APPROACHES TO SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK
- WHAT THE SDGS MEAN FOR LIVESTOCK

Panama, 20-23 June 2016
LIVESTOCK AND THE INTERPLAY OF HUMAN AND NATURAL SYSTEMS

NATURAL SYSTEM

NATURAL RESOURCES
- Land
- Water
- Genetic resources
- Fish
- Nutrients
- Energy

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
- Climate
- Nutrient cycling
- Biodiversity conservation
- Water cycles
- Environmental Health

HUMAN SYSTEM

LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS
- Food
- Feed
- Fiber
- Manure

ECONOMIC and SOCIAL SERVICES
- Growth
- Poverty reduction
- Employment
- Health and nutrition
- Equity
- Cultural Values
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SDG#2: Zero Hunger
- Livestock provide food
- Inputs to cropping (fertilizer, traction)
- Income
- Food-feed competition
SDG#1: No poverty
Many rural poor rely on livestock.
Poverty can be reduced by:
- securing livestock assets,
- improving productivity,
- market participation by the poor.
Livestock foods provide:
- high value proteins
- essential micro-nutrients

Threats: zoonoses and food safety risks; AMR

SDG#3: Good Health and Well Being
Livestock Systems

NATURAL SYSTEM

HUMAN SYSTEM

SDG#4: Quality Education

- healthy diet is key to learning capacities (school milk programs).
- Livestock provides income which supports education.
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SDG#5: Gender Equality
- Majority of poor livestock keepers are women (especially with small ruminants and poultry)
- Women have less access to resources (land and capital)
SDG#10: Reduced inequalities

• Livestock are a source of income and employment provide market participation to poor rural households
• Market concentration
• Marginalization of smallholders and pastoralists
Livestock Systems

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SDG#16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions:

Conflicts over access to land and water (e.g. drylands)
SDG#6: Clean Water and Sanitation:
- Role of livestock (pasture) in water cycles
- Livestock use large amount of water.
- Water pollution (nutrients, pathogens)
SDG#7: Affordable and Clean Energy
- Livestock are an energy sink and source
- Recycling animal manure (e.g. biogas) provides an alternative to fossil fuels or wood
Livestock Systems

NATURAL SYSTEM

SDG#13: Climate Action
- Large exposure of livestock keepers to climate change
- Important source of emissions
- Large potential to mitigate
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SDG#14: Life below water
• Fishmeal as animal feed
• Nutrient discharge causes eutrophication and hypoxic water conditions
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SDG# 15: Life on Land
• User of land user (pastures and feed crops) and impacts on habitats/biodiversity
• Driver of land use change
• Pollution
• Source of genetic diversity
SDG#8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
• Source of growth (40% of agricultural GDP and growing), often in areas with little options
• Economic gains can be widespread
• High rate of child labour and occupational hazards
SDG#9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure:
Dichotomy in the livestock sector:
• Advanced, high innovation and full economic integration
• Conventional/customary, stagnation and threatened by marginalization (often remote)
SDG#11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
Cities are the main demand driver for livestock, but rural-urban linkages are weak.
Many people in cities in developing countries keep livestock – good for food security but pollution and hygiene problems
SDG#12: Responsible Consumption and Production

- Overconsumption: health and environmental consequences
- Food waste & losses along livestock supply chains
- Livestock as a user of waste
“A successful sustainable development agenda requires partnerships between governments, the private sector and civil society. These inclusive partnerships built upon principles and values, a shared vision, and shared goals that place people and the planet at the centre, are needed at the global, regional, national and local level.”
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Livestock Systems

1. No poverty
2. Zero hunger
3. Good health and well-being
4. Quality education
5. Gender equality
6. Clean water and sanitation
7. Affordable and clean energy
8. Decent work and economic growth
9. Industry, innovation and infrastructure
10. Reduced inequalities
11. Sustainable cities and communities
12. Responsible consumption and production
13. Climate action
14. Life on land
15. Life below water
16. Peace, justice and strong institutions
17. Partnerships for the goals
There are multiple objectives

• Competing (trade-offs)
• Mutually supportive (synergies)
• Over different scales (local, country, global)
• Over different time frames

Conditions set by external drivers

Livestock within agriculture and the economy/environmental change
What does this tell us?

**Multiple Actors play different roles**

- Where is the common denominator?
- Asymmetries in access to information and representation
- Success depends on agreement and joint action
- Inclusion is required at all levels
- Awareness and incentives for behavioural change
What does this tell us?

We need new tools:

• For integrated assessment of issues, objectives and livestock’s role
• For stakeholder engagement
• For innovation – knowledge generation and application
• For practice change
When it comes to livestock and the SDGs...

Livestock’s complexity turns into an advantage
- Many linkages – blanket statements do not hold
- Large potential for improvement with widespread benefits
- Proof through concrete examples
- Willingness to act
Thank you