

Speaking points to the Koronovia Joint Work on Agriculture: ‘Improved livestock management systems, including agropastoral production systems and others’

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Discussions about agriculture in a climate change context have long focused on massification and technological approaches to increasing unsustainable food production with insufficient consideration of how inequalities shapes access to land and other resources needed for productive, healthy, sustainable, and resilient livelihoods, particularly for women, and how climate change will exacerbate the existing unequal access to adequate nutritious food for all. therefore, food sovereignty, gender equality, agrobiodiversity and human rights should guide and underpin the KJWA’s work.

Traditionally, women in all their diversity, are often responsible for traditional livestock, small-scale eco-farming/agroecology and for providing healthy and sufficient food for their families and thus, policies and measures regarding small-scale agriculture, livestock farming, and climate change need to address the gender dimensions.

Hence, it is important to differentiate between unsustainable intensive largescale livestock farming. For instance, in Latin America, industrial livestock and feedstock production is, by far, the main driver of deforestation. This model also triggers land degradation, rural depopulation, deforestation, the depletion and pollution of water and soils, and has significant negative impacts on human health, both directly, through contamination with agrochemicals and inappropriate use of fertilizers, and indirectly, by providing unhealthy and unbalanced food. The current large-scale livestock and agroindustrial model has also failed to address persistent and often chronic malnutrition and starvation, especially amongst economically marginalized women and children in the global south.

Some examples of adaptation and mitigation strategies in traditional livestock farming include ecosystem-based grassland management, rotational grazing, production and conservation of improved forage and legume seeds, better herd and manure management but there is still a gap between customary norms, traditional conservation practices and scientific perspectives that has to be bridged. There is an urgent need to generate more knowledge and a clearer connection at all levels between pastoralism, sustainable livestock farming, climate change, health, traditional knowledge, gender inequality, biodiversity loss and deforestation persists, and understanding how these practices are under threat from an agroindustrial model of animal farming.

- The livestock sector alone accounts for at least 14.5% of global GHG emissions and the food system overall contributes nearly one-third of emissions. At the same time, with

population growth, urbanization, and increasing per-capita consumption of animal products (associated with rising incomes), demand for livestock products could increase by 70% by 2050

- the food system generates around 26% of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Around 75% of agriculture's emissions are produced by livestock, including the production of feed for livestock and the associated land use changes
- emissions from food & agriculture under the current circumstances, only seem to increase jeopardizing Paris Agreement targets
- Supply side measures will not on their own be sufficient to meet Paris targets, consumption needs to be added to the equation, mainly in the developed world and emerging economies, progressively shifting towards plant-based diets → Science study from Nov.2020 show that 47% of GHG emissions could be reduced if moderate amounts of meat would be consumed (compared to business-as-usual); A study published in *Nature* shows that globally, BAU in food production and consumption will lead to an 87% increase in GHG emissions by 2050 (compared with 2010).
- An agroindustrial model of livestock and feedstock production whether extensive (Amazon and other important South American biomes under fire due to this model of production) or intensive (excessive use of antibiotics, water pollution from waste, animal welfare and Zoonotic diseases) can no longer be acceptable! LIVE ANIMAL EXPORTS

We urge world leaders to recognise the need to:

- Include a dedicated session that focuses on food systems at COP 26; the UNFCCC should show coherence and include reduced meat and increased plant-based diets at COP26 menus
- The current pandemic and the impacts that it is having on agriculture, food security and sovereignty, small-scale farmers' livelihoods, and how it is exacerbating the existing gender inequalities many who tend for livestock as a source of income → zoonotic diseases
- Just Transition towards sustainable and inclusive food systems → **provide technical assistance** for parties to integrate food and agriculture into NDCs, with a focus on sustainable food production and consumption, including reductions in food loss and waste and promotion of increased plant-based diets while reducing global meat, fish and dairy consumption, which will potentially also reduce demand for feed. tackling gender inequality in food systems is a prerequisite for transformation.
- **Align global environmental and development agreements for policies and implementation that promote sustainable diets and systems of food production**
- Identify and remove or redirect perverse subsidies and incentives that threaten achievement of the Paris Agreement and that have negative impacts on forests and other ecosystems, soils, water and local communities and indigenous people, including women who often tend for livestock.
- **Support governments at national and international levels to host dialogues across relevant governmental departments**
- we cannot ignore the socioeconomic impacts that free trade agreements

- we recommend the KJWA to develop general guidelines for action in the agriculture sector, particularly to reflect the focus of the KJWA on vulnerabilities of agriculture and socioeconomic and food security and sovereignty dimensions. Parties should also use the KJWA to examine power imbalances in agriculture, how those imbalances constrain scaling up of sustainable agriculture and agroecology, access to resources for adaptation, and how policy and practices can address them.