Synthesis of the 12th GASL MSP meeting, Ireland

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Synthesis process

**Regional meetings**
- Achievements
- Challenges
- Priority actions
- ‘Solutions’ to share
- Youth challenges

**Day 1 – challenging livestock contexts**
- Food system challenges for livestock sectors
- Livestock sector actions for sustainable food systems
- Food system opportunities for youth through livestock sector

**Day 2 – region contexts**
- Region challenges, actions, commitments, and ‘solutions’
- Action network meetings
- Parallel sessions
- Guinness Storehouse

**Day 3 – learning & inspiration**
- Field visits – insights for actions

**Day 4 – policy priorities**
- Policy forum – research and policy priorities for sustainable livestock
- Action network priority actions on sustainable livestock
- Parallel sessions
- Conference dinner

**Day 5 – synthesis & commitments**
- Key insights and messages
- Commitments
- Declaration

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**THE CHEMISTRY OF WHISKY**

1. **Preparation**
   - Grain barley added and ground until it reaches

2. **Mashing**
   - Water added to the grains and gently warmed

3. **Fermenting**
   - Yeast added, and fermenting sugars into alcohol

4. **Distilling**
   - Alcohol separated and collected, reduced to the correct purity

5. **Aging**
   - Alcohol from distillation is stored in oak casks for several years

6. **Bottling**
   - After maturation, the whisky is bottled and ready for consumption
GASL principles

• Open and voluntary, no fees
• Inclusive and consensual
• Change oriented
• Evidence and knowledge based
• Respect the diversity of views
• Aligned with the SDGs, under the umbrella of 4 sustainability domains
Day 1 Setting the scene: official opening

- Shirley Tarawali - GASL Chair
- Thanawat Tiensin - Animal Production and Health Division, FAO
- Brendan Gleeson - Ireland Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
- Tom Arnold - Ireland’s Special Envoy on Food Systems
- David Kennedy - Bord Bia
- Alice Stanton - Royal College of Surgeons
Day 1 Setting the scene: official opening

- **Multi-stakeholder partnerships** are crucial to work across the complex food system
- **Political priority** given to food and nutrition security must increase at national, regional and international level
- Gaps between suppliers and buyers to meet sustainability goals = **huge opportunity**!
- Need to **share best practices** globally
- Crucial need for **facts, evidence-based, unbiased information/results**
- Ways to communicate better fact-based information
Session 2 Challenging livestock: global actions for sustainable food systems

- Jessica Fanzo, John Hopkins University
  - EAT Lancet report shed light on inequities
  - Some countries need to take more action than others

- 4 Challengers
  - Food system governance and agency (e.g. meat grown lab)
  - Gender lens: no binary approach, focus on relationships in actions, agency, responsibilities, etc.
  - Big challenges for developing countries to cope with challenges, e.g. double/triple burdens of malnutrition

- 4 Respondents
  - Always consider 3 dimensions of sustainability
  - Tackle food waste issue more thoroughly
  - Efficiency increase needed
  - Work together across the sector
  - Inclusiveness, equity, supply chain governance
  - Upscale best practices
  - Solutions need to be differentiated, no fit for all
Questions to the next generation

More and better opportunities for youth in livestock agriculture: what are they and how do we make them happen?

Including and enhancing youth voices and priorities in livestock agriculture: what is needed and how can we achieve it?

Sustainable livestock systems: my next generation priorities for 2040 and how can we achieve them?
Views from the next generation

Paul, Sarin, Jacob, Helena,
Mitchell, Kari, MacKenzie, Liam,
Gleise, Katie, Leslie, Logan

Livestock can be the solution!
✓ Passion
✓ Voicing platforms
✓ Respect
✓ Financial instruments
✓ Policies for youth
Day 2 Regional consultations (participants/registered)
## Day 2 Regional consultations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Solution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oceania</td>
<td>Technology <em>(is beer the solution?)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>North America</td>
<td>Sector-wide programs, knowledge and technologies, encourage and incentivize enterprising young people</td>
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<tr>
<td>Latin America and the Caribbean</td>
<td>Scientific sound decisions, silvopastoral systems and better grasslands management</td>
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<tr>
<td>East and Southeast Asia</td>
<td>Build up and adopt “Greater Food” approach (precisely deliver food to consumers, optimise use of natural resources, curbing food waste)</td>
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<td>South Asia</td>
<td>Youth groups of pastoralists are trying to find local answers to problems. Young entrepreneurs promote animal welfare products.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>Dairy value chain supporting smallholders pastoral systems <em>(e.g. laiterie du berger)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Eastern Europe and Central Asia</td>
<td>Find the right balance between Efficient &amp; Resilient, Traditional &amp; Modern, Profitable &amp; Environment-friendly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Western Europe</td>
<td>Solutions for farmers need to be regionally anchored, economically viable, simple, efficient, operational. No blue-print approach.</td>
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Day 2 Regional consultations

• Opportunity to **scale-out GASL’s activities** & expand its reach

• Every region has **its specific challenges**: food safety, food security, animal welfare, AMR issues, livestock numbers, production costs, emerging diseases **BUT the same stressors, climate change & the environmental crisis**

• Every region has its **tailor-made solutions**: locally adapted technologies, new technologies, global sustainability programmes, etc.

