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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: Veronica Rukunya

Age: 50 years



Place of Training:
Noonkotiak grass seed bank, Amboseli

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?



- **I didn't know that there was top and subsoil and that you can measure them to know the different soil properties.**
- **I have learnt that everything has a doctor, even soil. I have learnt that soil can also be sick and need treatment!**
- **I have also learnt that whenever you see run-off, it means that all the soil nutrients are being washed away and we need to make sure that water goes deeply into the soil instead.**
- **I have learnt that planting grasses in soils that are not fertile is doing zero sum work. You need to plant them in fertile soils.**



Which LDSF activities were you engaged in, during the training?

“ **Soil sampling during the rangeland health module.**

What did you enjoy most?

“ **I enjoyed soil sampling the most.**

How will you use this knowledge?

“ **I will apply this knowledge in my household, especially on my farm.**

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

“ **I will now teach others about restoring degraded areas for future generations to use, and how to use grass for rangeland restoration.**

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

“ **We need more investment in grass seed banks, to improve income generation opportunities for women and farmers.**

How does increased knowledge of land health through trainings like these empower women?

“ **These trainings help women understand the different grass species and the roles they play in the environment. This understanding helps women improve their livelihoods through selling grass seed and grass or hay.**



Project Contact

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