Global food and nutrition security to population stabilization:

*Contributions of the developing world's livestock sector* 

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University of Melbourne, Australia, April 2017



## Overview

Livestock and global food security

Issues of food and nutritional security

Many roles of livestock

Complexities and trade-offs for the future





# Growth in global urban and rural populations to 2050



Source: UN, 2015.



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# Livestock and global food security

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# Animal-source foods are valuable: 5 of 6 highest value global commodities (total value of these 5=US Int \$715



FAOSTAT 2015 (values for 2013)

## Demand for animal-source foods



# Smallholders still dominate livestock production in many countries

Region (definition of 'smallholder')	% production by smallholder livestock farms					
	Beef	Chicken meat	Sheep/goat meat	Milk	Pork	Eggs
<b>East Africa</b> (≤ 6 milking animals)				60-90		
<b>Bangladesh</b> (< 3ha land)	65	77	78	65		77
<b>India</b> (< 2ha land)	75	92	92	69		71
<b>Vietnam</b> (small scale)					80	
<b>Philippines</b> (backyard)		50			35	



## Livestock: 40% of agricultural GDP and growing



## Total ODA disbursements to developing countries, USD million





## Percentage of ODA disbursements for agriculture and livestock





# Issues of food and nutritional security

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## Nutritional divides among 7 billion people today



# Diverse nutritional status demands diverse solutions



### Food and nutrition security

## Availability

Utilizatior

'.....all people at all times have physical, social and economic access to safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs for an active and healthy life.....'

Stability



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# Many roles of livestock

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# Food and nutrition security: Animal-source foods contribute to global food and nutrition

Balanced nutrients

Enough food Diet diversity





# Animal products provide 40% of global daily protein supply (18% of total kcal)



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Daily protein (g/capita/day)

FAOSTAT Food Balance Sheet

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CGIAR

FAOSTAT Food Balance Sheet

# Balanced nutrition: The critical and unique roles of animal-source foods

### Animal-source foods

- High density of macro- and micro-nutrients per 100 g
- Contain essential nutrients difficult or impossible (e.g. vitamin B12) to find in other foods
- Contain micronutrients in biological forms enabling easier uptake into the body (bioavailability)
- Better digestibility and biological value of proteins, with amino acid profile matching human needs
- Contain lower levels of anti-nutrient factors (i.e. compounds that interfere with absorption of nutrients)

### Hidden hunger (missing nutrients)

• E.g.: stunted children in Malawi lacked amino acids that are deficient in plant foods





Livestock-derived foods enhance the nutrition of mothers & of infants in the first 1,000 days of life

Milk: improves children's growth, prevents stunting

Meat: improves long-term cognitive ability

### Livestock interventions improve

- production, incomes, expenditure
- nutrient composition and diets
- nutritional outcomes in children and women

#### But:

Diseases associated with livestock-derived foods

- Disproportionate burden for children under 5
- Pregnant women more vulnerable to foodborne diseases







## Evidence

### In Ethiopia

 Cow ownership reduced stunting by 6–13%

# In millennium development village clusters

- Households with livestock are more likely to consume animal-source foods
- Linking animal-source food consumption with anthropometric measures is complex and influenced by other variables





## Food and nutrition security: Livestock contribute to crop production



# At least half the cereals in the world can *only* be produced with animals in the farm system



Developing-country mixed crop-livestock systems, most of them smallholders, supply a large proportion of cereal and livestock products

- agro-pastoral
- mixed extensive
- mixed intensive
- other
- developed countries

# Soil fertility: 23% of nitrogen for crop production in crop-livestock systems comes from manure

In Europe as much as 38% of the nitrogen inputs come from manure

Animal traction remains essential for crop production, especially in Africa

15% farms in southern Africa and 81% in northern Africa depend on traction for ploughing

7 million oxen are the main source of power for tilling soil in the Ethiopian highlands

## Food and nutrition security: Livestock provide income to purchase nutritious food

Income

Balanced nutrients

Enough food Die

Diet diversity

Income





# Livestock generate income, some of which is spent on food

## Income–value of meat, milk, eggs

- Market value of animal-source foods in Africa in 2050 estimated as USD151 billion
- Milk and eggs provide a steady (daily) income stream

### Income-*employment*

- 700,000 employed in the dairy sector in Kenya
- Major opportunities for youth

### Income-animals

 Important to manage 'lumpy' expenditures (school and medical fees) YOGUF

Insurance against risks



Engel's law (economics):

'As income rises, the proportion of income spent on food falls, even if absolute expenditure on food rises.'

8 countries spent less than 10% of household income on food: Australia, Austria, Canada, Ireland, Singapore, Switzerland, UK, USA

9 countries spent more than 40% of household income on food: Algeria, Azerbaijan, Cameroon, Guatamala, Kenya, Kazakhstan, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines



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# Role of livestock in increasing income results in more diverse diets

Zambian households that received animals (via Heifer):

- Increased their dietary diversity via:
  - Direct consumption (1/3 more for dairy)
  - Increased expenditure on more food groups
- Decreased their poverty (from 78% to 59% below \$1.25/day for dairy cow recipients)
- Increased 'sense of security' and improvement in welfare

**Beyond recipients** 

• Influence on local food markets (e.g. more affordable dairy)



Complexities and trade-offs for the future

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## Today's producers: Tomorrow's enterprises

# 750 million smallholder livestock producers are diverse:

- 1/3 will find alternate livelihoods
- 1/3 may or may not remain
- 1/3 will succeed at market-oriented livestock livelihoods

Opportunities to respond to food and nutrition security

### Smallholders to smartholders:

To thriving enterprises, part of a vibrant, productive and resilient food system . . . with particular opportunities for women and youth





## Competition for land and grains? Maybe not!





Latest for 1 kg boneless meat: 2.8kg human-edible food for ruminants 3.2kg human-edible food for monogastrics Trade-offs and opportunities in responding to future demand

- Livestock contribute to GHG emissions but are also one of the key ways to reduce future emissions
- Livestock production is intimately linked to the environment
- Transforming markets present new opportunities for safe food

#### 3 interlinked principles:

- Improve resource use efficiency
- Strengthen resilience
- Improve social equity/ responsibility outcomes





## Research for development solutions



## **ILRI** offices







Map by Catherine Pfeiffer and Samuel Itheria, ILRI



Map by Catherine Pfeiffer and Samuel Itheria, ILRI



# Peter Doherty on international livestock research and ILRI





https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8qUYpr5Bv5k

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