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.

**LIVESTOCK ADAPTIVE TRAITS**
- Thrive on poor quality feed
- Tolerate extreme temperatures
- Tolerate or resist diseases
- Tolerate drought
- Walk long distances for water or food
- Produce meat, eggs, and milk, even under stressful conditions

**WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS FOR PEOPLE**
- Increase resilience to hazards including drought, floods and disease
- Allow for relocation of species or breeds better adapted to harsh climatic conditions
- Form and maintain landscapes through grazing and manure fertilization, while facilitating biodiversity
- Provide diverse income and food sources for millions of people

**THE DIVERSITY OF LIVESTOCK BREEDS IS THREATENED**
- 17% are at risk of extinction
- 58% are of unknown risk status

Nearly 100 livestock breeds have gone extinct between 2000 and 2014

**IF WE LOSE LIVESTOCK DIVERSITY...**
- 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

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

Livestock diversity helps cope with climate change.

There are 800 breeds of cattle in the world, each with different valuable traits.