Achieving multiple benefits through livestock-based solutions

Summary report of the 7th Multi-Stakeholder Partnership meeting of the Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock, Addis Ababa, 8-12 May 2017

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All materials and products from the meeting are accessible online at:
- [http://ilri-events.wikispaces.com/gasl2017_products](http://ilri-events.wikispaces.com/gasl2017_products)
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Acronyms

CIAT    International Center for Tropical Agriculture
CIPAV   Centro para la Investigación en Sistemas Sostenibles de Producción Agropecuaria
CIRAD   Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement
CNE     Confederation des Éleveurs français
FAO     Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GASL    Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock
ICARDA  International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas
IFCN    International Farm Comparison Network ILRI    International Livestock Research Institute
MOLF    Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Ethiopia
MSP     Multi-Stakeholder Partnership (of the Global Agenda)
SDG     Sustainable development goal
Key messages

Some 290 people joined the 7th Multi-Stakeholder Partnership (MSP) meeting of the Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock (GASL) that was held in Addis Ababa from 8-12 May 2017. This document is a summary report of the discussions. Fuller information on specific sessions is available in the event documentation.1

This section highlights some key messages from across the meeting.

Multi-stakeholder actions, of the type that the Global Agenda facilitates, are powerful, they:
- Mobilize multiple perspectives on solutions, improve communication and coordination, lead to multi-perspective solutions: Different stakeholders can work to achieve the SDG’s in different ways, with wider impact.
- Create shared values and strategies [by enhancing understanding of the values of others].
- Contribute to benefit sharing and equity along the value chain [by engaging the whole chain].
- Ensure no SDG is left behind.
- Help achieve policy and development goals as well as innovation adoption, through broader engagement of actors and higher-quality relationships between multiple stakeholders.

Livestock-based solutions can be sustainable; they are enabled by:
- Community-based interventions; Farmer-centric approaches; Investments adapted to specific livestock systems.
- Sharing of good practices and upscaling; recording lessons learnt and fingers burnt.
- Appropriate livestock-based policy framework; public policy that contributes to livestock development; country strategies for (public/private) investment for livestock; development of national policies and strategies to manage change in the livestock sector (focusing on sustainability).
- Development and strengthening of [local] public-private and multi-stakeholder platforms.
- Capacity building on innovations and technologies.
- Adopting market and value chain-oriented approaches.
- Promoting integrated ‘whole system’ approaches, such as connecting the efforts of different stakeholders, addressing the multiple benefits of livestock and their related trade-offs, and joining up policy, technical and commercial approaches to benefit producers and consumers.

Livestock provide multiple benefits:
- We have evidence of the multiple benefits, but we need to unlock their potential and implement them at scale through practice and policy change.
- We need multi-criteria assessments to properly capture them.
- We need to think about the long term impacts of livestock-based solutions – on climate change and on value chains.
- Social benefits of livestock keeping are often missed out in discussions on livestock benefits - the livestock sector provides income and employment as well as less tangible but crucial benefits for cultural and social cohesion.
- SDG’s are a good mechanism to encourage convergence among stakeholders.

1 All products from the meeting are online at: [http://ilri-events.wikispaces.com/gasl2017_products](http://ilri-events.wikispaces.com/gasl2017_products) and [http://www.livestockdialogue.org/events/events/multi-stakeholder-meetings/addis-ababa-08-12-may-2017](http://www.livestockdialogue.org/events/events/multi-stakeholder-meetings/addis-ababa-08-12-may-2017)
Key actions for livestock actors

1. Integrate approaches to sustainable livestock development. It was argued that the only way to capture the multiple benefits of livestock is to integrate the approaches that are used. This includes integration among different stakeholders, integration of objectives – the multiple benefits of livestock and their related trade-offs, and integration of policy, technical and commercial approaches to benefit producers and consumers.

2. Include a broader range of stakeholders and more diverse voices into solution development, such as: farmers, civil society, other private sector actors and non-believers in the benefits of the livestock sector.

3. Translate benefits from tools, models and research to the ground, across different livestock production contexts, so they can be taken up and used widely.

Key roles for the Global Agenda

- The Global Agenda was said to be the most comprehensive forum for livestock stakeholders to share and collaborate.
- The Global Agenda should capitalize on, and disseminate, lessons and insights from across its diverse membership. A key challenge is to bring all this knowledge and experience to stakeholders outside the livestock sector, without forgetting the necessary internal connections.
- There are many tools and approaches to support sustainable livestock development; thus, a role for the Global Agenda may be to help collate these and make them much more visible and more accessible ‘on the ground’.
- The Global Agenda as a platform is now mature enough to begin influencing policies. It needs to pay attention to policymakers’ demands and what it wants them to get from its discussions.
- The action networks of the Global Agenda are highways for impact.
Background
Driven by population and economic growth, particularly in emerging and developing economies, the demand for livestock products is expected to increase by about 70% in the coming 30 years. Responding to this potential demand presents opportunities for the livestock sector to contribute to global development challenges by promoting a sustained economic growth, inclusive social development and the efficient use of natural resources.

The positive contributions of livestock for sustainable development, food security and nutrition on the one hand and the potential negative impacts of livestock on the environment and on human health on the other continue to be researched and debated worldwide. The publication in 2006 of Livestock’s Long Shadow created awareness for the impact of livestock on the environment and in particular the role of livestock in greenhouse gas emissions and started a strong and at times emotional debate on merits and demerits of livestock. The State of Food and Agriculture report 2009 on livestock and the publication Livestock in a Changing Landscape 2010 presented more nuanced views of the livestock sector, emphasising the diversity of drivers, responses and opportunities for solutions.

Nevertheless, the role of the livestock sector in sustainable development remained controversial. In 2010, initiated by the Dutch delegation to the FAO, the livestock sector was considered by the Committee on Agriculture which, in an effort to bring this widely dispersed and diverse sector together around key development challenges, mandated FAO to develop the Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock (initially called Global Agenda for Action).

