



GLOBAL AGENDA OF ACTION

IN SUPPORT OF SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

VIABLE SOLUTIONS WITHIN REACH

JOINING FORCES TO IMPROVE PRACTICE

Realizing that the sector's challenges and opportunities require urgent and collective action, sector stakeholders have formed a partnership to build a Global Agenda of Action to support the sector's sustainable development.

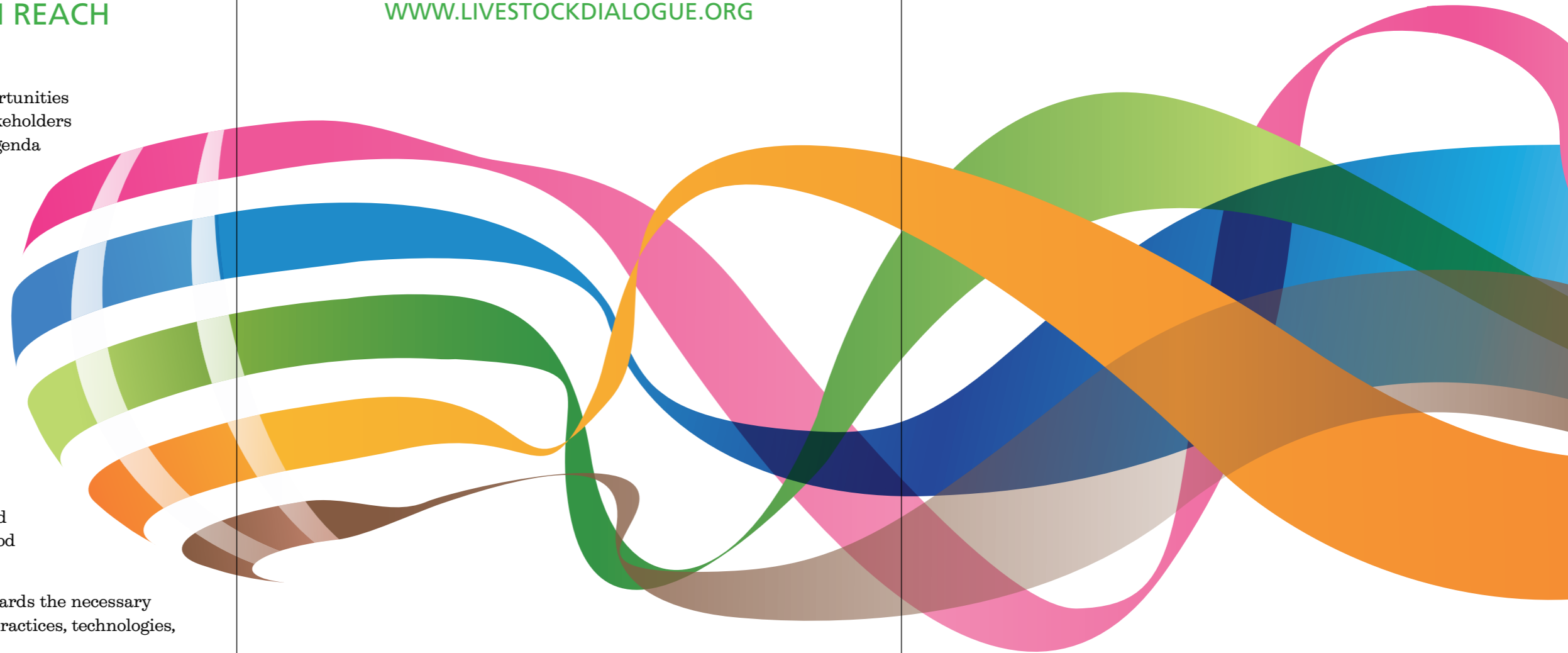
The partnership brings together public and private sector representatives, producers, research and academic institutions, civil society and NGOs and inter-governmental organizations.

MORE EFFICIENT USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES

The partnership's objective is to continuously improve the sector's use of natural resources in order to reduce greenhouse gas emission and pollution, and to enhance its contribution to food security and poverty reduction.

The partnership guides stakeholder action towards the necessary changes in institutional frameworks, policies, practices, technologies, and supporting investments.

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together for change

SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK

for people, for the planet

UNPRECEDENTED CHALLENGES

RECONCILING DEMAND GROWTH WITH FINITE NATURAL RESOURCES...

In decades to come, the demand for livestock products is expected to grow significantly driven by rising affluence, urbanization, and an increasing global population estimated to reach 9.3 billion by 2050. Consumption of food from livestock is projected to increase by about 70 percent during the period.

This growth in demand is happening as concerns about scarce natural resources and climate change are increasing. Land, water and nutrients, for example, are under strain.

The sector is an important user of such resources and contributor to greenhouse gas emissions and pollution of water and air.

The livestock sector thus needs to adapt to resource scarcity and climate change, whilst contributing to their mitigation and reducing its environmental impact.

...WHILE CONTRIBUTING TO ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Demand growth also presents opportunities for economic and social development in many countries that should not be missed: more than 750 million people depend on the livestock sector for survival and income.

FOCUS ON THEMES WITH A HIGH POTENTIAL FOR CHANGE

INITIALLY, THE AGENDA FOCUSES ON THREE AREAS WHERE THERE ARE LARGE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC GAINS.

1 CLOSING THE EFFICIENCY GAP

By changing production practices, we make better use of natural resources and enhance food security.

A large number of the world's producers rely on practices that are inefficient in their use of natural resources. The wider application of proven but not yet widely used technologies can generate large production and efficiency gains as well as environmental benefits.

Agenda partners will develop public-private and other forms of partnership to transfer and adapt resource use efficient technologies.

2 RESTORING VALUE TO GRASSLAND

By improving land management, we enhance livelihoods and environmental services.

The current widespread neglect of grasslands results in a high incidence of poverty in many marginal areas, but also in low productivity of land and livestock, and widespread degradation of land, water and biodiversity resources. Appropriately managed grazing land and supportive institutional and policy frameworks can provide large benefits in the form of carbon sequestration, protection of water services and biodiversity, but also enhance productivity and livelihoods.

Agenda partners will explore and promote the financial and institutional innovation required for the delivery of grassland-related ecosystem services.

3 WASTE TO WORTH

By recovering energy and nutrients from animal manure, we protect the environment.

The management of livestock manure has become increasingly important to reduce the environmental impact of intensive and confined pig and dairy production systems. Recovering nutrients and energy contained in animal manure will not only stop pollution but also improve public health. Recycled nutrients help soil fertility and substitute for mineral fertilizer. Recovered energy reduces greenhouse gas emissions and substitutes fossil fuel.

Agenda partners will develop planning tools and regulatory and incentive frameworks to support viable manure management and create opportunities for recycling.

SHARE KNOWLEDGE, DEVELOP ENABLING ENVIRONMENTS

TO INFORM, GUIDE AND CATALYZE PRACTICE CHANGE, THE PARTNERSHIP HAS COMMITTED TO EMBARK ON THE FOLLOWING JOINT ACTIVITIES:

CONSULT AND NETWORK:

- Share knowledge on technology, best practices, policies and institutional environments
- Build consensus on priority issues and actions

ANALYZE AND INFORM

- Conduct analysis for joint understanding on resource use issues
- Develop harmonized metrics and methodologies

GUIDE AND PILOT

- Support innovation and investment in sustainable sector development
- Develop voluntary guidelines
- Make strategic sector recommendations