Towards a Sustainable Livestock Sector

FROM VISION TO ACTION

H Steinfeld, FAO
From Brasilia to Phuket
The Brasilia Consensus

- Agreed on an initial focus: livestock’s natural resource use – social and health aspects to be incorporated
- Agreed on the nature of the agenda: open, consensual, action-oriented, multi-stakeholder
- Agreed on the functions of the agenda: analysis, information, capacity building, piloting, advocacy
Towards a Phuket Roadmap

- Thematic areas need to be identified, boundaries drawn and broad objectives set
- Stakeholders contributions and actions, collectively and separately
- Rules of engagement, form of management and oversight
- Next steps towards the launch of the agenda of action
Livestock use/contribute
- 26 % of all land for pasture
- 35 % of all arable land for feed
- 58 % of anthrop. biomass appropriation for food
- 8 % of all freshwater
- important share of climate gas emissions
- 13 % of all dietary energy
- 25 % of all dietary protein
- 1.5 % of world GDP
- livelihood component to 1 billion people
...and the challenge we face

- By 2050, 30 % more people
- 70 to 80 % more meat, milk and eggs
- Peak oil, peak land, peak phosphorus, peak water, etc
- Even if no peak, natural resources are rapidly becoming more expensive

- How to accommodate demand growth within a context of growing resource scarcity?
what this means

- making livestock more sustainable is both important and urgent: action is needed
- “blame games” aren’t helpful: we need a constructive dialogue to build consensus
- Resource use efficiency indicates the direction of change
A proposed “theory of change”
....it's doesn't get simpler than this:

- Human-made inputs
- Natural resource inputs
- Production
- Maintenance
- Desired outputs
- Undesired outputs

livestock
...it's doesn't get simpler than this

Labor, capital, technology

- Human-made inputs
  - Often overpriced

- Natural resource inputs
  - Land, water, nutrients
  - Often underpriced

livestock

production

maintenance

Desired outputs

Food, manure, services

Undesired outputs

Gas, waste

Underpriced, un-priced
About efficiency:

- Human-made inputs
- Natural resource inputs
- Desired outputs
- Undesired outputs

Production and maintenance of livestock lead to outputs, with resources as inputs.
....about natural resource use efficiency
How to accelerate efficiency growth?

- Concept of “induced innovation” - relative scarcities drive technology

- Requires:
  - Enhanced generation and flow of knowledge
  - Responsive markets
  - Supporting policies and institutions

- Targeting
  - Where are the biggest efficiency gaps?
  - Where does “closing gaps” bring large social benefits?
Restoring the value of grasslands

**Human-made inputs**
Induces different input use
Enhances the stock of natural resources

**Natural resource inputs**

**Production**
Redefines the purpose

**Maintenance**

**Desired outputs**
+ priced environmental services

**Undesired outputs**
How to give value to grasslands?

- Develop a “business case” for grasslands – multiple, global and local, environmental services
- Develop markets for these services (UNFCC, REDD, local markets)
- Develop forms of benefit sharing
- Piloting of promising approaches (proof of concept)
- Mainstream and upscale
....reduced discharge

- Human-made inputs
- Natural resource inputs
- Production
- Maintenance
- Desired outputs
- Undesired outputs

Induces recycling of nutrients/energy in waste

Priced/regulated environmental damage
How to reduce discharge?

- Develop Markets
  - Create opportunities for nutrient recycling (location)
  - Create opportunities for energy recovery (biogas energy into grid, incentives)
- R&D into waste treatment and application
- Voluntary and non-voluntary obligations (discharge standards)
Translating the theory into a programme
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Global Goal</th>
<th>Green Growth, with social and health benefits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Objectives</td>
<td>Close the efficiency gap</td>
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<td>Restore value to grassland</td>
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<td>Move towards zero discharge</td>
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<td>Outcomes</td>
<td>Change of practices, e.g.:</td>
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<td>• By producers (technology adoption, investments)</td>
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<td>• By markets (rewarding environmental outcomes)</td>
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<td>• By public policies (regulatory frameworks, investments, incentives, R&amp;D)</td>
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<td>Products</td>
<td>What can be delivered by the partners of the agenda, for example:</td>
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<td>• “best practices” for natural resource management</td>
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<td>• Design of soil carbon trading schemes</td>
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<td>• Policy options to reduce nutrient surpluses</td>
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<td>Activities</td>
<td>Information, assessments, R&amp;D, capacity building, piloting, awareness building – by different stakeholders, based on comparative advantage</td>
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Different stakeholders are good at different things

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<tr>
<th>stakeholder</th>
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A tentative structure for the Agenda of Action
FAO and CoAG

- CoAG asked FAO to consult broadly with stakeholders on issues that may require inter-governmental attention.
- FAO will report back in May 2012 and seek approval of:
  - Multi-stakeholder engagement
  - Thematic focus to be on natural resources and action programmes
  - Future role of CoAG in this process
Moving to a New Narrative

- The livestock sector will grow but that growth will need to be “green”
- The livestock sector offers great opportunities for better resource management and development
- Social and health objectives can be aligned
- We can do this jointly – collective action
Thank you