About the Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock
The Global Agenda (livestockdialogue.org) recognizes that for livestock to be sustainable, the sector worldwide needs to respond to the growing demand for livestock products and enhance its contribution to food and nutritional security; provide secure livelihoods and economic opportunities for hundreds of millions of pastoralists and value chain actors in the livestock sector; use natural resources efficiently, address climate change and mitigate other environmental impacts; and enhance human, animal, and environmental health and welfare.

The Global Agenda’s mission is to enhance livestock stakeholders’ commitment and investments in support of the UN Agenda 2030 by facilitating dialogue, generating evidence and supporting the adoption of good practices and policies. It functions in an open and consensual way as a multi-stakeholder partnership that engages all actors in the livestock sector worldwide (governments, civil society, private sector, donors, academia, non-government organizations and multilateral organizations) to foster the sustainable development of the livestock sector.

The 7th Multi-Stakeholder Partnership meeting
The meeting in Addis Ababa was organized to reinforce the unique roles of the Global Agenda in bringing together different types of stakeholders to explore tools and models to measure sustainability in the livestock sector, to consider lessons from diverse examples at global, regional and local level and to learn from the ground examples of livestock-based solutions. A policy forum engaged ministers and other high-level actors from across the African continent while learning tours and a sharefair provided opportunities for participants to dive deeper into a wide range of different initiatives.

It is fitting that the government of Ethiopia co-hosted the 7th Multi-Stakeholder Partnership meeting in Addis Ababa as it offered participants occasion to reflect upon the initiatives that have been undertaken, to highlight the lessons that may be applied to successful sustainable livestock
development, to clarify the tools that can be used to assess the sectors’ multiple benefits and to identify those areas that still require further work.

The five day meeting aimed to:

- Share and discuss progress made in the development of tools to monitor sustainable livestock sector development;
- Articulate the lessons from successful cases of practice change towards sustainable livestock systems;
- Identify opportunities and challenges that must be addressed to ensure multiple benefits accrue from sustainable livestock development.

Five guiding questions were set to further guide and focus the discussions:

1. How best do livestock contribute to the SDGs?
2. What are the contributions – selected results and outcomes – of livestock-based solutions to sustainable development?
3. Where did multi-stakeholder interaction add value in livestock-based sustainable development?
4. Which critical challenges and gaps in livestock-based sustainable development need attention?
5. What are the priority opportunities for the Global Agenda?

Participants were further urged to focus on lessons learned; opportunities; gaps; and priority roles and priorities for the Global Agenda.

The meeting was designed to foster engagement and interaction among the participants. Sessions were designed to be:

- Interactive, engaging and accessible;
- Use the multi-stakeholder dimensions of the Global Agenda;
- Build from the previous meeting’s SDG focus, connecting science to practice (solutions);
- Facilitated, documented and communicated to maximise engagement and a focus on priorities.
The meeting aimed to explicitly examine and synthesize experiences and lessons with livestock-based solutions for sustainable development. The sessions were set up to link these to different sustainable development goals (SDG), working with a subset of the goals that were identified in the Global Agenda’s 2016 meeting in Panama.

The 2016 Panama Global Agenda meeting looked at the links between sustainable livestock sector development and achievement of the SDGs. At that meeting, all SDGs were seen as important and relevant to livestock. However, several were prioritized by participants: SDG 1 (no poverty), SDG 2 (zero hunger), SDG 3 (good health and well-being), SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth), SDG 12 (responsible consumption and production), SDG 13 (climate action), SDG 15 (life on land) and SDG 17 (partnership for the goals). For this meeting, SDG 5 (gender equality) was added to the focus, recognizing livestock’s special importance for women.
Opening: Multiple benefits of livestock in focus

The meeting was officially opened by His Excellency Professor Fekadu Beyene, Ethiopia’s Minister for Livestock and Fisheries. ‘This meeting will enable us to share the multiple benefits we’re deriving from sustainable livestock initiatives, including those supported by the Ethiopia Livestock Master Plan (2015) and the Growth and Transformation Plan Two’, said Professor Fekadu.

The minister highlighted the Ethiopian government’s ambitious steps to efficiently utilize its vast livestock resources and make the sector a driver of the transformation of the country’s agriculture-based economy. These measures include providing good-quality farm inputs at affordable prices, boosting small-scale irrigation schemes, minimizing post-harvest losses and controlling and eradicating major livestock and livestock-transmitted human diseases.

‘Ethiopia is keen to learn from others’ knowledge and experiences to enhance the country’s capacity to practice sustainable livestock to reduce poverty and increase food security,’ he said.

Fritz Schneider, Chair of the Global Agenda, said the partnership is based on the UN Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development. ‘The Global Agenda provides a platform, regionally and locally rooted, to comprehensively address the multiple opportunities the livestock sector presents for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).’

‘Participants will discuss tools to facilitate sustainable livestock sector development and cases of practice change will be demonstrated. Learning tours will also show successful local efforts towards sustainable sector development,’ Schneider added.
Ren Wang, Assistant Director General for Agriculture and Consumer Protection at FAO explained how the Global Agenda is ‘uniquely positioned to promote the livestock sector, which generates widespread benefits for people and the planet’.

‘Agriculture, which includes livestock, lies at the heart of the 2030 Agenda and both sectors seek to address the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development simultaneously,’ he said. ‘FAO is committed to ensuring the livestock sector contributes to food security and the elimination of poverty while reducing the sector’s environmental footprint and resource use.’

Jimmy Smith, Director General of ILRI said the meeting was special for ILRI as it is one of the founder members of the partnership. ‘The Global Agenda provides a forum for ILRI to move from theory to practice at the interface of livestock and development.’ he said.

It also ensures that ILRI is in a place to listen to the needs of many valuable stakeholders and to ensure that its research agenda is informed by their needs and experiences.

For ILRI, as one of fifteen CGIAR research centres leading and participating in CGIAR research programs, the Global Agenda also affords an opportunity, together with other partners in the research programs, to engage with a wide spectrum of stakeholders to ensure that CGIAR research is relevant for sustainable livestock development.

Download the presentations:


Henning Steinfeld, FAO’s Coordinator of the Livestock Information, Sector Analysis and Policy Branch, gave a keynote address to frame the subsequent sessions.

