Pre and Mid congress tours
The pre-congress tours will include the most popular Kenyan safari destinations such as National game reserves and conservancies that are located in wildlife rich savanna landscapes with organized events such as hot-air ballooning safaris, game drives and nights in stunning sceneries. The mid-congress tours are designed to give the participants an overview of the grasslands/rangelands in Kenya and also meet and interact with the people who depend on the grasslands/rangelands for their livelihoods.

Official languages: English, Swahili
Government: Democratic
President: Uhuru Kenyatta
Total area: 580,367 sq. km
Population (Est. 2015): 45,925,301
Per Capita: 1,246 USD
Currency: Kenyan Shilling
Time zone: East African Time (UTC+03.00)
Calling code: +254

Congress secretariat: Joint XXIV IGC and XI IRC
P.O. Box 57811- 00200, NAIROBI, Kenya,
Email: kenya2020-igc-irc@kalro.org and kenya2020igcirc@gmail.com
Website: http://2020kenya-igc-irc.rangelandcongress.org/
Invitation
The Organizing Committee of the Joint XXIV International Grassland Congress and XI International Rangeland Congress, warmly invites participants to the Congress from 24th to 30th October 2020 in Nairobi, Kenya.

Rangelands and grasslands of Kenya
The rangeland/grassland ecosystem occupies 80% of the land in Kenya. These tropical savanna grasslands/rangelands host about 70% of the national livestock population in Kenya and are home to over 90% of wild game that supports the tourism industry. Kenya has a long history of grassland/rangeland research and development in East Africa, dating back to early 19th Century, culminating in the setting up of the Grassland Research Station in 1950s. Many of the grass species either collected or developed in Kenya found their way to other tropical countries where they have been greatly improved making those countries leading beef producers globally. East Africa savannah grasslands continue to mesmerize the world in their ability to support large concentrations of wildlife that is unparalleled globally. These unique models of coexistence of people, their animals and wildlife on the savannahs is an experience to be cherished and shared with the rest of the world. Yet with all these successes and uniqueness, Kenya still faces challenges of low agricultural productivity, declining biodiversity, food insecurity, low income levels and environmental degradation.

Conference Main Theme
Sustainable Use of Grassland/Rangeland Resources for Improved Livelihoods

Sessions
The Congress will be organized under seven thematic areas of rangeland and grassland research and development with a balance between the people/social/policy and the more traditional scientific technical topics. The themes are:
- Grassland and Rangeland Ecology
- Forage Production and Utilization
- Livestock Production Systems
- Wildlife, Tourism and Multi-Facets of Rangeland/Grassland
- Drought Management and Climate Change in Rangelands
- Pastoralism, Social, Gender and Policy Issues
- Capacity, Institutions and Innovations for Sustainable Development in Rangelands/Grasslands

Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>1st October 2019</td>
<td>Deadline for submission of proposals for concurrent panel sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>23rd December 2019</td>
<td>Deadline for submission of abstracts for poster or oral presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>30th April 2020</td>
<td>Deadline for submission of full paper</td>
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Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, 24th October 2020</td>
<td>Forums and workshops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 25th October 2020</td>
<td>Workshops and Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 26th October 2020</td>
<td>Opening; keynotes; Plenary and technical sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 27th October 2020</td>
<td>Continuation of technical sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 28th October 2020</td>
<td>Mid congress tours; Cultural night</td>
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<td>Thursday, 29th October 2020</td>
<td>Technical sessions; Congress banquet</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, 30th October 2020</td>
<td>Technical sessions; Closing ceremony</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, 31st October 2020</td>
<td>Departure of delegates</td>
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General Information of the host country
Kenya is a country in East Africa, bordering the Indian Ocean in the south east, neighboring countries are Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda. The largest and most populous city and the national capital of Kenya is Nairobi.

Nairobi is the capital city of Kenya with a cosmopolitan population of over 3.2 million people. It is the only capital city in the world that has a national park. It is also a home for many international organizations for research and development including the United Nations Environmental Program, UN Habitat, ILRI, WAC, CIAT, ICIPE, CIMMYT, along with International companies.

Venue
The venue for the congress is Kenyatta International Convention Centre (KICC) which is situated in the central business district of Nairobi.