• Need to give more space, voice, trust and means to the **next generation**

• No fit-all solution
Day 3 Field trips

• Different pathways of adoption of technologies and innovations

• A technology can be mainstreamed in one country and new in another one (e.g. inclusion of clover, EBI, protected urea, slurry spreaders, GreenFeed, etc.)

• Technologies, systems adapted to the local context: e.g. Spring calving)
Three series of parallel technical sessions, 16 in total

- International Finance Corporation (IFC): practices for sustainable investment in livestock areas
- Building a social platform for livestock

- Foods of pastoral communities
- Pastoralism as sustainable food system: examples from Europe
- Dairy Asia: action network of GASL to the dairy sector in the Asia and Pacific

- The case for investment in animal health towards One health
- One health investment in livestock
- Understanding the prevalence and impacts of zoonotic disease among small scale dairy holdings; the journey towards a reliable dairy supply chain while mitigating risks to public health in Malawi

- Global Livestock Environmental Assessment (GLEAM) Dashboard
- Boosting carbon initiatives in livestock farm
- Addressing the supply and demand of environmental impact data to empower livestock development
Technical parallel solutions with crosscutting or overarching themes

- Assess and recognise **multi-functionality of grazing systems** for practice change and public action towards contribution of livestock sector to sustainable systems.

- Farming the future how Swedish beef and dairy farming can **meet climate targets and contribute to a sustainable food and energy system** towards 2050.

- Global Roundtable for Sustainable beef **sustainability goals in action**.

- The role of **science based advocacy to grow financial and policy support** for sustainable livestock systems in LMCs.

- The **wider economic, social and environmental effects** of reducing emissions in the dairy sector under different policy scenarios.
Day 4 Policy forum

Introduction by Shirley Tarawali – GASL Chair and Thanawat Tiensin – Animal Production and Health Division, FAO

Key note speeches
- Martin Heydon – Minister of State, Ireland’s Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
- Carlos Cherniak – Permanent Representative of Argentinia to the UN FAO and Chair of the Sub-Committee on Livestock, COAG
- Lawrence Shalloo – Head Animal and Grassland Research and Innovation Programme, Teagasc

Panel, moderated by Bill Callanan, Chief Inspector, Ireland’s department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
- Carlos Cherniak – Permanent Representative of Argentinia to the UN FAO and Chair of the Sub-Committee on Livestock, COAG
- Marcelo Gonzales, Deputy Minister for Livestock, Paraguay
- Frank O’Mara – Director Teagasc
- Zoe Kavanagh, National Dairy Council, Ireland

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Policy forum

• Take control of the narrative
• Livestock is part of the solution
• Farmers are doers and have always adapted their practices!
• Need to highlight research & technologies used by farmers towards sustainability: huge progress done, still many to come (e.g. C-soil measurement)
• Data, metrics are crucial to move forward
• Opportunity to learn from other sectors (e.g. energy industry)
• Opportunity and need for a robust articulation between FAO COAG sub-committee on livestock & GASL
Policy panel

- **Consumers’ behaviour:** in Ireland there is a readiness to pay for more sustainability if it is shown
- **Earn concerned citizens’ trust**
  - **Technology:**
    - Some technologies available and under adoption (breeding, methane measurement, etc.)
    - Some technologies still under research and testing (e.g. soil C-sequestration, genetics for low methane animals).
    - Transfer of technologies to other countries: capacities, resources are needed!
- **Balanced approach to the problem:** whatever is done, all 3 pillars of sustainability need to be taken into consideration!
**Day 4 Action networks**

- Diversity of contexts, species, agro-ecological zones
- All steps from research to actions/implementation: investigations -> case studies -> models -> validation -> publications -> restitution to beneficiaries -> initiatives (e.g. Yak association)
- Enhancement of accuracy transparency, comparability, consistency of methods
- Collaboration across action networks (e.g. Animal welfare & LAMP)
- Collaboration with Clusters (e.g. A&R through editorial board committee)
  - Some overlap between Silvopastoral systems and Closing the Efficiency gap
  - Lack of diversity of livestock systems represented (-> invisibility of some livestock keepers & species)

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**Livestock Sector Actions Towards More Sustainable Food Systems**

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Conclusions: where are we good, where can we be better?

✓ GASL acknowledged and respected

✓ Wide range of activities (e.g. AN’s activities, regional consultations, clusters’ support)

✓ Great progress in being more inclusive & representative (e.g. young generation, farmers), but efforts need to be continued (gender, consumers, systems, livestock species)

- So far, defensive stance in face of “adverse weather”
- Too much focus on the environmental pillar of the sustainability
- Not enough focus on impact of climate change on livestock
Next steps

• Move from defensive to offensive: take control of the narrative!
• Bring balance into polarized debate, also highlight positive facts!
• Communicate progress based on scientific evidence
• Continue providing robust evidence
• Bring better balance between the 3 sustainability pillars
• Make invisible livestock keepers and “neglected” species visible
• Better show synergies between livestock and crops in the food system
• Consider involving more stakeholders in future (e.g. Agtech, consumers)
• Strengthen synergies with other stakeholders, such as COAG sub-committee on livestock
Thank you