He defined sustainable development as development that meets the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. He described this as ‘cooperating with the future’, but emphasized the problem for the future generations is they don’t have a voice today.

His presentation looked at the bio-physical and socio-economic dimensions of livestock production, touching on pressures such as demand growth and climate change as well as resource competition and scarcity.

He called for integrated analyses and presented five key approaches addressing different livestock systems (extensive, labour-intensive, and capital-intensive): (1) We need to improve resource-use efficiency; (2) We need to protect and enhance critical resources, such as habitats critical for biodiversity; (3) We need to balance these concerns with humans needs—to enhance benefits for people; (4) To do the latter, we need to manage risks and build resilience and (5) We need to develop new governance and institutional mechanisms. The multiple benefits to be gained from integration at different levels, he said, are:

- Integrating stakeholders, through dialogue, consensus building and joint action.
- Integrating objectives, by enhancing multiple benefits and reducing trade-offs.
- Integrating technical domains and scientific approaches, through transdisciplinary approaches combining, for example, bio-physical transformations (via life-cycle analysis), value generation and distribution (via value chain analysis), and connecting human, animal and environmental health approaches (via One Health approaches). The purpose here is very much to shift away from maximizing livestock production and productivity to generating and capturing multiple benefits from livestock.

He concluded that the livestock sector is a major driver of environmental change, largely because of its large interface with common property resources.

- The livestock sector means more than just GDP: It provides income and employment as well as less tangible but crucial benefits for cultural and social cohesion.
- We need to look at the diversity of livestock systems and interactions, keeping in mind that at times there will be clashes between private and public goods.
- We need to bear in mind that sustainable livestock systems involve multiple objectives that change over time and are different in different locations.
- The only way to capture the multiple benefits of livestock is to integrate the tools we use.
- Finally, we need to ‘collaborate with the future’—to provide future generations, at a minimum, with the same level of opportunities that we enjoy today.

Presentation: [livestockdialogue.org/fileadmin/templates/res_livestock/docs/2017_Addis/Multiple_Benefits_from_Sustainable_Livestock.pptx](livestockdialogue.org/fileadmin/templates/res_livestock/docs/2017_Addis/Multiple_Benefits_from_Sustainable_Livestock.pptx)

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## Event insights: The power of multi-stakeholder actions

Multi-stakeholder actions:

- Mobilize multiple perspectives on solutions, improve communication and coordination, lead to multi-perspective solutions: Different stakeholders can work to achieve the SDG’s in different ways, with wider impact;
- Create shared values and strategies [by enhancing understanding of the values of others];
- Contribute to benefit sharing and equity along the value chain [by engaging the whole chain];
- Ensure no SDG left behind.

*Derived from posts shared and discussion in the final sessions*

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## Event insights: The sustainability of livestock-based solutions

Sustainability is enabled by:

- Community-based interventions; Farmer-centric approach; Investments adapted to specific livestock systems;
- Sharing of good practices and upscaling; Recording lessons learnt and fingers burnt;
- Appropriate livestock-based policy framework; Public policy that contributes to livestock development; Country strategies for (public/private) investment for livestock; Development of national policies and strategies to manage change in the livestock sector (focusing on sustainability);
- Development and strengthening of [local] public-private platforms;
- Capacity building on innovations and technologies;
- Adopting market and value chain-oriented approaches.
- Promoting integrated ‘whole system’ approaches, such as connecting the efforts of different stakeholders, addressing the multiple benefits of livestock and their related trade-offs, and joining up policy, technical and commercial approaches to benefit producers and consumers.

*Derived from posts shared and discussion in the final sessions*
Models and tools to help achieve sustainable livestock-based solutions

The session aimed to expose participants to a range of tools and models and what they can offer in terms of measuring progress towards achieving sustainable development through livestock-based solutions.

An important objective was to bridge gaps between science and practice so practitioners and academics can better understand and help improve the various tools and models. It aimed to address overall objective 1 of the event: to share and discuss progress made in the development of tools and models to monitor sustainable livestock sector development.

The models and tools shared were:

- **Comprehensive Livestock Environmental Assessment for Improved Nutrition, a Secured Environment and Sustainable Development along Livestock Value Chains (CLEANED)** – An Notenbaert, CIAT
- **Conceptual models to assess the multiple values of grassland systems** – Alexandre Ickowicz, CIRAD
- **Dairy Producer Organisations’ Sustainability Assessment (POSA) tool** – Isabelle Baltenweck, ILRI
- **Feed Assessment Tool (FEAST)** – Ben Lukuyu and Alan Duncan, ILRI
- **Gender capacity development tool** – Annet Mulema and Wole Kinati, ILRI and ICARDA
- **General framework to estimate loss sources and magnitudes in live ruminants** – Sikhalazo Dube, ILRI
- **Global Livestock Environmental Assessment Model – GLEAM** – Aimable Uwizeye, FAO
- **LEAP guidelines for the assessment of environmental performance of livestock supply chains** – Pablo Manzano, LEAP
- **IMPACT model: Application to livestock sector scenarios** – Barry Shapiro, ILRI
- **Participatory Epidemiology and Gender (PEG) tool to identify disease constraints** – Barbara Wieland, ILRI
- **Rapid Household Multi-Indicator Survey (RHoMIS)** – Mark van Wijk, ILRI
- **Revitalizing the LMIS for Mali to support the development of the livestock sector** – Abdou Fall and Abdrahmane Wane, ILRI
- **Response-Inducing Sustainability Evaluation (RISE)** – Sereke Firesenai, Bern University of Applied Sciences
- **Sustainable Intensification Assessment Framework** – Peter Thorne, ILRI

Models and tools – feedback

Following the interactive session, feedback and insights from selected participant groups zoomed in on what they learned across the various poster presentations. It should be noted that the tools and models shared were a cross-section of different approaches shared by participants rather than any representative sample. Feedback was provided from different SDG perspectives, on livestock-based solutions and on the ‘multi-stakeholder’ aspects.

