



Welcome to the Members' newsletter!

Welcome to our monthly members newsletter. Through this newsletter, you will be able to stay updated on past and upcoming Flagship engagements, our newest members, member achievements, webinars, and more!

Got any **feedback or want to be featured** in our upcoming newsletters? Please contact: lina.khoury@croptrust.org

Want to stop receiving the newsletter? Please send an email to the abovementioned address.

Important Updates

The Global Flagship Initiative for Food Security will be present at the upcoming UNCCD COP17 in Mongolia from 17 - 28 August. For more information on our engagements, please check section 3 (p.4) of the newsletter.



Please contact us for inputs and suggestions for our annual meeting at UNGA81 (21-22 September 2026)

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Welcoming our Newest Members!



**CHANTIER D'AVENIR
EN SÉCURITÉ ALIMENTAIRE**

Advancing Food Systems Transformation through Innovation, Capacity Building and Global Partnerships

Université Laval is committed to advancing resilient, inclusive and sustainable food systems through interdisciplinary research, education, innovation and international collaboration. Recognizing that food security challenges are increasingly shaped by climate change, environmental degradation, geopolitical instability and socio-economic inequalities, the University established the Food Security Initiative (Chantier d'avenir en sécurité alimentaire) as a strategic platform to generate knowledge, strengthen capacities and foster collective action toward food systems transformation.

Since its launch in 2021, the Initiative has evolved into an international hub connecting researchers, graduate students, governments, civil society organizations, municipalities, international organizations and development partners. Through this multi-stakeholder ecosystem, Université Laval promotes evidence-based solutions that integrate the social, economic, environmental, health and governance dimensions of food systems.

A distinctive strength of the Initiative lies in its experiential and partnership-based approach to capacity development. Graduate students work directly with partner organizations in Quebec, Canada and internationally to design and implement field interventions addressing real food security challenges. This model simultaneously strengthens local institutions, generates practical solutions and prepares highly qualified professionals capable of leading food systems transformation in diverse contexts.

Innovation is further reinforced through the CERES Project, a shared analytical framework that standardizes field-based data collection and facilitates comparative analysis, knowledge sharing and evidence-informed decision-making across projects. By integrating applied research with practical interventions, the Initiative contributes to the development of scalable solutions and stronger communities of practice.

Beyond academic training, Université Laval actively promotes knowledge mobilization through the Food Security Lunchtime Seminar Series (Midi-conférence en sécurité alimentaire), bringing together experts from academia, government and international organizations, and the Food Security Pathways Podcast (Podcast Parcourse en sécurité alimentaire), which showcases innovative experiences and leadership from around the world. These initiatives strengthen dialogue, encourage cross-sector collaboration and expand access to knowledge on sustainable food systems.

The Initiative has already demonstrated significant impact, with 91 graduate students trained, more than 60 strategic partnerships established, 57 field intervention projects implemented, and an excellent graduate employment rate. These achievements reflect the effectiveness of a competency-based, interdisciplinary and practice-oriented model that responds directly to the evolving needs of food systems actors.

By: Eli Sawadogo
Head of Food Security Initiative at Laval University

The Initiative in Action



The Global Flagship Initiative for Food Security's activity at UNCCD COP17 builds on a period of sustained engagement for the Secretariat. We have recently welcomed several visits from GIZ delegations to discuss deepening cooperation and explore co-funding opportunities, as well as a visit from Dr. Sandra Milach, Chief Scientist at CGIAR, to discuss the Flagship and potential avenues for cooperation with CGIAR.

For the latest updates, follow the Global Flagship Initiative for Food Security on LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/global-flagship-initiative-for-food-security/>



Youth Workstream

The Youth Workstream was created to allow young people structured, meaningful participation in policy engagement, innovation, and advocacy on food systems. Co-chaired by Nada and Ruby, the workstream's premise is that youth voices should be meaningfully reflected in global policymaking.

Our Goals: to mobilise youth participation in food systems, integrating youth voices into multilateral governance processes, and promote youth-led innovation while building a stronger knowledge and advocacy platform around food security.

Ahead of the triple COPs, we have hosted two webinars. The first webinar gathered youth expectations ahead of UNCCD COP17. Participants worked through four thematic breakout groups - Finance, Water, Land & People, and Food systems & Soil Health. This input was condensed into a formal Youth Statement, released in July.

The second webinar, occurring on the day builds directly on the first. As 2026 is a “triple COP” year, with the convening of UNCCD, CBD, and UNFCCC, the session will move into a deeper discussion of the cross-cutting themes linking all three COPs; Land as Inheritance, Access to Finance, Food Systems Resilience and Sovereignty, and Youth Inclusion. The outputs will be used to create a triple COP youth statement.

