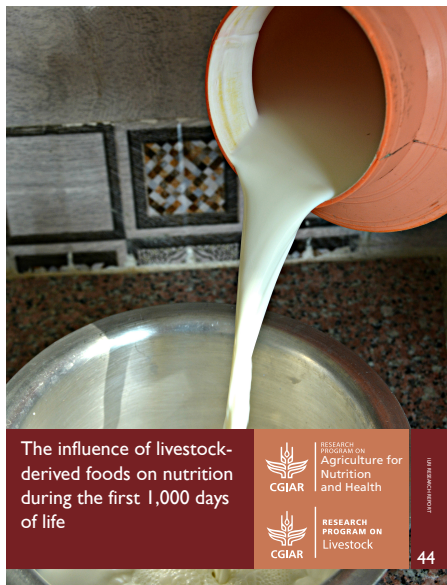


New report

The influence of livestock-derived foods on nutrition during the first 1,000 days of life



An extensive research report, the influence of livestock-derived foods on nutrition during the first 1,000 days of life—published by the International Livestock Research Institute and the Centre on Global Health Security, Chatham House—highlights the ‘clear nutritional benefits’ of providing infants with livestock-derived foods (LDF), particularly in Africa and South Asia where undernutrition is highest. The report focuses on the needs of pregnant and lactating mothers and their infants from conception to two years of age. It also discusses the health and environmental externalities derived from increased global LDF consumption and presents recommendations to enhance the benefits from their increased consumption in low- and middle-income countries (LMIC).

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Report outline

1. A framework to understand the ways that LDF positively or negatively influence nutrition, and the key synergies and trade-offs involved.
2. Up-to-date information on the absolute and relative contributions of meat, milk and eggs to human diets and the prevalence of undernutrition in low- and middle-income regions.
3. Empirical evidence on the impact of interventions supplementing diets with meat, milk and eggs on the nutrition of children as well as pregnant and lactating women.
4. A summary of available evidence on how livestock interventions can impact infant nutrition.
5. An examination of livestock products as sources of foodborne disease and the impacts of LDF-related diseases on human health and nutrition.
6. An overview of the sustainability of different diets and livestock production systems in LMIC.

Key recommendations

1. Equitably increase the accessibility of safe livestock-derived foods in low- and middle-income countries with low levels of intake, respecting national dietary preferences and social norms;
2. Undertake base global livestock-derived food strategies on comprehensive sustainability assessments and recognize the particular needs at critical points in the human life-cycle (first 1,000 days);
3. Better align nutrition, health, livestock and sustainability policies at national level in low- and middle-income countries; and
4. Expand the evidence base through high-quality action research.

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