



GLOBAL AGENDA FOR
SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK

Livestock Sector Actions Towards More Sustainable Food Systems



Briefing of the 12th GASL MSP meeting, Ireland

Shirley Tarawali, GASL Chair

Based on :

Synthesis Rapporteur, Nancy Bourgeois, Academia and Research Cluster

Note taking in parallel sessions: Rogerio Mauricio, Michael Victor, Nitya Ghotge, Walter Oyhantcabal, Alejandro Acosta, and many others

3 – 7 October 2022 Dublin Ireland | 12th GASL MSP Meeting (Hybrid)



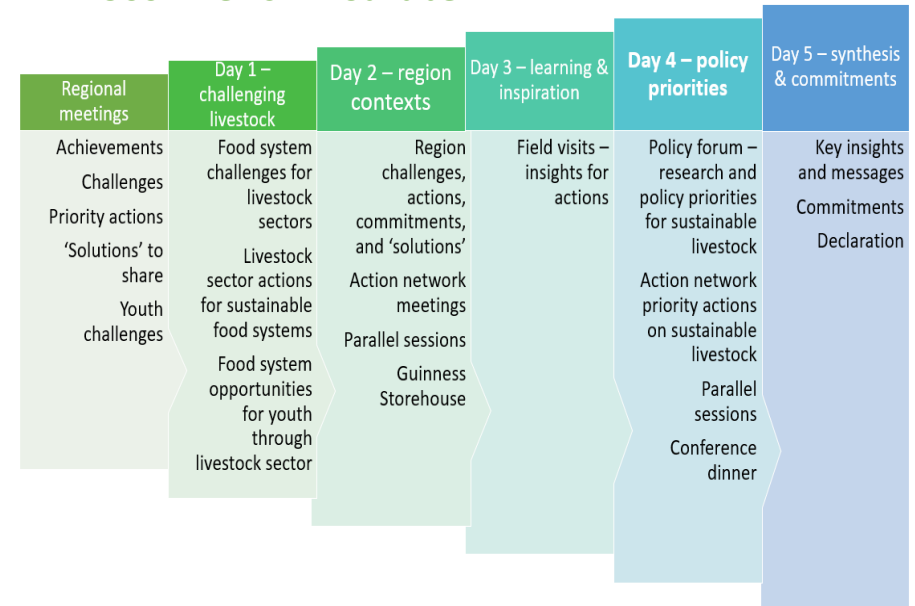
GASL principles framework for all GASL activities



- Open and voluntary, no fees
- Inclusive and consensual
- Change oriented
- Evidence and knowledge based
- Respect the diversity of views
- Aligned with the SDGs, under the umbrella of 4 sustainability domains

Meeting process

- 148 in-person participants from 42 countries
- 55 GASL-sponsored participants from 31 countries
- 900+ views in YouTube





Day 1: Setting the scene - official opening

- ❖ Shirley Tarawali - GASL Chair
- ❖ Thanawat Tiensin - Animal Production and Health Division, FAO
- ❖ Brendan Gleeson - Ireland Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
- ❖ Tom Arnold - Ireland's Special Envoy on Food Systems
- ❖ David Kennedy - Bord Bia
- ❖ Alice Stanton - Royal College of Surgeons



❖ **Multi-stakeholder partnerships** are crucial to work across the complex food system



❖ **Political priority** given to food and nutrition security must increase at national, regional and international level



❖ Gaps between suppliers and buyers to meet sustainability goals = **huge opportunity!**



❖ Need to **share best practices** globally



❖ Crucial need for **facts, evidence-based, unbiased information/results**



❖ Ways to communicate better fact-based information



Day 1: Livestock challenges / Next generation

Session 2 Challenging livestock: global actions for sustainable food systems

- ❖ Jessica Fanzo, John Hopkins University
- ❖ EAT Lancet report shed light on inequities
- ❖ Some countries need to take more action than others

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ 4 Challengers❖ Food system governance and agency (e.g. meat grown lab)❖ Gender lens: no binary approach, focus on relationships in actions, agency, responsibilities, etc.❖ Big challenges for developing countries to cope with challenges, e.g. double/triple burdens of malnutrition | <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ 4 Respondents❖ Always consider 3 dimensions of sustainability❖ Tackle food waste issue more thoroughly❖ Efficiency increase needed❖ Work together across the sector❖ Inclusiveness, equity, supply chain governance❖ Upscale best practices❖ Solutions need to be differentiated, no fit for all |
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Questions to the next generation



