Village name: _____

Name and other information of interviewees:

	Name of participant	Sex	Role in community	Signature (I agree to this FGD)	Phone number
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					

Members of the FGD group

The FGD members should constitute **leaders and beneficiaries** of the communal grassland (about 8-10):

- Community leaders (men and women)
- Elderly members of the community (men and women)
- Representatives of young members of the community (men and women)
- Members of different important committees in the community.

Section A. Mapping of resources in the communal grassland

Map resources in the communal grassland with the community on a flip chart. The map should include any of the following: which areas are grazed, in which seasons of the year, by which main livestock types, different grazing resources (wet/dry season), fodder growing areas, and what other resources are in the grassland, such as trees, stone quarries, salt licks, etc. Use different colours and symbols for each and provide a key. When finished, transfer the map onto paper. *Note: Be sure to explain to the community that this mapping is not any kind of formal or legal process (however, it may be of assistance toward certification where this is a goal of the community).*

Section B. General information on the local area around the communal grazing land

1. What is the most important livelihood strategy in this area? Livestock, crops, mixed, and how would you rank them?
2. What is the average livestock distribution/holding per household in this area? Do most households have similar numbers of livestock, or is there great variation (some have many, others have few)?
3. What is the average number of livestock per household in this area? (Cattle, sheep, goats, equines).
4. Which livestock types are most important in this area? Why is this?
5. What is the area of this communal grassland? (in hectares or 'timad')
6. What is the total number of households around this communal grassland?
7. What percentage of the total households use this particular communal grassland?

Section C. Characterisation of communal grassland

8. Who can use highland grasslands and for what purposes? (tick them)

Users	Purposes							
	Grazing	Hay making	Woodcutting	Collecting dung	Collecting fuelwood	Beekeeping	Salt licks	Stone quarrying
Men								
Women								
Youth								
All community								
Neighbour community								
Visitors (on religious pilgrimages, relatives, etc.)								
Others _____								

9. What is the responsibility of users in communal grassland? Explain in detail.

10. What is the role of communal grassland in local livelihoods? Explain in detail.

11. Which resources from the communal grasslands are mostly used in the household, versus sold at market or traded for other benefits? Who is selling/trading and not selling/trading?

12. Are there any differences between the way that men and women access communal grassland in this area? If yes, what are these differences?

13. Are there any benefits of communal grassland to youth and to women? Explain.

14. How long does it take you to walk to this communal grazing area? Minutes----- Kilometres-----

15. Is there market available around the communal grassland? Yes/no.
16. What is the distance between this communal grassland and the market? (total travel time in hours and in kilometres)
17. (1) kebele or local market----,-----, (2) woreda market----,-----, (3) regional market or nearest city----,-----.
18. How is the market linkage with livestock products around the communal grassland? Highly linked, moderately linked, slightly linked, does not exist.
19. How strong is the market linkage for live animals (e.g. sales, fattening) around communal grassland? Highly linked, moderately linked, slightly linked, does not exist
20. What are the sources of feed around communal grassland? List them and rank them by adding seeds for each feed source. 1 seed = 10% of feed.

	Main sources/types of livestock feed	Number of seeds	Percentage (%) of total feed
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			

21. For how many months per year do you use this communal grazing area? (Number of months).
22. In which months do you use this communal grazing area? List the months and explain why it is used in these months.

- 23. Is there any access to credit services around the communal grassland? For what purpose can it be used?
- 24. Are there any extension services on the communal grassland? List the services
- 25. What are the main species of grass (or other useful forages) in the grassland? List the most important and dominant up to three species and note why these are important. Ask them to collect the good grasses in their right hands.
- 26. List of the problematic/harmful plant species in communal grassland? Ask them to collect the bad plants in their left hands.
- 27. In which seasons of the year is there spreading of livestock diseases in these grasslands?
- 28. Is any area of the communal grassland avoided at any time due to livestock disease? When?

Section D. Grassland management governance

- 29. Is there any established institution that influences management of the communal grassland? Yes/no.
- 30. If yes, at what level is the management institution established, and what is its nature? (woreda, kebele, village, agriculture offices, user group including youth, exclosure use group, participatory forest group, other external)
- 31. If yes, what are the responsibilities of the institution in managing resources in the communal grassland?
- 32. What is the main governance structure in established management on communal grassland? Please explain.
- 33. Who controls access to communal grassland resources? Please explain.
- 34. Who makes the majority of decisions in the management of the grassland? (Established body, whole community, some group, elders, priest, selected representative, others).

