Civil Society
AOA Work Group
Civil Society Value – What we add to AOA

• Critical Voice to raise issues and help AOA understand importance of certain issues e.g. biodiversity and social sustainability
• Technical Expertise – environmental issues, multi-stakeholder approaches & community based engagement etc.
• Research Partnerships – field based pilot projects at local level
• Relationships with Roundtables, Standards & Certification programs & niche markets that tie to the private sector that creates bridges, provides funding streams & legitimacy
Action #1

What is required (Actions, Mechanisms, Institutions, etc.) to achieve the purpose of the thematic area?

• More data – wider perspective e.g. milk from other species
• Better data on current local production systems & their comparative efficiencies – Needs to be done before gaps can be understood and recommendations made
• Appropriate/better measures of efficiency – Define efficiency criteria
• Grazing thematic area – broaden scope beyond carbon to include eco-systems services & social factors
• Greater political will to provide funds & mechanisms that serve livestock producers (PES- Payment for Eco-system Services)
• Knowledge management
Actions #2.
Which of the elements that are required are already in place?

- Ability to analyze closed systems
- General increased awareness of the role of grazing toward carbon sequestration
Actions #3
Where are the gaps?

- Ability to analyze open production systems
- Better Science & knowledge of comparative nutritional value of livestock products including dietary and environmental implications
- Institutional mechanism for payment for eco-system services – pilot projects
- Small farmer environmental impacts
Actions #4
Where can the actions of AOA be focused to fill existing gaps?

• Research on wider range of species and feeds, beyond ‘industrial’ feeds, i.e. feeds used by smallholders
• Lobby for institutional mechanisms for payment of ecosystems services (PES)
• Value of livestock species toward ecosystems services
• Demand more NGO participation – Civil Society stakeholder group provide insight on which NGO’s to engage
• Understanding of existing initiatives to avoid duplication
• Provide information platforms, databases etc. (who’s doing what & where) – FAO is good at this
• Disaggregate/collect data on all livestock products according to production system
Actions #5
What the Civil Society Stakeholder Group can provide?

• Efficiency – Leverage in field work with small-stakeholder
• Link with local stakeholders:
  • Knowledge transfer – farmer training on improved practices
  • Provide understanding of local systems
  • Partner on farm pilot projects
  • Set-up local payment for ecosystems services projects