

CFS Policy Convergence Process on Sustainable Agricultural Development and Livestock

Comments from Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock

#1

The report gives due importance to the multi stakeholder approach towards sustainable livestock sector development and the achieving of the Sustainable Development Goals of the Agenda 20130. The reference to The Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock in the report is an encouragement for the Guiding Group as well as for the members of The Global Agenda.

Please find below some specific comments:

4. Develop gender-sensitive livestock policies and interventions.

The recommendation should refer also to related existing initiatives and programs, e.g. the new Livestock CPR of ILRI

5. Better integrate SAD issues for FSN in trade policies

Under c) it will be necessary to specify what kind of standards the recommendation is referring to.

12. Recognize and support the unique role of pastoral systems

The recommendation does not make any reference to the potential of pastoral systems for carbon sequestration, being aware that this potential in many regional contexts may be limited.

Furthermore

- The recommendations could make stronger reference to ongoing initiatives, research, programs and projects and recommend on the mechanisms to better coordinate all these efforts.
- The recommendations related to the specific livestock systems may not sufficiently illustrate the interactions between systems and the dynamics of transformation from one system to another system (e.g. the intensification of small holder mixed farming systems).

#2

The experts did an excellent job in compiling the existing knowledge on the different livestock systems in the world based on comprehensive scientific evidence. The 14 recommendations are straightforward and, I would say, non-controversial but do not give CFS a good indication how to move forward.

Allow me to make a couple of comments:

- 1) Good to read GASL is mentioned in recommendation 1 and in Box 19 as a vehicle to create change in the livestock industry in narrow collaboration with the stakeholders.
- 2) Solutions can only be implemented when they are context-specific, the large variety of livestock systems in the world does not allow a one size fits all solution. This requires the involvement of regional/local stakeholders and the implementation of regional programs with suit the needs of the local populations. In my view this scientific analysis should be tied to the experiences of livestock farmers, pastoralists, etc. How to bridge the gap between science and local practise?
- 3) About gender issues. I would urge to improve the data collection on women in the livestock industry, because they play such important role in certain parts of the world (e.g. Africa). We have a limited understanding on the impact of gender in livestock (Rec 4).
- 4) Investing in R&D is key to improving livestock production in the world. Developing good practises, closing the productivity gap and developing markets are ways to implement the UN-SDG's in the livestock sector. GASL and LEAP are in an excellent position to contribute to this goal.
- 5) Finally mixed farming is promoted as a way to integrate livestock in a sustainable way in the whole food chain. I agree with this conclusion but would like to stress that an integration can also be realized in a local or regional setting (combine arable and livestock farmers locally).

#3

congratulations on the draft report which I find excellent. I am especially pleased that there is a separate section (7) on the sharing of animal genetic resources which suggests a dedicated international mechanism for ensuring access and benefit-sharing.

I have just two small suggestions:

1. Wouldn't it be more appropriate to change the order of the three pathways, i.e. put "Improve social equity/responsibility outcomes" first and "Improve resource efficiency" third?
2. In the section on pastoralism, would it be possible to add another point (12 f): Recognize the unique role of pastoralist systems and their inherent traditional knowledge in managing climate resilient livestock breeds and seek ways of rewarding this role so as to ensure access of future generations to such climate adapted animal genetic resources.