**Opportunity for the Global Agenda:**

- Collect models and tools, beyond the ones shared, in one resource and make openly available to members
On the SDGs:

- All tools are promising. When designing tools, people needs to work together and need more cooperation among tools.
- Need assessing the impact of the tool for adoption and improvement. Need to be adapt to individual use for farmers. The application of tools will be difficult for different social groups.
- The opportunity is that more women get involved and contribute and this needs to be recognized.
- Tools should be designed in different production system of livestock (dairy, beef, etc.)
- Didn’t have any specific models addressing SDG2 or 3
- How to do a better job of communicating among SDGs. How to integrating different SDGs. How to use these models across SDGs?
- Most information is about activities at national and local level, not at farm level. Some models miss social dimensions. We should integrate more social aspects in the models.
- The feed assessment tool and intervention analysis is very good.
- Some gaps and challenges exist regarding to how to implement tools and how to get farm assessment into action and how we can address different tools.
- A lot of focus was put in climate mitigation and market and about the short-term and long-term impact.
- Some challenges are how to challenge cultures of past and there is lack of base data. Moreover, there is an overlap between environment monitoring tools.
- Opportunities are to decide the seasonal changes in stocking rate. We have opportunities to improve efficiency of livestock production and efficiency of value chain.
- Most tools are not really good on resources use efficiency. In fact, they focus much on farm inputs, not focus on environment. Many tools did not have social component.
- Not clear how these tools help countries or partners take decisions on kind of livestock development

On SDG 17 –partnerships:

- A key challenge is related to partnership. There is a gap that is data is not available for design phase. We need to involve other sectors in the design so that we might use their data.
- Several tools are doing the same things.
- Gender equality is an opportunity while social impact is a big question.

On livestock-based solutions:

- Appropriate indicators could be used for future support. We need more communications and information between farms about the market, for example, we can use mobile communication.
- It is necessary to conceptualize model to anticipate future actions. We should think of solutions for the farm.
- Most tools focus on reporting, measuring, but need communications and extension models as well.
- There is a lack of social benefits information. It is crucial to associate social benefits with economic and environment services.
On multi-stakeholder dimensions:

- Multi stakeholder methods are effective in models and tools but need to distinguish when used as initial discussion and when used to find solutions.
- Aligned multi-stakeholder view of gender capacity of organizations using gender capacity tool.
- Multi-stakeholders assessments produce models to describe possible results in the future of actors on the production system.
- Conceptual models to assess multiple values of grassland systems used to provide communal way to assess the multiple values.
- Several tools available, however, their applicability and large scale not clear. Only GLEAM and LEAP really had clear multi stakeholder integration.
- Use of information technology to improve information at grass root level by the work /interaction of producers and information provided by the market.
- Achieving policy + development goals needs broader engagement of actors within the private sector.
- Private sector involvement needs to be included to improve smallholder supply chains.
- Successes of adoption depend on relationships between farmers, extension, predecessors. Interaction is important.
- Need active multi stakeholder involvement to scale up.
- Each partner needs to know their role in success (responsibility and accountability).
- Time it takes to build trust.
- Lack of co-ordination, SILO’s, missed opportunities.
- Lack indicator of progress [of partnerships].
Case studies of livestock-based solutions

Through several examples from GASL Action Networks, this session aimed to examine how multi-stakeholder, multi-disciplinary engagement produces outputs, outcomes and impact on one or more SDGs. It aimed to address overall objectives 2 and 3 of the event: to articulate lessons from successful examples of practise change towards sustainable livestock systems; and to identify opportunities and challenges that must be addressed to ensure multiple benefits accrue from sustainable livestock development.

The cases shared were:

- **Africa Sustainable Livestock 2050** – Orsolya Mikecz, FAO
- **Animal welfare action network** – Lesley Mitchell, GASL Consultant
- **Dairy Asia for health and prosperity** – Melina Lamkowsky, FAO
- **The future is in the forest** – Pablo Frere, Redes Chaco
- **Global Network on Silvopastoral Systems** – Julián Chará, CIPAV
- **Improving grassland value - an option to intensify beef cattle production in upland cropping systems in North West Vietnam** – Le Thi Thanh Huyen, National Institute of Animal Sciences, Vietnam
- **Livestock Antimicrobial Partnership** – Ulf Magnusson, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
- **Livestock for social development** – Ernesto Reyes, IFCN Dairy Research Network
- **Low carbon dairy and beef farms** – Emmanuel Coste, CNE
- **Peste des Petits Ruminants Global Eradication Programme** – Felix Njeumi, FAO
- **Restoring value to grasslands** – Liz Wedderburn, AgResearch
- **Transitioning smallholder livestock value chains into sustainable solutions for poverty reduction and food security** – Polly Ericksen, ILRI
- **Beyond livestock production and productivity: Ethiopia case study** – Franck Berthe, World Bank

**Case studies – feedback**

Following the interactive session, feedback and insights from selected participant groups zoomed in on what they learned across the various poster presentations. It should be noted that the cases were a mix of action examples and proposals for the Global Agenda’s Action Networks rather than any representative sample. Feedback was provided from different SDG perspectives and on livestock-based solutions.
On the SDGs:
- A lot of presentations put a focus on dairy, few on ruminants and vaccination.
- On the peste des petit ruminants vaccine case, some gaps are the lack of commitment of providers, partnership of all stakeholders and political instability. It is important to make sure all stakeholders are involved from the beginning through participatory approaches.
- For the grassland case, it is important to note that the testing was generally on a small scale. Millions of hectares have been damaged and still need recovery.
- Participatory approaches are prominent which helps address some of the issues farmers are facing and creating a lot of interaction.
- The case study of grasslands helped link actors with local authorities. It needs to also include the role of women (gender balance). Moreover, it engaged multiple crops and food production systems and presented outcomes from multiple levels. It is important to increase production while considering the environment. It was only evaluated at a research level, so is it feasible to be up-scaled?
- Most of the activities shared are at early stage, so time is needed to really deliver outcomes.
- Gender equality was not mentioned much in the case studies while most of them cover market access and market development. It is important that women can be involved in such livestock-based solutions.
- There seems to be a big missing impact on gender equity on the farm and in the value chain. There are two potential explanations: women are not involved in social and business networks; or women’s engagement in value chain is limited.
- The case study of African sustainable livestock needs to move dialogue with different stakeholders and involve private sector and civil society more.
- We find a lot of good case studies, but they miss the link with private sector. Political recommendations did not come up with business solutions and gender development activities.
- Weaknesses were observed in building partnerships among stakeholders. There’s a danger to overlook what already exists.
- Coordinating at high level network is good. Connecting with smallholders is important.
- Case stories demonstrate good quality of livestock activities. Social networks combined with policy with participation of civil society is important.
- Need to develop incentive policy framework, financial framework with environment services.

