





## RANGELAND HEALTH ADVOCATES

Restoration of Rangeland Carbon Sinks for Increased Community Climate Resilience and Agricultural Outcomes:

Building a Network of Monitoring and Co-learning Rangeland Restoration Sites

The project focuses directly on addressing key knowledge and capacity gaps to enhance rangeland health monitoring with one key work area focused on building a gender-inclusive community of practice in rangeland health monitoring. These individual profiles of rangeland health advocates reflect on the experiences of women and youth who have been engaged in training, skills development and data collection in their local rangelands.

Name: Mercy Leporole
Age: 30 years





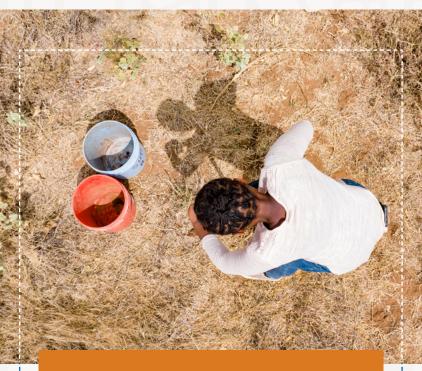
Place of Training: Sera conservancy

## About the Land Degradation Surveillance Framework (LDSF)

The LDSF is a comprehensive method for assessing soil and land health, from the field to the use of new and advanced data analytics. The LDSF provides a consistent set of indicators and field protocols to assess the health of an ecosystem, including vegetation cover and structure, tree, shrub and grass species diversity, current and historic land use, infiltration capacity, soil characteristics and land degradation status.

What new skills have you learnt through this training? What did you learn in the LDSF?

How to measure water infiltration and how to conduct soil sampling.



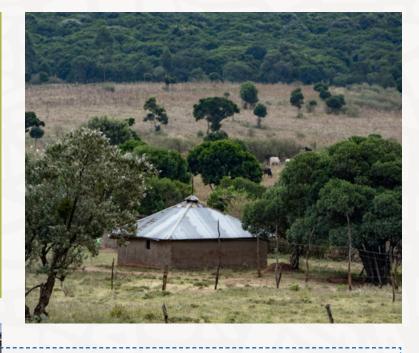
How will you use this knowledge?

I will pass this knowledge on to other people in the community.

What message do you have for your community leaders on rangeland restoration?

44

That LDSF fieldwork is very important, because it teaches us new knowledge and skills. I learnt a lot more about carbon, and I now have hands-on experience about how we can measure the soil's water holding capacity.





What did you enjoy most?



The survey was very interesting and enjoyable, because we all worked as a team and shared new ideas during field work.

How has this training changed/impacted your agency or ideas for future skills building and work in your community?



It has changed my attitude. Before the LDSF fieldwork, women were not involved in field work very much, especially not in activities like walking long distances where the areas are bushy and dense. I appreciate the LDSF team a lot, because they really consider gender equality. In the future I will be confident to do any of the field work tasks. What a man can do, a woman can do better.



How has the LDSF work changed your perception of your local landscape/environment?



We will all take better care of our environment as a result of the LDSF. My perception about the conservancy area changed during field work, because of the nature and wildlife we saw. I realised we have a lot of biodiversity.

## **Project Contact**

**Dr Leigh Winowiecki,** Soil Scientist, CIFOR-ICRAF Theme Leader, Soil and Land Health **L.A.Winowiecki@cifor-icraf.org**