

Title: Pro-Poor Livestock Policy Facility (PPLPF) Information System

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Description: *Background:* The livestock sector plays a critical role in sustaining the livelihoods of a large number of the world's poor. At the same time, the demand and supply patterns for animal protein, and the market and institutional environments within which production and consumption takes place, are changing rapidly in the developing countries. These changes may provide opportunities to accelerate the pace of poverty reduction.

However, the nature of livestock farming in developing countries is often determined by policy and institutional frameworks that rarely favour the poor, and that sometimes encourage production that threatens long-term environmental stability. This is partly due to the lack of objective information in support of effective and equitable policy making at national and international levels. Livestock sector policy design and implementation is often based on scarce and unreliable information and often with limited consultation among key stakeholders. The problems are further exacerbated by lack of coordination among institutions and limited opportunities for exchange of experiences among countries that face similar constraints. There is thus a potentially rich opportunity to build on and coordinate existing efforts to develop information systems in support of livestock policy making and to facilitate exchange of information and experience.

Objective: The PPLPF information system will provide appropriate information and tools to the analysts and policy makers so as to facilitate the development of livestock policies that are consistent with equitable and sustainable livestock production. The information system is envisioned to provide tools that will enable analysts to forecast (model) the outcomes of different policy options (and thus compare their relative merits), to measure policy impact on different groups of livestock producers and consumers, and to determine appropriate adjustments to policies that may be recommended in response to changing institutional and market environments.

Beneficiaries: The direct beneficiaries will range from policy analysts including research institutions to decision makers and program managers in national and international agencies. It will also provide information for enhancing public awareness of specific policies. The improved livestock policy design will ultimately benefit livestock producers and consumers, especially the poor.

Outputs:

- A comprehensive set of livestock policy-related information, mostly in the form of relational and spatially-explicit databases will be collated and made publicly-available through this system.
- Methodologies for combining these data for analysis and decision support will be developed and, ultimately, these will be integrated into a streamline application that facilitates downloading of data, analysis and presentation of information in support of decision-making.