On livestock-based solutions:
- 5 out of 7 posters were addressing SDG 2 (Zero hunger). Some projects look at scenarios. What is missing is how to upscale these. Note that increasing production is not enough to eliminate poverty or improve nutrition.
- Gender balance should be considered more in involving women’s roles in livestock-based solutions.
- Action plans should include all stakeholders at early stages to make objectives more realistic and achievable.
Regional policy forum: Livestock-based solutions for sustainable development in Africa

In 2015, the African Union launched the Livestock Development Strategy for Africa (2015–2035) with a goal to transform the African livestock sector to enhance its contributions to socio-economic development and equitable growth. One year later, the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition of the Committee on World Food Security released a report on sustainable agricultural development for food security and nutrition: what roles for livestock? It focused on the livestock sector because of its central role in food systems’ development and its potential to contribute to sustainable agricultural development as a whole.

Moderated by Brian Perry, this session brought together senior livestock policy makers, private sector players and farmer representatives to explore key policy issues influencing the sustainable development of the livestock sector and its contribution to national economic and development ambitions. The forum also explored how to move from a broad livestock strategy to priorities and investments for livestock and the roles of different stakeholders in this.

Introductory presentations

- High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition global report “Sustainable agricultural development for food security and nutrition; what roles for livestock?” – Amadou Allahoury Diallo, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Representative to Ethiopia. Presentation
- The Livestock Development Strategy for Africa: Why it matters – Bruce Mukanda, Senior Programs and Projects Officer, African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources. Presentation

Panel discussion with audience participation

- Amadou Diallo, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Representative to Ethiopia.
- Bruce Mukanda, Senior Programs and Projects Officer, Africa Union-Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources
- Emma Naluyima, Farmer, Uganda
- Samuel Chief Ankama, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources, Namibia
- Thomas Cherenet, Senior Policy and Research Advisor to the State Minister for Livestock and Fisheries, Ethiopia.
- Wayne Gaskell, Director of Operations for Ethiopia, Frigorifico Boran Foods PLC

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2 Brian Perry, a British citizen, is an international development scientist, a veterinary surgeon by profession and a veterinary epidemiologist by specialization. He holds academic positions of Honorary Professor at the College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine, University of Edinburgh, UK, and Visiting Professor of Tropical Veterinary Medicine at the University of Oxford, UK. He chairs the Scientific Advisory Board of Afrique One, a Wellcome Trust funded African Research Consortium for Ecosystem and Population Health comprising 11 universities and research institutes. He leads global, regional and national independent evaluations of public funding investments in agricultural development and health, and specializes in the roles and impacts of livestock in sustainable development.
One central strand in the panel discussion was triggered by a question from the audience: Why is it that in Africa (and Asia as well), where the centrality of both livestock and women in food production—in national as well as household economies, in food and nutritional security, and in the health and well-being of hundreds of millions of poor people—why is it that both livestock and women have been so badly neglected by governments?

Why didn’t African governments, ministries, organizations and services long ago put livestock and women at the forefront of their agendas? Why isn’t Africa an acknowledged world leader in valuing family livestock farming and women’s work on those farms, and all along the food value chains?

**Panelist responses**

**Emma Naluyima, Uganda Pig Farmer.** ‘A long time ago, women were not educated as girls in school. I am an example of this. If I hadn’t gone to school, I would know few of the things I know now about livestock. But because of my education, I understand many things about livestock. As to why it has taken all these years for governments to even think about livestock? I think it is because a long time ago, the culture valued having something to eat. Now, with the human population growing fast, we food producers are being pushed against the wall. We need to do a lot more with our livestock to feed so many more people. That’s why we have to wake up and work on livestock as well as gender issues. Yes, women a long time ago used to own or look after animals but they didn’t ‘own the money’ their animals generated. So we now have to deal with these two things: livestock and women.’

**Bruce Mukanda, Senior Programs and Projects Officer at the Africa Union-Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources.** ‘The importance of mainstreaming gender is not unique to livestock. This has to be achieved in many sectors. And for a long time it has not been done. It’s only been in the last few years that governments in Africa have realized the importance of women and youth not only in livestock but in all sectors. As to why it has been like that? I think one reason are cultural practices. We come from historical backgrounds. The conditions that existed then and the conditions that exist now have changed greatly. Women are more enlightened now. Women are more involved in leadership. We are not yet at the level that we should be but most countries in Africa are taking steps to get there.’
**Samuel Chief Ankama, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources, Namibia.**

‘Women are involved in livestock rearing and ownership in Namibia, maybe not in the commercial sector. Culturally, there are communities where women have been part and parcel of livestock rearing and ownership. This is particularly true in specific communities where women inherit animals from older generations. Women can own animals, including those animals passed on from one generation to another. They have developed into communal or commercial farmers. They can rear, produce and sell as much animals and animal products as the men.’

**Thomas Cherenet, Senior Policy and Research Advisor to the Minister for Livestock and Fisheries, Ethiopia.** ‘In Ethiopia, livestock have been respected for thousands of years. Livestock here is a big source of income for millions of families. In some cases, families will take sick farm animals to veterinary clinics before they take their sick children to medical clinics—because the animals have to be given more priority. Why has the Ethiopian Government not given higher priority to the livestock sector before now? This regime is different—it is placing high priority on livestock, as the Ethiopian people have always done. This government has taken the step to create a Ministry of Livestock separate from the Ministry of Agriculture. The government is now being straightforward: We have both a Ministry of Livestock and a Ministry of Women.’

