FAO KSA Geospatial Data – Rangeland field sites

Part 1: Basic Metadata (Mandatory)

1.01 Thumbnail

Prepare small thumbnail that represents this dataset. Create and save thumbnail. Insert thumbnail in the space provided and indicate the file name.

Create and save thumbnail	Enter file name

1.02 – Title

Descriptive title for this data. Should provide sufficient information to external users.

Enter Data Title

Rangeland field sites

1.03 – Abstract

Provide a short and concise abstract which summarizes what this data is about. Similar to the abstracted provided in a scientific paper.

Enter data abstract

This CSV dataset presents ecological data from 24 rangeland sites across 12 out of 13 regions of Saudi Arabia, including Makkah, Asir, Tabuk, and the Eastern Region. It captures key information such as plant cover, soil types, species composition, and the impact of management practices like protection and scarification. The data supports efforts in sustainable rangeland management, offering valuable insights for researchers, conservationists, and decision-makers focused on land productivity and ecosystem restoration.

1.04 – Date type

Provide all three type of dates - Creation date, Publication date, and Revision date.

Identification of when a given event occurred

Creation	*2022*
Publication	*2023*
Revision	*April, 2025*
relevant date	*April, 2025*

1.05 – Group

The group, department or unit to which this data belongs.

Enter group name

Registered Members,
FAO Spatial Data Group,
Natural Resources Management Component NRM - FAO KSA

1.06 – Category	1.07 – Free-text Keywords
Provide one primary category to which this data belong. Select from the list provided. Possible categories related to the SRADP project are highlighted in green color.	*Keywords helps Search Engines such as Google find data requested by users. Use FAO AGRIS to select the most appropriate keywords for this data. To make the data discoverable, provide a minimum of 5 keywords.*
Field declared Mandatory by the Metadata Schema	*A space or comma-separated list of keywords. Use the Widget to select from Hierarchical tree.*
Select one of the following : (highlighted by Yellow)	REQUIRED: Common-use word or phrase used to describe the subject of the data set. *(Provide 5 keyword minimum)*
Imagery Base Maps Earth Cover	
Society	*Rangeland*
Economy	
Utilities Communication	
Environment	
Oceans	-
Biota	-
Health	-
Elevation	-
Geoscientific Information	-
Planning Cadastre	-
Inland Waters	-
Boundaries	-
Structure	-
Transportation	-
Intelligence Military	-
Location	-
Climatology Meteorology Atmosphere	-
Farming	-
Population	-

Part 2: Location and Licenses (Mandatory)

2.01	Language
Provide data language	
Language used within the dataset	
Enter data language	
English	

2.02	License
Provide the type of license under which this data is published and intended to be used.	
License of the Dataset	
Select one of the following License: (highlighted by Yellow)	
NextView	
Not Specified	
Open Data Commons Open Database License / OSM	
Public Domain	
Public Domain / USG	
Varied / Derived	
Varied / Original	

2.03	Attribution
Identify the entity or agency with authority and responsibility over this data.	
Authority or function assigned, as to a ruler, legislative assembly, delegate, or the like.	
*Field declared Mandatory by the Metadata Schema	
Enter attribution for this data	
Since the Geospatial department of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations in Saudi Arabia received and created this layer showing the distribution of national parks in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, no individual or entity is permitted to obtain, use, or redistribute this layer without the prior approval of the FAO office. The national park boundaries were officially provided by the General Department of National Parks (GDNP) at the National Center for Vegetation Cover (NCVC), and therefore, no updates or modifications to these boundaries are allowed without the joint approval of both GDNP and FAO.	

2.04	Regions
Identify the region that the data covers. You can provide several regions.	
Enter global or specific regions	
13 Region of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	

2.05   Data quality statement

Statement on the data quality. This allows any known issue about the data quality to be documented and shared with data user so that they can use the data appropriately.

Provide data quality statement

The national park boundaries were digitized using high-resolution imagery from Google Earth Pro. While the data reflects official inputs from GDNP, it is approximate and intended for reference purposes only. Any official use or updates require prior approval from both FAO and GDNP.

2.06   Restrictions

Indicate any know restriction on this data. You could consideration the following when assessing data restriction:

(1) Exclusive right to the publication, production, or sale of the rights to a literary, musical, or artistic work, or to the use of a commercial print or label, granted by law for a specified period of time to an author, composer, artist, distribution
(2) Rights to financial benefit from and control of distribution of non-tangible property that is a result of creativity
(3) Formal permission to do something
(4) Government has granted exclusive right to make, sell, use or license an invention or discovery
(5) Produced or sold information awaiting a patent
(6) Withheld from general circulation or disclosure
(7) Name, symbol, or other device identifying a product, officially registered and legally restricted to the use of the owner or manufacturer
(8) Other restrictions

Limitations Placed upon the access or use of the data

 * Field declared Mandatory by the Metadata Schema

Enter any know data use restriction information

This data may be used for spatial analysis, visualization, and presentation purposes. The national park boundaries can support a variety of geospatial and remote sensing applications, including Digital Elevation Model (DEM) analysis, Land Surface Temperature (LST), soil moisture estimation, NDVI, and other environmental assessments.

