Influencing pro-poor livestock development: Livestock master plans for Ethiopia and Tanzania

Livestock master plans (LMPs), or roadmaps, seek to transform the sector through more productive breeds, more and better feed and forage, and enhanced animal health. Developing livestock sector analyses and LMPs is an effective way of influencing pro-poor livestock development in developing countries. Effective livestock investment requires quantitative, data-based sector analysis to understand the current and future potential of the sector, to set realistic long-term strategy and make action plans. A lack of capacity for quantitative planning is common in many livestock ministries.

Following requests from Ethiopian and Tanzanian governments, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) agreed to fund capacity building for fact-based realistic financial planning in their livestock ministries. BMGF asked ILRI to provide the training and technical support needed. ILRI chose to use the Livestock Sector Investment and Policy Toolkit (LSIPT) developed under the auspices of AU-IBAR by the World Bank, CIRAD and FAO to do livestock sector analysis (LSA). The Ethiopian government and development partners are currently preparing projects to fund the implementation of the LMP. Discussions are on-going to do LSAs and LMPs in Rwanda, Uganda, Kenya, Nepal and India.

The process
The process is a consultative one, engaging expert advice and sector stakeholder to achieve buy-in and ownership, through agreement on technical parameters, key data and technology and policy interventions. The preparation of a LMP draws on the LSIPT to analyse the future potential of the livestock sector quantitatively and provide the evidence required for public and private sector players/actors to make informed decision and investments.

Main livestock value chains considered

Milk products from dairy cattle
- Improved family/smallholder dairy in high potential areas
- Commercial specialized dairy in private dairy farms.

Red meat–milk from indigenous cattle, goats and sheep
- Improved traditional red meat and milk from smallholder fattening and dairy operations
- Red meat from specialized feedlots and ranches.

Pork–pig meat (Tanzania)
- Improved sow-rearing on smallholder family farms
- Commercial specialized pork operations.

Poultry (chicken meat and eggs)
- Improved family/household indigenous chicken and eggs production
- Commercial specialized broiler and layer operations.

Cross-cutting activities
- Improved animal health services and input delivery
- Improved livestock feed resources production and trade
- Improved livestock genetics
- Enabling livestock policy environment.