Dublin Communiqué

Livestock sector actions towards more sustainable food systems - a global agenda for sustainable livestock
7 October 2022

1. We, participants in the 12th Multi-Stakeholder Partnership meeting of the Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock (GASL), gathered in Dublin at the invitation of the Government of Ireland, reaffirm our shared commitment to a food systems approach that incorporates the sustainable development of the livestock sector as an essential element.

2. We recognize the multiple ways that sustainable livestock enhances the lives of at least 20% of the world’s population who derive livelihoods and food and nutrition security from livestock; provides affordable and often essential nutrition, offers pathways for women, men and young people to take advantage of economic and social opportunities; and brings solutions to help tackle environmental and public health challenges.

3. We recognize the valuable contribution of the Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock to continuous and open dialogue between local, national, regional and global stakeholders. This supports innovative policy and practice change towards sustainable livestock development—centred around four livestock sustainability domains: food and nutrition security, animal health and animal welfare (including One Health), livelihoods and economic growth, and climate and natural resource use, while taking into consideration context and regional specificities.

4. We reaffirm commitments of the Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock to the United Nations Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development and engagement in global development processes, such as the United Nations Food Systems Summit, Committees of Parties highlighting the special role that livestock can play for people, planet and prosperity.

5. We recognize the critical importance of robust and trustworthy data and evidence, as well as their excellent communication, to guide and inform dialogue as well as policy and practice changes towards more sustainable livestock systems.

Based on deliberations at the 12th Multi-Stakeholder Partnership meeting, stakeholders commit to:

6. Extend access to balanced, nutritious and sustainable diets including the choice of healthy livestock-derived foods that contribute to food and nutrition security.
7. Promote the application of fair, inclusive and equitable livestock business models and opportunities that contribute to economic growth, sustain livelihoods and grow employment for women, men and youth, leaving no-one behind.

8. Foster production, management and stewardship of livestock and their products to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, in particular methane, given their impact on global warming.

9. Enhance soil health, above and below ground carbon sequestration and biodiversity in livestock systems, improving sustainable water use and delivering climate adaptation co-benefits for a healthier planet.

10. Promote animal health and welfare globally including the One Health approach.

11. Work in partnership with GASL partners and other stakeholders to achieve our common food system goals, including collaboration and reporting with the recently established Sub-Committee on Livestock of the FAO Committee on Agriculture according to the mandate of FAO’s Member States.

12. Contribute to a nuanced and science-based debate that recognizes importance and diversity of livestock- based solutions required for sustainable development, taking into account all available sources of valid knowledge.