Key messages

Asia and the Pacific is a region of contrasts characterized by rapid economic growth, impressive technological achievements, notable decline in poverty and hunger rates, yet persisting high rates of hunger and malnutrition magnified by growing social inequality. Natural resource scarcity and climate change add additional pressure on the agricultural sector to produce more, reach more and do so with less.

The dairy sector offers unique triple win potential for nutrition, poverty reduction and the environment. The region has a wealth of experiences and there is already much innovation happening by actors striving to address the challenges. If we can connect the dots, draw on these experiences and innovations the sector can make substantial and meaningful contribution to the sustainability challenge.

Livestock-based solutions

Dairy Asia is trying to draw on the experiences and upscale them by facilitating exchange and coordinate action at a regional level to catalyze sustainable development of the Asian dairy sector. Through multi-stakeholder collaboration the partnership is creating this regional public good in support of Zero Hunger ambition.

The overall goal of the partnership is to reduce hunger and malnutrition in Asia through sustainable and inclusive increases in productivity and profitability of dairy farms, while enhancing resilience of dairy systems and protecting ecosystems.

Results and evidence

Coordinated action is already taking place at various levels. Here are some examples of actions catalyzed by Dairy Asia:

- Key partner institutions endorsed as focal points by the dairy sector in each country
- National multi-stakeholder groups established in member countries
- Dairy Asia Sustainability Framework (with explicit linkages and mapping to SDGs) endorsed by member countries and priority working areas mapped for each country
- A technical working group on dairy genetics launched
- Two bilateral collaborative projects initiated
- A set of knowledge products developed
- A partnership established with the Dairy Sustainability Framework

Multiplier effects

Dairy Asia is a truly multi-stakeholder partnership. The focal points in the member countries are representatives of the sector and have been endorsed by the sector in multi-stakeholder meetings. The steering committee comprises representatives of dairy associations, cooperatives, governments, intergovernmental organizations and academia.

Partners

Focal points in our member countries:

- Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock, Government of Afghanistan
- Department of Livestock Services, Government of Bangladesh
- Department of Livestock, Government of Bhutan
- Dairy Association of China
- National Dairy Development Board, India
- Directorate General of Livestock Services, Government of Indonesia
- Food Production Policy Implementation and Coordination Department, Government of Mongolia
- National Dairy Development Board of Myanmar
- National Dairy Development Board, Nepal
- National Dairy Authority, Philippines
- Department of Animal Production and Health, Government of Sri Lanka
- Department of Livestock Development, Government of Thailand
- Vietnam Dairy Association

Knowledge partners and sponsors:

- Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock
- Animal Production and Health Commission for Asia and the Pacific
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- CGIAR Research Program on Livestock and Fish
- Dairy Sustainability Framework
- International Farms Comparison Network
- International Dairy Federation

7th Multi-Stakeholder Partnership Meeting

Achieving multiple benefits through livestock-based solutions, Addis Ababa, 8-12 May 2017