Rangeland Restoration Awards 2026



TRACHUNG PALZANG

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ABOUT HIM

- Community-based grassland restoration practitioner from the Zoige grasslands and a traditional herder family.
- Returned home in 2010 to address grassland degradation and protect pastoral culture.
- Combines traditional pastoral knowledge with modern ecological science for sustainable restoration.
- Founded a grassland restoration cooperative (2013) and a herder photography group, engaging hundreds of herders in restoration and cultural preservation.

THE LAND HE RESTORES

- Located in the Zoige alpine meadows and peat wetlands of the Qinghai–Tibetan Plateau.
- Rangelands are collectively managed by local pastoral communities.
- Supports traditional yak and sheep grazing systems.
- Conserves biodiversity, wetlands, climate resilience, and pastoral livelihoods.

KEY CONTRIBUTIONS

- **Restored Grasslands:** Restored 14,000 mu (933 ha) of degraded alpine grasslands and peat wetlands through community-led approaches.
- **Strengthened Community Governance:** Promoted "summer enclosure, winter grazing" and adaptive grazing practices for sustainable rangeland management.
- **Supported Livelihoods:** Benefited 280 pastoral households (1,200+ people) and engaged 1,000+ herders; established women's yak wool handicraft groups.
- **Protected Biodiversity:** Improved habitat for 98,000 sheep units and 230+ wildlife species, enhancing ecosystem resilience.
- **Promoted Indigenous Knowledge:** Established a herder photography group and developed a community conservation model replicated by 10+ organizations.