**Amadou Diallo, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Representative to Ethiopia.** ‘About why we don’t have ministries of livestock, you will appreciate that the agricultural revolution came before the industrial revolution. And when the industrial revolution came, we began to exploit our mineral resources. Diamonds, gold, oil. Agriculture was neglected, literally. And it has taken us this long to see the need to give food production priority. This is a wake-up call. There will come a time when the oil and diamonds and gold mines will dry up. We need to exploit more renewable resources – agriculture and livestock offer that opportunity.

Yes, it’s true that many countries do not have ministries of livestock. In the post-independence Sahel for instance, the main aim was to achieve food security. And when people spoke about food security, they meant cereals. They focused on how to increase the productivity of cereals. They focused on irrigation for cereal crops. In my country, Niger, there is a division between the pastoral zone and the cropping zone. Those concerned with pastoralists tended to focus on livelihood issues. And the policy makers have better understood (and come from) crop producing areas. Things are changing now. People from pastoral areas are demanding their rights. And there is demand for livestock ministries and a focus on livestock.’
Livestock and the SDGs – the living synthesis

Throughout the meeting, participants were encouraged to document insight and lessons during and after sessions. This ‘living synthesis’ was intended to replicate twitter, within the meeting rooms, offline.

Instead of posting ‘tweets’ online, participants posted ‘bleats’ on walls organized around SDGs and zooming in on results, lessons and opportunities in terms of 1) what worked well, 2) what failed, and 3) what the gaps are. A similar approach was used to track insights on ‘multi-stakeholder value addition’ and ‘solutions.’

By the end of the week, 453 messages related to SDGs had been posted. These were transcribed to excel and roughly clustered by session, SDG focus and message sentiment: was it highlighting a strength (of a tool, case, or experience), a perceived challenge (weakness or threat), or an opportunity (for livestock, for a project, for the Global Agenda).

Bleats by SDG focus

- SDG all: 115
- SDG 1 (no poverty): 42
- SDG 2 (zero hunger): 38
- SDG 3 (good health and well being): 35
- SDG 5 (gender): 30
- SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth): 27
- SDG 12 (responsible consumption and production): 22
- SDG 13 (climate action): 45
- SDG 15 (life on land): 61
- SDG 17 (partnership for the goals): 38
What do the posts tell us? They were a mix of feedback on specific tools and cases and experiences shared as well as reflections on the general themes of the event – multiple benefits and opportunities of livestock and the SDGs. This section gives a flavour of the posts, structured around some headings that emerged³.

**Overall messages**
Most posts addressed a single SDG – some cut across all or several and serve as general insights.

**Strengths and opportunities identified include:**
- We have the evidence of multiple benefits of livestock – but we need the resources to implement at scale;
- This can help to address negative perceptions of animal agriculture that are building.

**Further:**
- We should think of SDGs in terms of clusters because that is how they work; and
- Addressing several SDGs at the same time contributes effectively to eradication of poverty.
- We need to remember that increasing production is not enough on its own to eliminate hunger or improve nutrition.

**We have work to do:**
- We have good tools to measure impact but not to measure the benefits;
- We still need to address the question on the long-term impact of these solutions; and
- There are challenges to translate many of the tools and case experiences into practical results on the ground.

**Indicators, models and data**
All the feedback around the methodology and tools was focused on challenges, areas that need to be improved and addressed. Issues were raised concerning data collection, choice of indicators, gaps, impacts, and issues around coordination and standards.

**Examples are:** Very hard to capture data from pastoral systems; some countries will not have enough base data; indicator measuring is a big challenge; appropriate metrics to measure impacts; ensure gender disaggregated input data; integrate social aspects; different though similar methodologies -

³ See [http://hdl.handle.net/10568/83195](http://hdl.handle.net/10568/83195) for more detail on the living synthesis and the notes captured and shared.
need closer dialogue between 'developers'; good socio-economic tools disconnected from environment; consumer perspective is under represented; should be integrated with other tools.

**Communications, dissemination and uptake**

Many posts zoomed in on the need for tools, models and experiences to be better communicated and shared and implemented at scale.

**Opportunities and strengths observed of existing experiences included:** Tapping into farmer to farmer exchange and learning, including use of mobile phones and working through extension; exchanging good practices among countries; and making tools publicly accessible.

**Challenges identified included:** Sharing information with farmers, lack of awareness, how the study can be scaled up, tools need to be shared with other stakeholders and methods for strengthening them developed, upscaling, applicability to developing country, and how can other countries learn from the project experience, lessons learned etc.

**Multi-stakeholder engagement and partnerships**

This element attracted many posts, highlighting a mix of what multi-stakeholder approaches can deliver (opportunities) as well as strengths and challenges observed in the experiences shared.

**Strengths observed:** Platforms lead to coordination between different stakeholders; collaboration of farmers build resilience; multi-stakeholder approach to achieve results; research, extension and agribusiness work together with farmers to find common outcome; strong partnerships (government / producers / all stakeholders); bringing different partners together allows addressing their different interests and building on their strengths (e.g. knowledge); network allows for bringing knowledge together showing how animal welfare contributes to SDGs - how practice change has been accomplished; tools can be used to engage with the private sector, civil society and development groups to focus their projects; used by policy and industry to intersect; value chain approach that engages farmers.

**Challenges observed include:** difficulty of working with the various stakeholders; mobilizing engagement; tiring to coordinate partners to realise ownership; needs more dialogue with different stakeholders; coordination is missing (between government and partners); food industry needs to be brought in. But momentum and resources are needed.

**Livestock-based impacts**

The wider benefits of livestock on different development outcomes were the focus of many posts.

**Opportunities from livestock included:** Enhancing the resilience of farmers; environmental integrity for the future; increase family income; great potential for poverty alleviation and reduction, gender gap reduction; optimizing livestock reduces carbon emissions; high potential for nutrition.

