



Sustainable livestock development



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The sustainable development of livestock is a key enabler for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. It has the potential to enhance the livelihoods of the 18 % of the world’s population that depends on livestock to make a living; provide affordable proteins and micronutrients to the 800 million people who go undernourished; improve public health, as more than 6 out of 10 infectious human diseases originate in animals and even help tackle climate change, as livestock systems can be environmentally-friendly; and generate broader benefits to society through consumption and production spillover effects.

What we do

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) facilitates and supports continuous and open dialogue among local, national and global stakeholders to promote sustainable livestock development innovations and practices. Open, transparent and inclusive multi-stakeholder dialogue is essential for consensus-building and joint actions.

FAO generates information and knowledge on the role of livestock for socially-desirable outcomes,

including toolkits, guidelines and databases. Livestock systems are complex and fast-changing: systematized and updated information is essential for supporting evidence-based decision-making.

FAO collaborates with stakeholders at different levels to develop and implement policies and investments that facilitate innovation and adoption of improved livestock practices. Policies and investments are essential tools to make livestock development sustainable and generate benefits for poor and non-poor households, and for society as a whole.



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FAO participates in the Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock, which facilitates open dialogue on good practices



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FAO generates information and knowledge for practice change from local to global level



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FAO collaborates with partners to promote innovation and good practices



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Understanding the context

Livestock systems are at the foundation of our global food, health, environmental and economic systems.

They are complex: understanding and promoting sustainable livestock systems requires an integrated approach that combines multiple expertise.

Farmers, local and regional governments, civil society organizations, private sector, research/academia, donors, NGOs, inter-governmental and multi-lateral organizations need to combine their different expertise and capacities to agree upon joint actions towards sustainable livestock systems, which benefit society.

FAO is an unparalleled source of knowledge for analysis of livestock developmental challenges; a recognized trustworthy broker, with broad networking capacity with its member countries and livestock and non-livestock stakeholders. Its decentralized structure allows even the most remote households to be reached. FAO builds on its comparative advantages to generate consensus, information, knowledge and joint action to promote the adoption of good practices at all levels, from local to global, for a sustainable livestock.



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Good livestock practices improve livelihoods



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Good livestock practices improve human health



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Good livestock practices improve the environment and help tackle climate change

Partners

About 100 partners, including local and regional governments, civil society organizations, private companies, donors, research/academia, NGOs, inter-governmental and multi-lateral organizations.

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