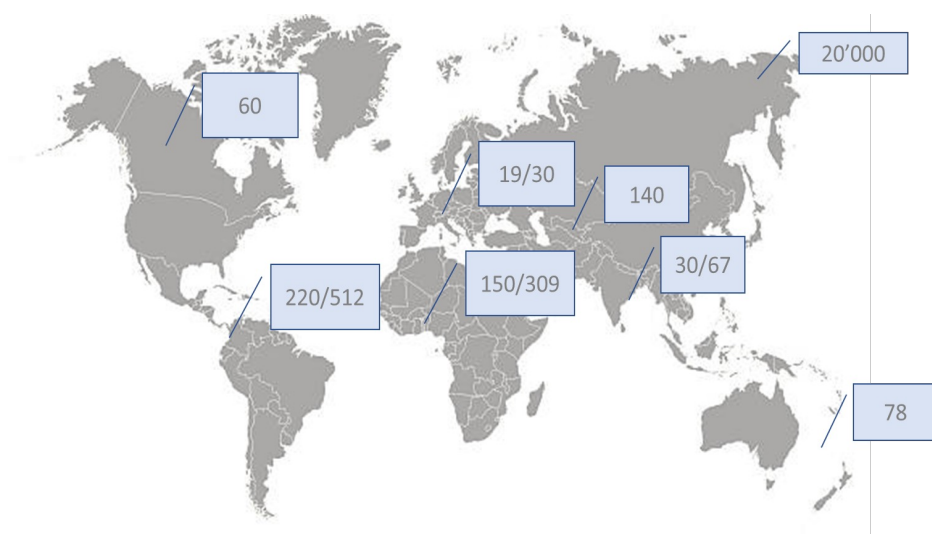
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More and better opportunities for youth in livestock agriculture what are they and how do we make them happen?

Including and enhancing youth voices and priorities in livestock agriculture: what is needed and how can we achieve it?

Sustainable livestock systems my next generation priorities for 2040 and how can we achieve them?

Day 2: Regional consultations (participants/registered)



- Opportunity to **scale-out GASL's activities** & expand its reach
- Every region has **its specific challenges**: *food safety, food security, animal welfare, AMR issues, livestock numbers, production costs, emerging diseases BUT the same stressors, climate change & the environmental crisis*
- Every region has its **tailor-made solutions**: locally adapted technologies, new technologies, global sustainability programmes, etc.
- Need to give more space, voice, trust and means to the **next generation**
- No fit-all solution



Day 3: Field trips

- (1) TEAGASC Grange Animal and Grassland Research Centre;
(2) Dermot Heaney commercial dairy farm; (2) Devenish Lands at Douth research farm



- Different pathways of adoption of technologies and innovations
- A technology can be mainstreamed in one country and new in another one (e.g. inclusion of clover, EBI, protected urea, slurry spreaders, GreenFeed, etc.)
- Technologies, systems adapted to the local context: e.g. Spring calving)



Day 4: Policy forum

Introduction by Shirley Tarawali – GASL Chair and Thanawat Tiensin – Animal Production and Health Division, FAO

Key note speeches

- ❖ Martin Heydon – Minister of State, Ireland's Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
- ❖ Carlos Cherniak – Permanent Representative of Argentina to the UN FAO and Chair of the Sub-Committee on Livestock, COAG
- ❖ Lawrence Shalloo – Head Animal and Grassland Research and Innovation Programme, Teagasc

Panel, moderated by Bill Callanan, Chief Inspector, Ireland's department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

- ❖ Carlos Cherniak – Permanent Representative of Argentina to the UN FAO and Chair of the Sub-Committee on Livestock, COAG
- ❖ Marcelo Gonzales, Deputy Minister for Livestock, Paraguay
- ❖ Frank O'Mara – Director Teagasc
- ❖ Zoe Kavanagh, National Dairy Council, Ireland

