

# Livestockplus: Supporting low emissions development in the Latin American cattle sector

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## Introduction

The livestock sector in the LAC region is facing different problems of: (i) low productivity (ii) soil erosion, and (iii) low profitability due to inadequate insertion to markets. To address these issues, improved pastures with environmental traits along with adequate management practices might be one of the most promising options of the livestock sector to mitigate climate change. The Livestockplus project seeks to apply the concept of sustainable intensification of livestock systems in two countries of the LAC region such as Costa Rica and Colombia, to provide technical support, generate critical information and guidelines necessary for identifying options; also contribute to planning and policies for scaling up of NAMAs.

## POLICY



**RESEARCH PAPER**  
Making trees count: Measurement and reporting of agroforestry in UNFCCC national communications of non-Annex I countries  
*Rosenstock et al, 2019*



**BIENNIAL UPDATE REPORT**  
Third National Communication of Colombia to the UNFCCC  
*Ideam and PNUD, 2017*



**POLICY ENACTMENT**  
Resolution 1447/2018: By which the system of MRV of mitigation actions at the national level is regulated  
*MADS, 2018*

## FARM DESCRIPTION AND LIFE CYCLE ANALYSIS



**POSTER PAPER**  
Land use in breeding and bovine fattening systems of different sizes in 13 departments in Colombia  
*Gonzalez et al, 2018*



**CONFERENCE PAPER**  
Carbon Footprint (CF) in Breeding Cattle Systems in Colombia  
*Gonzalez et al, 2018*

## FARM



**LIVESTOCK AND SILVOPASTORAL SYSTEMS**  
Farmer-oriented guides to disseminate good livestock practices including farm management and suitable species according to edaphic-climatic conditions to conserve biodiversity & soils



**RUMINANT MODEL**  
Used to improve Colombia's National GHG Inventory to the UNFCCC and the preparation of the sustainable bovine livestock NAMA.  
*Ruden et al, 2018*



**METHANE**  
New technologies have been identified to reduce CH<sub>4</sub> emissions, while increasing digestible crude protein and animal productivity.



**NITROUS OXIDE**  
Certain traits of *Brachiaria* grasses such as their BNI ability, association with arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi, and growth reduce nitrous oxide emissions in tropical grasslands.



**SOIL HEALTH**  
Smart forage selection could significantly improve soil health in the tropics  
*Horrocks et al, 2019*

## Conclusions

After three years of successful operation, the LivestockPlus project enabled the development and the first steps for implementation of NAMAs for the cattle sector in Costa Rica and Colombia. The project facilitated synergies that enabled overcoming barriers to the adoption of improved management practices and, consequently, the achievement of low emission development by: (i) Fostering partnerships among relevant stakeholders; (ii) Identifying and evaluating best-fit mitigation options; (iii) Evaluating measurement reporting and verification (MRV) systems for the cattle sector in the target countries. Efforts are now expanded beyond these two countries across the region as applicable.

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