-
35. Have by-laws/rules been established to manage the grassland? Yes/ no.
 36. If yes, what types of by-law/rules have been established? Formal, informal, mixed etc.
 37. When did the use of these by-laws/rules begin?
 38. If yes, which of the following best describes who made decisions about the by-laws/rules? User group, government body, etc.
 39. Who has been involved in the implementation of bylaws/rules?
 40. Is the main decision-making structure or body of communal grassland registered as a legal entity? If yes, please explain how it is registered.
 41. Does a legislative framework exist for registering the decision-making structure of communal grassland as a legal entity? Please explain.
 42. Is there any legal status of governance of these communal grasslands? Yes/no.
 43. Who gives permission for these resources to be used (for each type of resource)?
 44. Which resources are managed and 'owned' communally, and which resources are managed and 'owned' by an individual? Is individual ownership a new trend, or have individuals always owned these communal grassland resources?
 45. Is any payment made for use of the resource? If yes, please explain.
 46. Are any of these resources shared with neighbouring Kebele/villages? If yes, please explain.

47. Is there any penalty or punishment for violations, etc. related to use of the communal grassland? Yes/no.
48. If the violators exist, to whom are they referred? (Village, kebele, woreda, established body, others).
49. If penalties exist, what types of penalty exist and how are they administered?
50. Where in the grassland are the rules and penalties for? What time of year are the rules and penalties in place?
51. Does government carry out any use planning of communal grassland resources? If yes, does the government consult or involve you in this planning process?
52. What direction does government give about this grassland?
53. What, if any, support from government is benefitting the grassland?
54. How can support from government be improved?
55. Is the grazing system works restricted or unrestricted, and if restricted in what seasons? Why this system?
56. What is the type of tenure system on communal grasslands in your area? Does the community hold any kind of use rights? Government certification?
57. Do any users of grazing lands have any paper or certificate or other official document or agreement with government to say they have rights to use the communal lands? If yes, when was this issued and please explain the process and impact of this?
58. What degree of tenure security do you think the community has on the communal grassland: Non-existent, very poor, poor, medium, good or very good? Please explain.

59. Are there any use conflicts in the communal grassland area between communities and community groups? Can you explain what these are? Would say that these conflicts are very severe, quite severe, severe, a little severe, or not severe?
60. If there is conflict, how might they resolve it? Explain.
61. Is there any method of protecting the communal grassland? Yes/no.
62. If yes, is that paid guard, mutual trust, fencing, other?
63. How is/was the boundary of the communal grassland unit defined? Predefined/negotiated/undefined/traditional/government
64. How is the size of communal grassland over time (for example, the past 10 years)? Increase, same, decrease, if change why? Explain.
65. How has the general biophysical status of the grassland changed in the past 10 years?

66. How has the condition of communal grassland forage changed in the past 10 years?

Condition of communal grassland forages in terms of:	Increased significantly	Increased slightly	No change	Decreased slightly	Decreased significantly
Regeneration					
Availability/quantity					
Quality					

If any *major* changes, why did they happen?

67. How do you grade the quality of the communal grassland in the area at this time? (Very good, good, medium, poor, very poor)

68. Soil degradation and erosion status change in the past 10 years.

	Severe	Moderate	Low	No change
Prevalence of erosion				
Degradation of grassland				

If any *major* changes, why did they happen?

69. Changes in livestock productivity in the past 10 year

	Increased significantly	Increased slightly	No change	Decreased slightly	Decreased significantly
Milk yield					
Condition of livestock (meat)					
Livestock number					

If any major changes, why did they happen? For which livestock types or species?

70. Have there been any changes in social status of people/groups within the community around communal grassland over the time? Explain in detail.
71. Have there been any changes in benefits or participation between genders and different age groups around communal grassland management, if any? Explain in detail.
72. Is there any creation of employment and income earning opportunities around communal grassland? Explain in detail.
73. What type of management practices and land use planning is done to make sure that all communal grassland resources are used well in the area? Please explain.
74. Is there any grazing management system in communal grassland? Rotational grazing, seasonal grazing system, etc.
75. Is this communal grassland able to support the existing livestock in your area? Yes/no.
76. If no, why?
77. Is there any intervention on communal grassland to increase productivity? Yes/no.
78. If yes, list them. For example, weeds clearing, reseeding, or soil and water conservation practices).

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79. If yes, who has led or initiated this intervention?
80. Are any of these communal resources shared with people/livestock from neighbouring areas? If yes, please explain who they are, where they come from, why they come, etc.
81. What are the existing challenges on communal grassland in your areas? For example, limited grazing area, conflict over use, uncertainty of benefits, etc.
82. Are there any challenges in accessing the communal grazing areas?
83. If yes, please explain including how you try to overcome these challenges.

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