

CFS Policy Convergence Process – Swiss Comments on Rapporteur’s Proposal

General comments

- We welcome the Rapporteur’s proposal which organizes recommendations in a smart way. We consider that it represents a good basis to find a consensus during the negotiations taking place on the 8th and 9th of September 2016.
- We wonder why the recommendations are primarily addressed to governments for public policies. We would favor recommendations that could be useful to the different stakeholders in the livestock value chain, in order to increase the general impact and upscale best practices. As a consequence, we consider that the recommendations are too general and need to be more specific and directly applicable by stakeholders concerned.
- The Rapporteur’s Proposal should better recognize the important contributions of existing initiatives and mechanisms for conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing of Animal Genetic resources such as the Funding Strategy for the implementation of the Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources (GPA) or DAD-IS for the global monitoring and surveillance of implementation of target 2.5 of Agenda 2030.
- We would like to stress again the importance to cover in the recommendations the entire livestock sector chain – from primary production to consumption - including upstream (feed production systems) and downstream (waste, markets, transport, slaughtering) livestock aspects, since their impacts on the sustainability of the system is important. Livestock is one of the major users of resources (water, land, climate) and it has an important impact on the environment, along with the impacts of feedcrop agriculture required for the livestock sector. As such, livestock’s global impact needs to be seriously addressed through decisive measures at all levels, from local to global, from private to public and from technical to political. The recommendations should therefore also address the link between livestock and related feed production, including local feeding systems.
- At the same time, sustainable livestock plays an important part in poverty reduction and has an important role to play in the achievement of the SDGs. The recommendations should stress the need to strengthen this positive contribution.
- We would also recommend a stronger reference to innovation, including local innovation to support sustainable agricultural development (SAD) based on agroecological practices relevant for livestock sector such as organic production, sustainable intensification as well as contribution of livestock to circular economy (for example waste/manure management). Furthermore, innovation is not about a specific sector or technology, but should be considered important throughout the value chain and also be related to processes, methods and approaches.

Specific comments regarding recommendations

Rec 1:

- Rec 1 should state that there is a need to apply a systemic view to foster coherence.
- In Rec 1a) strengthen coherence should refer to SDG/Agenda 2030 as a global and cross-cutting policy reference.
- Rec 1d) should not only focus on the promotion and increase of public investment but to investment in general, including private investment. Moreover a reference to the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems should be integrated.

Rec 2:

- On Rec 2a) Education and awareness raising as tools to prevent over and unsustainable consumption should also be mentioned in this recommendation.

Rec 3:

- On Rec 3b) the means to develop the capacity of young livestock producers (education, training, knowledge resources such as rural advisory resources) should be mentioned. The recommendation should also propose tools and incentives to attract and maintain young people in the livestock sector, such as a facilitated access to land and financial resources for the young.

Rec 4:

- On Rec 4a) a reference to incentives for ecosystem services should be made: “Promote sustainable models of production designed for all farm sizes and systems, including through incentives for ecosystems services, especially in pastoral and commercial grazing systems that provide habitat and regulating ecosystem services”
- On Rec 4b) we propose to separate the paragraph in two: one should be related to sustainable land management and include a reference to the preservation and restoration of

soil quality, the other paragraph should refer to the preservation of water resources associated with livestock as well as to the improvement of the efficiency of water use in the livestock sector.

- On Rec 4c) we suggest to add - directly after "...agreed action plans," - the wording: ", respecting existing property rights of the owners of livestock and existing practices in animal breeding".

Rec 5:

- On Rec 5c) the methods to manage market risks and volatility are unclear and should be specified following recommendation 6 of HLPE's report. Moreover it should name the development of local feed supply as another means to limit and manage excessive price volatility, together with the use of grain storage facilities.
- Rec 5d) should also refer to the capacity development for feed safety which also represent an essential tool to enhance resilience and prevent crisis.

Rec 6:

- The recommendation should include tools and methods to develop and foster innovation across all livestock value chains, including through participatory research, transfer of knowledge, capacity building.

Rec 8:

- Rec 8a) should refer to instruments such as CFS Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests. Furthermore, focus should be made on recognizing and valorizing the provisions of habitats and regulatory ecosystems services provided by pastoralists and their locally adapted breeds. Rec 8 should underline the importance of increasing the resilience of pastoral systems and households.
- Rec 8c) should mention the restoration of degraded/polluted water together with degraded land.

Rec 9:

- As this recommendation addresses economic integration in mixed systems, it should also address market demand, in particular through the development of consumer awareness on health, social and environmental issues, as well as through the development of sustainability standards.

Rec 10:

- Rec 10 should not exclusively concern industrial systems but any livestock systems.