



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

GLOBAL ONLINE WEBINAR SERIES

RESEARCH FOR AGRICULTURAL
SOLUTIONS TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE

Current and future livestock systems in Asia and the Pacific

MONDAY, 5 OCTOBER 2020



*Taking a closer look at technical issues
identified during the Koronivia Joint Work
on Agriculture workshops*

KEY MESSAGES

- **Livestock systems are crucial for food security and livelihoods, and support the resilience of hundreds of millions of people across the world.**
- At the same time, **livestock systems are a major contributor to anthropogenic greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions**, accounting for some **14.5 percent of the total**.
- Thanks to the diversity of livestock systems across countries and regions, **the livestock sector is rather flexible for mitigation and adaptation interventions**, with numerous opportunities for improvement and **significant potential for mitigation of climate change**.
- **Many countries are already elaborating and implementing strategies to maintain or develop their livestock sectors**, while adapting to the impacts of climate change and limiting their GHG emissions.
- **Encouraging exchanges among countries or regions is important** to support them in their efforts towards more sustainable and resilient livestock systems.
- In spite of the urgent need for an enabling environment and climate finance, **some cost-effective solutions for sustainability of livestock systems already exist, such as circular bioeconomy strategies**.

SHORT SUMMARY

Livestock systems contribute significantly to food security and livelihoods and support the resilience of hundreds of millions of people across the world including some of the world's poorest. At the same time livestock are major contributors to anthropogenic GHG emissions, accounting for some 14.5 percent of the total. When analyzing the global trends for GHG emissions in the livestock sector in Asia and the Pacific, it appears that most emissions are concentrated in India, China, New Zealand and Australia. In addition, while livestock contributes to one third of global nitrogen emissions, Asia and the Pacific (excluding Russia) represents 68 percent of this total.

A growing population, increasing incomes and urbanization have contributed to the growth of the livestock sector and increased pressure on our planetary boundaries. A series of targeted actions have been recommended: **(1) Boosting efficiency of livestock production and resource use; (2) Intensifying recycling efforts and minimizing losses for a circular bio-economy; (3) Capitalizing on nature-based solutions to ramp up carbon offsets; (4) Striving for healthy, sustainable diets and accounting for protein alternatives; (5) Developing policy measures to drive change.** For example, coupling livestock, crop and energy production of a dairy farm can produce milk, meat and energy in a sustainable way.

Four countries shared their experiences:

- New Zealand detailed its policies (Fit for a Better World roadmap, Zero Carbon Act) and its support for research and international collaboration on mitigation in the livestock sector.
- Fiji highlighted its five-year agriculture strategic development plan, as well as the challenges faced in guaranteeing sufficient support for sectoral development and food security, while limiting GHG emissions.
- Vietnam presented its sectoral trends in terms of growth and concentration, its Nationally Determined Contributions and action plan, and its strategy to identify options for farmers, as well as the challenges in capacity and resource mobilization.
- Japan presented its strategy and technology for measuring emissions from manure treatment systems, and the results in emission reduction following the on-farm introduction of the technology coupled with the implementation of a low-protein diet supplemented with certain amino acids, which effectively reduces nitrous oxide (N₂O) from manure treatment.

WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

1. Understand the different livestock systems, including their economic, social and nutritional importance, and their challenges regarding emissions of GHG;
2. share the latest technical developments and country experiences in formulating future plans through dialogue between researchers, farmers, private companies, policy makers, civil society organizations etc.; and
3. identify areas where further research is necessary to enable farmers, especially in developing countries, to implement improved livestock systems according to the national circumstances.

EVENT OUTLINE

Moderated by Mr. Timothy Robinson, Senior Policy Officer, FAO

TIME	PROGRAMME	SPEAKER
9:00 – 9:05	Welcoming remarks	Ms Akiko Nagano, Deputy Director for Climate Change Negotiations, Environment Policy Office, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), Japan
9:05 – 9:15	Global trends of GHG emissions and other Koronivia topics (nutrient use, soil carbon, water) in the livestock sector	Aimable Uwizeye, Livestock Policy Officer, FAO
9:15 – 10:00	Country experiences	Ms Jessica Anderson, Senior Policy Analyst, International Policy, Ministry for Primary Industries, New Zealand
		Mr Tekini Nakidakida, Koronivia Research Station, Fiji
		Dr Tran Dai Nghia, Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), Vietnam
10:00 – 10:25	Q&A	Dr Takashi Osada, Livestock Research Group, National Agriculture and Food Research Organization (NARO), Japan
10:25 – 10:30	Closing remarks	Mr Timothy Robinson, Senior Policy Officer, FAO

MEETING RECORDING:  zoom

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