

GLOBAL AGENDA OF ACTION

Focus Area Group 1, *Closing the Efficiency Gap*

Exchange on data and methods for the analysis of livestock information systems,

April 18-19-2013

agri benchmark, Thünen Institute of Farm Economics, Braunschweig, Germany

1. Background

The participants in the Global Agenda of Action (The Agenda) agreed in the last multi-stakeholder platform meeting (Nairobi, Kenya, January 22-24) on a set of actions for the development of the three Focus Area Groups (FAs).

With regard to FA1, it was agreed to have a meeting between institutions which dispose of data and information on production and farming systems on global level with the main objective of exchanging information and their databases' content and methodologies which can serve for scoping regions and production systems where future strategic guidance could take place. It was agreed that *agri benchmark* would host this first preliminary meeting. In addition, the main outcomes from the FA1 workshop in Nairobi were as follows:

- The FA1 will initially focus on natural resource use efficiency at the production level.
- The FA1 will work to focus on closing efficiency gap among the least efficient producers, within production systems rather than seeking high efficiency across production systems.
- The economic dimension will be taken into account and included as a set of variables to measure.
- Most of the target actions must be performed where the highest efficiency gaps exist.
- There is a need to identify within regions/country, across species and production systems the most important efficiency gaps. For this, a stepwise process has been established as follows:
 - I. Scoping production systems and regions
agri benchmark, FAO, PBL, ILRI and Embrapa have initially agreed to demonstrate their database and data collection methodologies and how they could be used to identify the largest gaps in natural resource use efficiency by species, by production system and within regions/countries. The meeting program is still open to include other FA1 institutions which would like to participate, regarding to livestock information systems.
 - II. Defining a detailed assessment of the "gap"
Based on the analysis of the information gathered, an assessment of the reasons behind the gaps is required, in order to direct potential interventions (e.g. natural resources availability, practices, knowledge transfer, economic/market environment, institutional env., regulatory env., etc.).
 - III. Pilot Projects Development
In order to develop strategic sector guidance, the FAs will develop a framework to

catalyze concrete actions into practice change. These concrete actions can be analyzed in a preliminary phase as pilot projects, where selected regions and production systems could be tested in terms of, in this case, adoption and adaption of technology, and management practices which could reduce the efficiency gap previously found.

IV. Scaling up

Based on the previous experience acquired in the pilot projects and lessons learnt from them, the next step would be to scale up the applied knowledge to other regions and production systems where they can be required.

In order to gain experience and understanding of the information systems available, a first meeting will take place with the main objective of exchanging information analysis, for future scoping of production systems and regions to work for.

The results of this meeting will be offered to the members of the FA1 via webinar, in order to share the knowledge acquired and exchanged.

2. Developing the program

a. Objectives

- To explore the availability of livestock information systems that can contribute to a better characterization and definition of production systems and regions
- To exchange information regarding methodologies for collecting, processing, analyzing and benchmarking production systems and regions
- To identify information systems which could be potentially used by the FA1 for scoping production systems and regions to work with
- To identify models and tools which can be used for the assessment of the changes implicated in the improvement of efficiency
- To explore future complementarities between livestock information systems for fulfilling the requirements of FA1

b. How to proceed

- Each institution will present the framework which could possibly contribute to the FA1 in terms of:
 - Defining and measuring efficiency
 - Regional and production systems coverage
 - Methodological approaches and models used (concepts, modeling, tools, variables measured, etc.)
 - Projects where livestock efficiency improvements have been assessed
- Each institution will have 30 minutes for presenting its contributions and 30 minutes for questions
- There will be two guided discussion sessions, for exploring efficiency measurements and future possible contributions to the FA1 in terms of livestock information systems.

c. Expected outcomes

- A set of livestock information systems (databases, models, tools) has been identified for scoping regions and production systems where potential interventions could take place
- A preliminary list of variables has been defined for measuring efficiency, within the FA1 framework
- Benchmarking methodologies have been explored for measuring livestock efficiency improvements
- Each institution has defined its possible contributions to the FA1 in terms of information requirements and availability, models and tools used, and possible means of future regional intervention.

3. The program

Wednesday, April 17. Welcome evening – Dinner (19:00 – 22:00)

Thursday, April 18.

08:30 – 09:00 Transport to Thünen Institute

09:10 – 09:30 Round introduction and meeting development

09:30 – 10:00 Official welcome
President of the Thünen Institute

10:00 – 10:30 Agenda and Focus Area 1 (State of the art).
(Livestock Dialogue Team)

10:30 – 10:45 Coffee break

10:45 – 12:00 Discussion session 1
(Measuring efficiency)

12:00: 13:15 Lunch at the Thünen Institute (Kantine)

13:15 – 14:15 Institutional presentation (TBC)

14:15 – 14:30 Coffee break

14:30: – 15:30 Institutional presentation (TBC)

15:30 – 16:30 Institutional presentation (TBC)

20:00 – 22:00 Dinner

Friday, April 19

08:30 – 09:00 Transport to Thünen Institute

09:00 – 10:00 Presentation *agri benchmark*

10:00 – 10:30 Coffee break

10:30 – 11:45 Discussion session 2
(How we can contribute further to the FA1 in terms of livestock information systems)

11:45 – 12:30 Final remarks and steps to follow

4. Organizational issues

- a. Dates: 18-19 April 2013.
- b. Location. The meeting will take place at the agri benchmark headquarters (Thünen Institute of Farm Economics, Federal Agric. Research Center in Braunschweig). We are located approx. two hours by train from Berlin airport, and 1 hour from Hanover airport (frequent connections).

- Address

Johann Heinrich von Thünen-Institut,
Bundesforschungsinstitut für Ländliche Räume, Wald und Fischerei
Bundesallee 50
38116 Braunschweig
Germany

- The following link provides more information

<http://www.ti.bund.de/en/startseite/about-us/locations/headquarter-braunschweig.html>

- There are plenty of hotels located in town center. We recommend the following links:

<http://www.fruehlingshotel.de/>

<http://www.pentahotels.com/hotels/bweph-braunschweig/everything/>

Those institutions which have already confirmed, have been booked in the Pentahotel

- c. Information

For further information you can contact

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