

# INVESTING IN SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK

4-5 JUNE 2014, FRIBOURG, SWITZERLAND

## PREFACE

*With an increasing world population, growing scarcity of natural resources, and accelerating climate change, the road towards sustainable food and agriculture is becoming increasingly complex. Analysing sustainability issues across their social, environmental and economic dimensions, the livestock sector perhaps exemplifies the challenges faced in investing in sustainability like no other sector.*

*Livestock sector policies and investments need to simultaneously address the vast diversity of livestock systems and the different demands and expectations placed by society on the sector.*

*These challenges can be addressed only by joining forces and working together in new ways..*

## INTRODUCTION

Livestock are critical to building sustainability. Sustainability entails a process of continuous practice change that addresses social, economic and environmental objectives simultaneously. To be sustainable, livestock sector growth needs to support the livelihoods of an estimated 1 billion poor and contribute to enhancing economic and social well-being. Sector growth also needs to protect public health through balanced diets and the reduction of health threats from livestock, and sustain the planet's natural resources.

## TRENDS IN LIVESTOCK SECTOR INVESTMENT

Projected increase in animal protein consumption is likely to maintain livestock's position as one of the fastest growing sub-sectors of agriculture, particularly in emerging economies, for the foreseeable future. Thus far, this demand growth has mostly been met through rapidly expanding investment in modern forms of intensive poultry and pig production. This investment has been characterised by the economies of scale and scope derived from spatial clustering and vertical integration of production in large-scale industrial production units located close to urban centres. It has been aided by the availability of cheap cereal-based diets and the substantial advances in genetics, health and other technologies that have allowed production efficiencies to be enhanced significantly. Despite such developments, traditional systems continue to exist in parallel and to contribute significantly to animal protein production.

Far reaching changes in the cost and availability of natural resources, combined with demands for product diversity, food safety and quality, and increasing social, environmental and animal welfare concerns, however, are changing livestock production. Whilst previously thought of as developed world concerns only, the emergence of international value chains has not only diversified rural livelihood options, but also exposed production to rapidly changing patterns of competition, market preferences, and trade rules. Furthermore, the impact of emerging diseases and accelerating climate change means that livestock sector-related investments need to tackle an ever-evolving set of production, pest, and disease problems - often in rapidly declining environmental conditions. Global livestock production is thus, for better or for worse, linked to the markets, technologies and diseases that are transforming the sector. The need to cope with, and indeed exploit, this change therefore presents the context in which livestock sector investment needs to contribute to the social, economic and environmental aspirations of societies.

## LIVESTOCK IN DEVELOPMENT

No other sector is more important to the lives and livelihoods of the poor than livestock. An estimated 1 billion people derive at least part of their livelihood from livestock. Livestock are the last resort for people that lack other assets and forms of income.

- **Global poverty and inequality cannot be addressed without investment in livestock**

Livestock are critical to maintaining and improving human health. Livestock products are an important component in healthy diets, and provide food security particularly for low income people. Livestock connect wildlife and environmental health to human health, and are an important element in disease emergence and transmission. Seventy percent of all new diseases have their origins in animals. .

- **Global food security and health cannot be addressed without investment in livestock**

Livestock are an important user of natural resources (land, water, nutrients, and biodiversity) and contributor to climate change. Livestock convert large amounts of by-products and waste material, for which there is no alternative use, into valuable products.

- **Global environmental issues cannot be addressed without investment in livestock**

The vast diversity in livestock systems and the different demands and expectations placed on the sector have contributed to the difficulties in public policy and investment comprehensively addressing the sector. It has also led to a poor understanding of how the sector, in a context of an increasing world population, growing scarcity of natural resources and accelerating climate change, can best contribute to solutions to meet the world's need for sustainable food and agriculture. There is, however, growing recognition that social, economic and environmental objectives need to be addressed simultaneously and reconciled through coherent collective action.

- **Investment in livestock needs to produce more, from less, in ways which benefit all.**

## CONTOURS OF LIVESTOCK SECTOR SUSTAINABILITY

A sustainable livestock sector would contribute to food and agriculture through viable growth in value chains that have access to all necessary resources and services, and in which the poor can find secure livelihoods, participate in growing markets, or take up other opportunities outside the sector.

It would have an inclusive approach to managing disease threats at the animal-human-environment interface, and involve producers at every level in the development and implementation of animal-disease and food-safety programmes.

Livestock production would be based on materials not competing with direct use as human foods, and the sector would progressively provide incentives to transition to more resource use efficient ways of production and reward environmental stewardship.

The sector would consider policy reform within a broad development context, and have robust actor-linkage networks for sector surveillance and learning, as well as the institutional capacity and flexibility to respond to emerging sector needs.

## INVESTING IN SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK

Ensuring current and future livestock sector investments address the above issues, and reconcile the requirements of different stakeholders and potential trade-offs simultaneously, requires the exploration of new approaches that capitalize on the strength of different actors by building consensus and commitment among all concerned to action and on-the-ground improvements.

Thus, as the world unites around a new and ambitious post-2015 Development Agenda, this *Investing in Sustainable Livestock* roundtable brings together livestock sector thought-leaders, decision-makers, and investors to ensure the multiple social, environmental, and health aspects of livestock sector development are appropriately addressed in current and future sector investment.