**Observed strengths included:** Focus on poorest farmers; focus on diseases of the poor; increasing milk production has led to more income and more education; case studies show increase in productivity and profitability; better income of marginal minorities; people have better income and food.
Livestock-based solutions
Most of the posts were about the various solutions shared. These covered a wide range of issues.

Opportunities included: Combine forest and pasture to ensure feed availability; decrease PPR and other small ruminant disease will increase productivity; increasing forage value will decrease fertilizers use and decrease irrigation; reducing concentrates allows money to be used elsewhere; silvo-pastoralism to increase sustainability and address climate change; AMR very relevant for intensive large livestock farms; exporting animal products instead of live animals would (also) improve animal welfare; extensive systems less in need of antibiotics; identifying losses in value chains will increase efficiency; animal disease a good entry point for farmers; animal welfare equals animal health, equals sustainable livestock; control of transboundary issues opens export opportunities; extensive systems have great environmental potential; improving smallholder access to markets addresses SDGs 1,2,5,8,12; simple improvements to herd management, feed, manure can increase milk and meat production and decrease GHG emissions;

Observed strengths included: Better offtake and market supply through multi-stakeholder platforms; grasslands can mitigate GHG through carbon sequestration; institutional partners shifting focus from production alone to include nutrition; education element to raise awareness on animal welfare; whole herd approach to disease management.

Challenges include: Livestock movement in pastoralist areas; linkages between farmers and market still low; SDG 1 (no poverty); providing opportunities beyond productive level; sustainability of restored communal grasslands. How to share the communal resources?; increasing number competitors for the same feed resource; resistance by some groups because for land ownership; determine the best combination tree-forage crops for better soil sequestration?; Need holistic approach for better livelihood improvement; SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth).

Implementation approaches
Moving from models and tools and cases to actual implementation of promising technical and institutional approaches solutions was the focus of another set of posts. These tended to identify better [technical] practices and choices to achieve better results.

Opportunities and strengths identified included: Develop interactions with nutrition communities; understand and quantify economic multipliers as development occurs; employ incentives that match the diversity of specific situations; move towards technical agents becoming more facilitators - help farmers find right management change; engaging multiple crop and food production systems; using methods that are practical and can be easily implemented.

Challenges included: Recognizing that solutions have to fit within the present; how do you get from assessment to action?; how to deal with long term trends versus short term shocks?; how to achieve benefits on ground level?; tools should be tested in different production systems of livestock; how do we make this both inclusive but also fast enough to meet the 2030 target?; practical application towards climate aspects not obvious; a top down approach. Too soon to see the weaknesses and strengths; so far, there is no direct impact on dairy farmers; limited multiplier effect

Policy process and decisions
Sustainable livestock is increasingly a focus for policy development and several posts were on opportunities in this area as well as strengths observed in the experiences shared.

These included: Forecasting scenarios of alternative livestock, impact on society and recommend policy options; making livestock sector investment friendly: legal, political, economic, logistical) services, value addition, licences/certifications/intellectual property; offering high level advocacy
and attracting investments in the livestock sector; helping decision makers for future scenarios in term of actions that can or cannot improve livestock production; using robust evidence/case studies to show how livestock can provide social development; guiding investment choices.

**Gender and equity**

Many posts suggested opportunities by addressing gender or identified observed strengths and challenges around the role of women in sustainable livestock.

**Opportunities and strengths identified included:** Potential to empower women; gender-based solutions enable bigger impact and production; link to gender to ensure nutrition awareness of animal sourced foods for maternal and infants/children health development; increase women’s participation in market activities which places them in better position to make nutritious decisions; and economic benefits for gender equality; and embedding gender in training.

**Challenges included:** Risk that men may take over control of income; how to increase women's access to knowledge and improve decision making; creating awareness on gender equity; need to identify economic benefits achieved through gender equality.
Synthesis and directions for the Global Agenda

The final morning began with participatory synthesis of lessons and insights by meeting participants. This was followed by reflection from the event organizers and sponsors, and then, an official closing.

Key messages from the closing session

1. Need greater integration of approaches to sustainable livestock development – the integration of different stakeholders, integration of multiple benefits of livestock and their related trade-offs, and the integration of policy, technical and commercial approaches to benefit producers and consumers.
2. Include a broader range of stakeholders and more diverse voices into solution development: farmers, civil society, other private sector actors and non-believers in the benefits of the livestock sector
3. Must translate benefits from tools and models to the ground, across different livestock production contexts

Ethiopia Minister of Agriculture – closing observations

- Simple improvements to herd management, feed, and manure can increase milk and meat production and decrease GHG emissions
- We have evidence of multiple benefits but we need to unlock their potential and implement them at scale
- Improving smallholder access to formal markets has strong potential to contribute to multiple SDGs
- We need to think about the long term impacts of livestock-based solutions – on climate change and on markets
- Social benefits of livestock keeping are often missed out
- Livestock deliver multiple benefits so we need multi-criteria assessments to properly capture these
- Livestock production is often a way of life. Simple intentions to entirely transform to commercial systems is not useful
- Achieving policy and development goals needs broader engagement of actors
- A continental livestock strategy [For Africa] is based on keeping the diversity of livestock farming systems and supporting farmers, first of all smallholder and pastoralists and all actors of the value chain, targeting women and youth.
- Success of adoption relies on the quality of relationships between multiple stakeholders
- There are many tools and approaches to support sustainable livestock development but these need to be collated and made more visible; and accessible ‘on the ground’.
Participant reflections from the meeting

On livestock and the SDGs
• SDG’s are a good convergence for the many stakeholders.
• We have seen the relevance of livestock in SDGs. The meeting has demonstrated this. One key challenge is to bring all this knowledge and experience outside the livestock sector.
• It is critical to highlight livestock roles in food security, nutrition and incomes.

On the tools and cases
• Great to see enthusiasm in presenting case studies; it is still difficult to integrate into specific measures and actions.
• We were exposed to many tools, but their best application is not always clear.
• They offer no single answer to questions on the livestock sector.
• We experienced a rich mix of methodologies; it’s important to stay simple and make explanations easy.

