

# LIVESTOCK DIVERSITY HELPS COPE

# WITH CLIMATE CHANGE

Livestock diversity or animal genetic resources are terms used to describe the pool of **38 species** of domesticated birds and mammals with more than **8 800 breeds** currently used for food and agriculture.

Did you know? There are 800 breeds of cattl in the world, each with different valuable traits



# LIVESTOCK ADAPTIVE TRAITS







Tolerate or resist diseases



Tolerate drought



Walk long distances for water or food



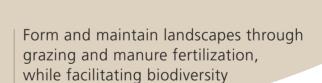
Produce meat, eggs, and milk, even under stressful conditions





Increase resilience to hazards including drought, floods and disease Allow lands where no crops can grow to be productive

Allow for relocation of species or breeds better adapted to harsh climatic conditions



Provide diverse income and food sources for millions of people

## THE DIVERSITY OF LIVESTOCK BREEDS IS THREATENED



ARE AT RISK

OF EXTINCTION

ARE OF UNKNOWN **RISK STATUS** 

Nearly 100 livestock breeds have gone extinct between 2000 and 2014

#### IF WE LOSE LIVESTOCK DIVERSITY...

### **WE MAY FACE**



Decreased resilience to climate change



Decreased food availability



Loss of income



Decreased physical well-being and life quality

#### WHAT CAN WE DO?



Be aware of the value of having a diverse pool of livestock genetic resources



Value products and services from indigenous breeds



Understand that farmers and herders are the custodians of livestock diversity



Encourage institutions to safeguard livestock genetic diversity for future use