The Investors' Roundtable, facilitated by the Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock, will integrate perspectives across scales and actors, and will focus on incentives for investment in livestock sector practice change. The specific objectives of the Roundtable are to:

- Increase the shared understanding on livestock sector development issues;
- Develop consensus on the path towards sustainable food security;
- Work towards policy and operational coherence;
- Explore how investments might be aligned with sustainable livestock sector development objectives

## MEETING LOGISTICS:

The Meeting will be held in  
Hotel NH Fribourg  
Grand-Places 14  
CH-1700 Fribourg  
Switzerland

[nhfribourg@nh-hotels.com](mailto:nhfribourg@nh-hotels.com)

The participants are expected to book their own rooms.

Special rates have been negotiated for the meeting participants at Hotel NH (Booking should be made directly to NH Hotel before May 10, 2014 with the mention: "Livestock Meeting-BLW")

- Standard room: CHF 133.00 per night per room, breakfast included
- Superior room: CHF 167.00 per night per room, breakfast included

Other hotels are available on <http://www.fribourgtourisme.ch/en/index.cfm>

---

## PROGRAMME

---

### 4 JUNE 2014

18:30 Introduction: **Investing in Sustainable Livestock – the role of the Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock**, by Neil Fraser, Chair, Agenda Guiding Group

Welcome Speech: **Investing in resource efficient and sustainable livestock, key to sustainable agro-food systems**, by Prof. Bernard Lehmann, Director General, Swiss Federal Office for Agriculture and Professor Agricultural Economics, ETH Zürich.

Followed by interventions by Henri Kool, Ministry of Economic Affairs, the Netherlands; Matthew Hooper, Counsellor Primary Industries, New Zealand, and Jean Jacques Soula, Senior Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, France.

20:00 *Cocktail and dinner reception at the Restaurant Aigle Noir hosted by Prof. Bernard Lehmann, Director General, Swiss Federal Office for Agriculture and Professor Agricultural Economics, ETH Zürich*

### 5 JUNE 2014

09:00 **Investing in sustainable food and agriculture, investing in livestock**, by Dr. David Nabarro, United Nations Special Envoy for Food Security.

Intervention followed by facilitated roundtable discussion

10:00 *Health break*

10:30 **Contours of sustainable livestock sector investment**, by Henning Steinfeld, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Followed by multi-stakeholder panel on: **Why we invest in livestock.**

With Francois Le Gall, the World Bank; Sandra Vijn, the World Wildlife Fund; Antonio Rota, International Fund for Agricultural Development; Willi Graf, Swiss Development and Cooperation; Dionys Forster, Nestle

To be followed by facilitated panel and round table discussion – Identification of common ground and key expectations

12:30 *Lunch*

14:00 **The contribution of research to sustainable livestock sector investment**, by Shirley Tarawali, International Livestock Research Institute

Followed by multi-stakeholder panel on: **Creating the conditions for sustainable sector investment.**

With Ruaraidh Petre, Global Roundtable for Sustainable Beef; Luiz Fernando do Amaral, Rabobank, Brazil; Maurice Boland, Alltech; Neil Fraser, Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock; Simplicie Nouala, African Union – Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources

To be followed by facilitated panel and round table discussion – Ending with the identification of key common ground and key expectations

15:30 *Health break*

16:00 **Towards coherence in policy and practice**, by Ren Wang, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Intervention followed by facilitated round table discussion - Ending with agreement on key next steps

*Evening – Visit to Gruyères County – local cheese fondue*

Sessions will be facilitated by Prof. Brian Perry, Chair of the Scientific Advisory Board of Afrique One and Honorary Professor at the Universities of Edinburgh and Pretoria



## GLOBAL AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK

The Agenda is a partnership of livestock sector stakeholders committed to the sustainable development of the sector.

To be sustainable, livestock sector growth needs to simultaneously address key environmental, social, and economic challenges: growing natural resources scarcity, climate change, widespread poverty, food insecurity and global threats to animal and human health.

The Agenda builds consensus on the path towards sustainability and catalyses coherent and collective practice change through dialogue, consultation and joint analysis.

The partnership unites the forces of the public and private sectors, producers, research and academic institutions, NGOs, social movements and community-based organizations, and foundations.

It simultaneously addresses the following issues:

**Global food security and health:** The sector is critical to human health and global food and nutritional security. The Agenda promotes an inclusive approach to managing disease threats at the animal-human-environment interface that involves all sector stakeholders at every level in the development and implementation of animal-disease and food-safety programmes.

**Equity and growth:** Livestock is essential to the livelihoods of an estimated one billion poor. The Agenda supports a viable growth in value chains that have access to all necessary resources and services, and in which the poor can find secure livelihoods and participate in growing markets or take up other opportunities outside the sector.

**Resources and climate:** Livestock production based mainly on materials not competing with direct use as human food, and incentives and rewards for environmental stewardship will allow the sector to transition to existing and new resource use efficient ways of production and a greater contribution to climate change mitigation.

To this end, Agenda partners (i) Facilitate multi-stakeholder dialogue at international and local level; (ii) Implement and support joint analyses and assessments, including the development of harmonized metrics and methodologies (e.g. LEAP); (iii) Identify and provide tools and guidance; and (iv) Promote and support innovation and local practice change (e.g. through the CCAC Agriculture Initiative).

The partnership, built jointly from 2010, has made significant headway in finding common ground and in increasing global awareness on the development issues underlying sustainable livestock sector development.

**SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK**  
*for people, for the planet*

[www.livestockdialogue.org](http://www.livestockdialogue.org)