On participation in this meeting
• We are missing out by not looking more at commercial investors to see the benefits of livestock sector investments.
• We hardly heard about extension roles in livestock development.
• What are the interests for a farmer to be in the meeting? There are no SDGs in the farm. We need concrete discussions with farmers.
• The voice of the beneficiaries is lacking; farmers are under-represented.
• Need to increase private sector participation as it is key to making solutions sustainable.
• This is a forum for believers in livestock, we also need to consider ways to engage with the non-believers in livestock.

On the Global Agenda
• The Global Agenda to capitalize and disseminate lessons and insights.
• The Global Agenda as a platform is now mature enough to begin influencing policies. We need to pay attention to policymakers’ demands and what we want them to get from our discussions.
• The Global Agenda enables joined up work with researchers and others; which helps mainstream our impacts.
• People now keen to see what they can do for the Global Agenda.
• The Action Networks of the Global Agenda are highways for impact.
• The Global Agenda is the most comprehensive forum for livestock stakeholders to share and collaborate.
Integration, inclusiveness, policy development and delivery of local solutions

The integration, inclusiveness and the delivery of local solutions to challenges facing the livestock sector were the key themes emerging from the closing session.

Speakers reiterated the need for greater integration of approaches to sustainable livestock development. Acknowledging the ground covered by the Global Agenda since its inception, Eduardo Arce Diaz of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and Global Agenda operations consultant, stressed the need for greater clarity in translating the tools and case studies presented at the meeting into a roadmap for action.

Fritz Schneider (Chair of the Global Agenda) said that ‘we have taken a number of very concrete steps forward. Participants are now asking what they can do for the Global Agenda. This was not the case at the sixth meeting in Panama last year. We have presented many tools, but are still not clear as to their best application’.

Further, ‘many solutions address producers. However, in many of the tools, I missed the interaction with the farmer [and] the livestock keeper. We have made progress but we are not there yet. We need to improve the link from the tool to the farmer via the extension services, or more generally via other service providers. Feedback mechanisms need to be developed for almost all the examples presented’.

François Pythoud (Ambassador of Switzerland to the International Fund for Agricultural Development, FAO and the World Food Programme) highlighted some key opportunities on the horizon for the Global Agenda to make a real policy impact.

‘The Committee on Agriculture (COAG) has asked the FAO to develop a proposal to establish a sub-committee on livestock. This proposal will be discussed at the next Committee on Agriculture in 2018. This is an attempt by the member states of the FAO to raise the visibility of livestock at a global inter-governmental policy level. This is where we need the Global Agenda. The next meeting of COAG will be in September or October next year....”

‘This is a great opportunity for an action network on policymaking with the participation of governments. As the Chair of the Agriculture Committee, I would be very interested in getting feedback from the Global Agenda on the roles and the expectations of a sub-committee on livestock’.
Shirley Tarawali, Assistant Director General, International Livestock Research Institute, said that the theme of integration had prevailed among the discussions of the participants. She called for integration of stakeholders, integration of the multiple benefits of livestock and their related trade-offs, and the integration of policy, technical and commercial approaches to benefit small-scale producers and consumers.

Speakers also cautioned against focusing just on producers.

Both the NGO and Civil Society representatives, Pablo Manzano of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Pablo Frere of Redes Chaco, said the Global Agenda needed to do more to include a broader range of stakeholders.

This sentiment was reiterated by Samuel Thevasagayam, Director of Agricultural Development at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Recognizing the huge progress in establishing what is now, ‘the most comprehensive livestock forum in the world, a place to share, learn and collaborate’, Thevasagayam stressed the importance of including more diverse voices into the Global Agenda: farmers, other private sector actors and non-believers in the benefits of the livestock sector.

While many participants identified and prioritized some tools and case studies as clearly useful in bringing benefits at grassroots levels, others, including farmer representative, Georg Zinsstag, urged the development of concrete actions of the ground, in dialogue with beneficiaries.

The main challenge, underlined by many speakers, was how to translate benefits from the various tools on the ground across different livestock production contexts.
## Annex 1: Program Overview

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<td>Livestock-based solutions: case studies (interactive sessions)</td>
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*Heifer International is a sponsor of the event.*

*ILRI = International Livestock Research Institute.*
Annex 2: Learning tours

On day 3 of the event, participants joined one of several learning tours designed for participants to learn from on-the-ground experiences of translating livestock-based solutions into development impacts at local level. Photo reports from several of the tours are accessible via http://ilri-events.wikispaces.com/gasl2017_products

- North Shoa – Debre Berhan: Smallholder feed production, dairy production, milk collection and processing and research on small ruminants.
- North Shoa – Yaya Gulele: Farmer training centre, smallholder feed production, milk collection and processing.
- Addis Ababa and West Shoa: National Artificial Insemination Centre, Bull dam dairy farm, Holetta Agricultural Research Centre, Sebeta Fisheries Research Centre and National Animal Health Diagnostic Investigation Centre.
- East Shoa – Adami Tulu: Cattle production and fattening for domestic and export, Adami Tulu Agricultural Research Centre.
- East Shoa – Adama: Cattle and camel fattening for domestic and export markets, export Abattoirs, Beza Honey Processing Plant.
- East Shoa – Ada: Public Livestock Institutions, National Veterinary Institute, Debre Zeit Agricultural Research Centre, Ethiopian Meat and Dairy Industry Technology Institute.
- East Shoa – Debre Zeit: Commercial Livestock (dairy and poultry) production, milk processing, organic vegetable production, manure management, linkage with smallholder dairy producers (genesis farms).
- East Shoa – Ada: Commercialization of livestock production, meat processing, feed processing plant and links with smallholder farms through input supply and marketing.
- East Shoa – Ada: Smallholder women apiculturists, Smallholder Dairy Cooperative, smallholder dairy farms (women), milk collection, quality control, milk processing plant.
- Misraq Shewa – Bora: Access to improved feeds by smallholders; Improving poor quality feeds with modern technologies; Engaging rural women in poultry small businesses.