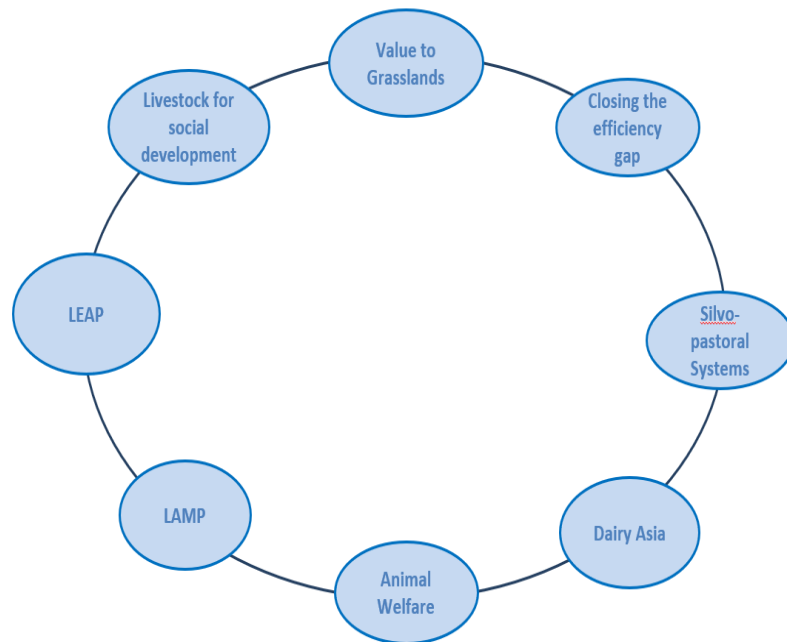
- Take control of the narrative
- Livestock is part of the solution
- Farmers are doers and have always adapted their practices!
- Need to highlight research & technologies used by farmers towards sustainability: huge progress done, still many to come (e.g. C-soil measurement)
- Data, metrics are crucial to move forward
- Opportunity to learn from other sectors (e.g. energy industry)
- Opportunity and need for a robust articulation between FAO COAG sub-committee on livestock & GASL

Policy Panel

- **Consumers' behaviour:** in Ireland there is a readiness to pay for more sustainability if it is shown
- **Earn concerned citizens' trust**
- **Technology:**
 - Some technologies available and under adoption (breeding, methane measurement, etc.)
 - Some technologies still under research and testing (e.g. soil C-sequestration, genetics for low methane animals).
 - Transfer of technologies to other countries: capacities, resources are needed!
- **Balanced approach to the problem:** whatever is done, all 3 pillars of sustainability need to be taken into consideration!



Day 4: Action networks



- ✓ Diversity of contexts, species, agro-ecological zones
- ✓ All steps from research to actions/implementation: investigations -> case studies -> models -> validation -> publications -> restitution to beneficiaries -> initiatives (e.g. Yak association)
- ✓ Enhancement of accuracy transparency, comparability, consistency of methods
- ✓ Collaboration across action networks (e.g. Animal welfare & LAMP)
- ✓ Collaboration with Clusters (e.g. A&R through editorial board committee)
 - Some overlap between Silvopastoral systems and Closing the Efficiency gap
 - Lack of diversity of livestock systems represented (-> invisibility of some livestock keepers & species)



Dublin Communiqué

- Reaffirmation of GASL shared commitment to sustainable development of the livestock sector as a key element of sustainable and resilient food systems in the 4 sustainability domains adopted by GASL in 2018, in alignment with the UN Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development
- Extend access to livestock products/ Promote application of inclusive and equitable livestock business models/ Foster production, management and stewardship of livestock and their products/ Enhance soil health, above and below ground carbon sequestration and biodiversity/ Promote good standards of animal health and welfare globally/ Work in partnership with GASL partners and others (SCL)/ Contribute to a nuanced and science-based debate

Conclusions (what's good, what's to improve)

- ✓ GASL acknowledged and respected
- ✓ Wide range of activities (e.g. AN's activities, regional consultations, clusters' support)
- ✓ Great progress in being more inclusive & representative (e.g young generation, farmers), but efforts need to be continued (gender, consumers, systems, livestock species)
 - So far, defensive stance in face of "adverse weather"
 - Too much focus on the environmental pillar of the sustainability
 - Not enough focus on impact of climate change on livestock

Next steps

- Move from defensive to offensive: take control of the narrative!
- Bring balance into polarized debate, also highlight positive facts!
- Communicate progress based on scientific evidence
- Continue providing robust evidence
- Bring better balance between the 4 sustainability pillars
- Make invisible livestock keepers and "neglected" species visible
- Better show synergies between livestock and crops in the food system
- Consider involving more stakeholders in future (e.g. Agtech, consumers)
- Strengthen synergies with other stakeholders, such as COAG sub-committee on livestock



Three series of parallel technical sessions, 16 in total

Livelihoods and
economic growth



- International Finance Corporation (IFC): practices for **sustainable investment** in livestock areas
- Building a **social platform** for livestock

Food and
nutrition security



- **Foods** of pastoral communities
- Pastoralism as sustainable **food system**: examples from Europe
- Dairy Asia: action network of GASL to the **dairy sector** in the Asia and Pacific

Animal health
and animal welfare



- The case for investment in animal health towards **One health**
- **One health** investment in livestock
- Understanding the prevalence and impacts of **zoonotic disease** among small scale dairy holdings; the journey towards a reliable dairy supply chain while mitigating risks to public health in Malawi

Climate and
natural resource use



- Global Livestock **Environmental Assessment** (GLEAM) Dashboard
- **Boosting carbon initiatives** in livestock farm
- Addressing the supply and demand of **environmental impact data** to empower livestock development