This data can be used by GDNP and FAO or any party permitted by FAO or GDNP

2.07   Other constraints

Identify any other constrains on this data that would be important to document and share with the data users

Enter other constrains on this data

Part 3: Other Data Description (Optional)

3.01   Edition

If the data is linked or resulting from work that has editions, indicate the edition for this dataset.

Version of the cited resource

Enter Edition

Version 1

3.02   DOI

The DOI (Digital Object Identifier) will be assigned by the Metadata Administrator.

DOI will be added by Admin before publication

Create and enter the data DOI

3.03   Purpose

The purpose for which this dataset and related studies were undertaken.

Provide data purpose

National Parks boundaries distribution over KSA are used by experts for planning and decisions making related to agriculture development, natural resources management, and related fields.

3.04   Maintenance frequency

The frequency for data update.

Frequency with which modifications and deletions are made to the data after it is first produced

Select one of the following : (highlighted by Yellow)

Frequency of maintenance for the data is not known

Data is repeatedly and frequently updated
There are no plans to update the data
Data is updated each day
Data is updated every year
Data is updated as deemed necessary
Data is updated each month
Data is updated every two weeks
Data is updated in intervals that are uneven in duration
Data is updated on weekly basis
Data is updated twice each year
Data is updated every three months

3.05 Spatial representation type

How the spatial data is presented, Method used to represent geographic information in the dataset

Select one of the following : (highlighted by Yellow)
Grid data is used to represent geographic data
Three-dimensional view formed by the intersecting homologous rays of an overlapping pair of image
Textual or tabular data is used to represent the geographic data
Triangulated irregular network
Vector data is used to represent geographic data
Scene from a video recording

3.06 Supplemental information (Remarks)

Provide any additional supplemental information about this data that could help the user when using this data

Enter supplemental information / Remarks
Users should ensure that this data is applied at appropriate scales and in the context of its intended use. Boundary accuracy is suitable for general reference and spatial analysis

3.07 Temporal extent Start and End

Provide temporal extent start and end that may have bearing on this data.

Temporal extent start		Temporal extent end	
Date	*Time*	*Date*	*Time*
Enter temporal start date	*Enter temporal start time*	*Enter temporal end date*	*Enter temporal end time*

3.08   Responsible Parties / Point of Contact

Who can be contacted about this data? This is usually the metadata administrator.

Admin Name
Enter Metadata Admin
Dr. Njeru Jeremiah – Chief Technical Advisor of Natural Resource Management NRM Dr. Dalel Ourchefani – Technical Adviser Spatial Land Resources Information Systems Mr. Gabriel Sanya - GIS and RS Expert. Mr. Haitham Abdullah – GIS Specialist

3.09   Responsible and Permissions / Owner

Who is the responsible over this data? This is usually the person that led or supported the creation of the data

Data Responsible / Owner
Enter data owner
FAO Geo-Spatial Department *NCVC Geo-Spatial Unit* *MoEWA*

3.10   Metadata Author

Who is the author of the metadata? This is usually the person that led or supported the creation of the data.

Data Responsible / Owner
Enter Metadata Admin
Geo-Spatial Department in Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in Saudi Arabia

Part 4: Part 4 - Data Attributes (Optional)

4.01   Key data features and attributes

Detailed description of the data layer features and attributes will be provide in a separate custom template for data features and attributes description. Here, the key features and attributes (objects) for this data are provided.

Description of key features and attributes

Attribute / Feature	Description
Enter the attributes of this Layer	*Enter the description of the attributes*
Site	*Name or identifier of the rangeland sampling site*
X	*Longitude coordinate of the site*
Y	*Latitude coordinate of the site*
Plantcommunity	*Dominant vegetation or plant association at the site*

Totalplantcover	*Estimated total percentage of land covered by vegetation*
Soil_Sand	*Proportion of sandy soil observed at the site*
Soil_Stones	*Proportion of stones present on the surface*
Soil_litter	*Amount of organic litter on the soil surface*
Soil_feces	*Presence of animal droppings/feces at the site*
Bare soil	*Percentage of soil surface not covered by vegetation or other materials*
Gravel	*Presence or percentage of gravel on the soil surface*
Speciescover _1	*Name of the first observed plant species at the site*
speciescover _1_perc	*Percentage cover of the first plant species*
Speciescover _2	*Name of the second observed plant species*
Speciescover _2_perc	*Percentage cover of the second plant species*
Speciescover _3	*Name of the third observed plant species*
Speciescover _3_perc	*Percentage cover of the third plant species*
Speciescover _4	*Name of the fourth observed plant species*
Speciescover _4_perc	*Percentage cover of the fourth plant species*
Speciescover _5	*Name of the fifth observed plant species*
Speciescover _5_perc	*Percentage cover of the fifth plant species*
Species cover _6	*Name of the sixth observed plant species*
Speciescover _6_perc	*Percentage cover of the sixth plant species*
Speciescover _7	*Name of the seventh observed plant species*
Speciescover _7_perc	*Percentage cover of the seventh plant species*
Biomass_Kg_DM	*Estimated biomass in kilograms of dry matter per site*
CC_AU_ha	*Carrying capacity in Animal Units per hectare*
desc1	*Field notes or qualitative observations made during data collection*
InterventionType	*Type of land management applied (e.g., protected, scarified)*
ForDiscussion	*Additional comments or points flagged for further discussion or analysis*