



## GLOBAL AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK

### KEY MESSAGES FOR COMMUNICATION

The following key messages are for use for oral and written communication on the Agenda.

#### **Importance of the sector**

- The livestock sector is vital to global nutrition and food security. It contributes an estimated 26 percent of total global protein consumption and 13 percent of calorie intakes. Animal source foods are also rich in micronutrients such as vitamin A, vitamin B12, riboflavin, calcium, iron and zinc which are critical to the growth and development of children.
- No other sector is more important to the lives and livelihoods of the poor than livestock. About one billion poor derive at least part of their livelihood from livestock. In addition to food, livestock also provides important products and services such as asset savings, traction, manure for fuel and fertilizers, and fiber. Livestock are often the last resort for people that lack other assets or forms of income.
- The livestock sector is an important part of the global economy and comprises an estimated 40 percent of total agricultural GDP.
- Livestock convert large amounts of by-products and waste material, for which there is no alternative use, into valuable products.

#### **Current sector challenges and opportunities**

- Driven by a global population projected to reach 9.6 billion in 2050, in combination with increasing incomes and urbanization, the livestock sector's role in providing high value food will continue to increase. The demand for livestock products is expected to increase by 70 percent during the period.
- To be sustainable, livestock sector growth needs to support livelihoods, contribute to enhancing economic and social well-being, protect public health through the reduction of health threats from livestock, sustain natural resources and contribute to climate change mitigation.
- The livestock sector performs critical development functions through its contribution to nutritious diets, economic growth, and livelihoods. Sector growth thus provides opportunities for development and poverty alleviation.
- Sustainable sector growth is possible. Existing technologies and practices can deliver social, economic and environmental benefits concurrently, but appropriate policies and incentive systems are needed to facilitate their wider use.

## Agenda's purpose and focus

- The Agenda is a multi-stakeholder partnership committed to sustainable livestock sector development.
- The partnership simultaneously addresses the social, environmental, economic dimensions of livestock sector growth. It focuses in three major areas: Global food security and health; Equity and growth; and Resources and climate.
- **Global Food security and health:** The Agenda partnership supports sector growth to ensure global food and nutritional security. It 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:** The Agenda partnership 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:** The Agenda partnership promotes livestock production based mainly on materials not competing with direct use as human food. It supports environmental stewardship through incentives and rewards to allow the sector to transition to existing and new resource use efficient ways of production and a greater contribution to climate change mitigation.

## On the Agenda deliverables

- The partnership builds consensus on the path towards sustainable food security through dialogue, consultation, and joint analyses. It contributes to the shared understanding of sector development issues and identifies entry-points for improvement.
- The Agenda partnership facilitates knowledge sharing on technology, good practices, policies and institutions through the building of knowledge networks.
- Through its contribution to the development of harmonized metrics and methodologies, it provides the relevant tools for standardized measurements.
- Finding common ground is at the core of the Agenda. Consensus forms the basis for policy and operational coherence, and stakeholder commitment to innovation and investment in practice change.
- The Agenda catalyzes global policy dialogue into local practice change.

### **On the Agenda added value**

- Agenda partners encompass the vast diversity of livestock systems and sector stakeholders worldwide.
- The Agenda provides the global platform to comprehensively address the sector's multiple challenges and opportunities. The Agenda partnership concurrently addresses the BIG issues of our time: global food security and health, widespread poverty, resources growing scarcity and climate change.
- The Agenda partnership addresses the multiple facets of sustainability simultaneously. Its inclusion of all key stakeholders contributes to a clear voice for each facet.

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

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