

Rangeland degradation assessment: a new strategy based on indigenous ecological knowledge of pastoralists

Dear Referee,

Thank you for your valuable comments and suggestions on the language, structure and scientific aspects of our manuscript. We have modified the manuscript accordingly, and detailed corrections are listed below point by point:

- ✓ We have revised the whole manuscript carefully and tried to avoid any grammar or syntax error. In addition, we have asked a colleague who is skilled authors of English language papers to check the English. We believe that the language is now acceptable for the review process.

- Affiliations should be checked. What are 2,3 and 4.
 - ✓ The correction is done.

- Why the number of quadrat s were not the same?
 - ✓ Actually we first find homogenous units (i.e. land units) and then based on their number, the area was assessed. It is the reason why the number of plot is different.

- In this study you did not work on climate change impacts. So how are you sure they can realize this issue as well?
 - ✓ The sentence is now revised.