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### ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE PROGRAMME

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## VII INTERNATIONAL RANGELANDS CONGRESS: RANGELANDS IN THE NEW MILLENIUM

Theme on: Rangelands as Systems for Multiple-use and Livelihood Support

LOOKING FOR SPEAKERS/CASE STUDIES FROM ASIA OR ELSEWHERE TO  
COMPLEMENT AFRICAN CASES

The VII International Rangelands Congress is to be held from 26 July – 1 August 2003 in Durban, South Africa (see <http://www.ru.ac.za/rgi/irc2003/IRC2003.htm>). There are 16 theme sessions of 31/2 hours each planned for this congress. Sheona Shackleton (Rhodes University, South Africa) and Bruce Campbell (CIFOR, Indonesia) are convening one of these sessions entitled “ **Rangelands as systems for multiple use and livelihood support**”. An outline of this session follows:

*Conventional rangeland management has focussed on optimisation of secondary production. Yet rangelands provide multiple goods and services at local and landscape scales. The diversity of resources available from rangelands underpins the livelihood security of rural communities across all continents. This diversity of resources, and consequent livelihood options, is receiving greater recognition in management and research fora, whilst simultaneously offering increasing opportunities for new and innovative uses of rangelands for subsistence and commercial needs. The session will appraise the diversity of rangeland resources used by rural communities and examine the viability and sustainability of different livelihood options within rangelands*

Within this broad context of communal rangelands in developing countries and their role in livelihood diversification and support, we see the session covering four main sub-themes:

- *Theme A: CURRENT USES AND LIVELIHOOD SUPPORT:* Multiple goods and services, values, livelihood diversification and risk minimisation
- *Theme B: TRENDS AND LIVELIHOOD IMPLICATIONS:* Intensification, privatisation
- *Theme C: DIVERSIFYING USE:* New uses and sources of livelihood (tourism, afforestation, NTFP commercialisation), trade offs
- *Theme D: Viewpoints and debate: WHERE TO WITH COMMUNAL RANGELANDS?*

Each of these theme areas can accommodate two 15 minute presentations. Reasonable time has also been allocated to discussion.

**We are looking for potential speakers from Asia or elsewhere, to complement and contrast with African case studies, for Theme A and Theme C.** Theme A would require a case study demonstrating how rural people obtain multiple benefits from rangelands, beyond just grazing for their livestock. Theme C looks at the potential for diversifying the use of rangelands for livelihood benefit (examples could be tourism, afforestation, NTFP commercialisation). **If you think you would be at all interested in contributing a paper to our session along these lines please contact Sheona Shackleton – [s.shackleton@ru.ac.za](mailto:s.shackleton@ru.ac.za) - asap.**

In terms of obligations, all contributors would be required to submit a 250 word abstract for publication on the congress web page by 15 July 2002. You would also be expected to write a 6000 word paper for the proceedings for submission by 15 December 2002, and of course you would need to prepare a 15 minute presentation for the congress itself by July 2003.