Upcoming Engagements

The Global Flagship Initiative for Food Security at UNCCD COP17

The Global Flagship Initiative for Food Security will be present throughout UNCCD COP17, held from 17 to 28 August 2026 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, reflecting the growing momentum behind the Flagship as it moves into its operational phase. We welcome all delegates and partners who will be in attendance to join us at two key events we are organizing.

Launch Event for the Global Flagship Initiative for Food Security

The Flagship will mark the launch of our operational phase in our main event “Global Flagship Initiative for Food Security: From Commitment to Implementation”. Convened by the Secretariat, in partnership with UNCCD and the Crop Trust, the session will present the Flagship's governance structure, its Year 1 implementation programme and KPI framework, and progress on its ongoing initiatives, with participation from the Steering Committee, the Scientific Advisory Committee and partners across our network. The event will take place on Food Systems and Soil Health Day, 27 August 2026, from 10.30 to 11.30 in the Action Dome.

Side Event on Mobilising Strategic Partnerships and Co-Investment

The Flagship Secretariat will also convene the side event “From COP16 to COP17: Advancing Food Security Through Strategic Partnerships and Co-Investment”, on mobilising partnerships and strengthening private sector engagement and co-investment. The session will bring together senior representatives from regional and multilateral institutions, development finance institutions, and private sector partners to discuss how coordinated investment can advance food security and support our implementation priorities. The event will take place on 27 August 2026, from 13.00 to 14.30 in MET-30.

Steering Committee and Further Engagements

The first convening of the Flagship's Steering Committee will also take place during UNCCD COP17. This will be an opportunity for Committee members to take forward discussions on our strategic direction as we enter this new phase.

Beyond these events, the Secretariat will take part in a number of additional panel discussions and speaking engagements throughout the COP, alongside a series of bilateral meetings with partners to discuss ongoing and prospective collaboration.

Arrange a Bilateral Meeting

Partners attending UNCCD COP17 who are interested in arranging a bilateral meeting with the Secretariat and Co-Chairs between 22–29 August are invited to contact Mr. Ali Selemani at ali.seleman@croptrust.org



Member's Spotlight

Mobilizing Millions and Unlocking Billions: How Catalytic Capital Can Transform Agricultural Finance in Africa

By the African Development Bank

In collaboration with the Global Flagship Initiative for Food Security

To help address this challenge, the African Development Bank has developed the Financing Agribusiness SME Trust Fund (FAST Fund), a multi-donor catalytic financing platform designed to strengthen agricultural finance ecosystems rather than simply finance individual transactions. The Fund combines blended finance, first-loss capital, guarantees, technical assistance, digital financial infrastructure, and strategic partnerships to improve the bankability of Agri-SMEs while expanding access to finance across agricultural value chains.

The FAST Fund also reflects the strategic direction established by African Development Bank President Dr. Sidi Ould Tah through his Four Cardinal Points. In particular, it advances the priorities of expanding access to finance, mobilizing Africa's financial resources, strengthening financial systems, and using the Bank's comparative advantages to unlock transformational investment for the continent. The Fund demonstrates how development finance institutions can move beyond traditional lending to become platforms for capital mobilization.

Transforming global food systems requires a shift from financing projects to mobilizing capital at scale. While public and philanthropic resources remain indispensable, they are not sufficient on their own to meet the scale of investment required to build resilient, productive, and inclusive food systems. The challenge is no longer simply raising more donor funding—it is using catalytic capital to mobilize substantially larger volumes of public and private investment.



AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP



The African Development Bank's balance sheet is the engine of the FAST Fund. Rather than financing projects directly, the Fund is designed to use catalytic capital to leverage the Bank's financial strength, crowd in commercial investment, and multiply development impact. Rather than relying solely on donor contributions, the FAST Fund is designed to raise \$500 million in catalytic capital to leverage the Bank's balance sheet. Combined with blended finance instruments, guarantees, technical assistance, and partnerships across the public and private sectors, this approach is expected to mobilize an estimated US\$8–10 billion in onward lending and investment over the next decade. Each catalytic dollar is intended to unlock many more dollars of productive investment into Africa's agricultural economy.



Equally important, the FAST Fund has been designed to complement the growing ecosystem of agricultural finance initiatives. By working alongside governments, multilateral development banks, philanthropic organizations, the private sector, and the Global Flagship Initiative for Food Security, the Fund seeks to strengthen collaboration, reinforce successful financing models, and accelerate implementation where financing constraints remain the principal barrier to impact.

The Global Flagship Initiative for Food Security is helping to build the partnerships needed to transform food systems. Innovative financing platforms such as the FAST Fund can provide one practical mechanism for translating those partnerships into investment at scale. By leveraging the African Development Bank's balance sheet, crowding in private capital, and strengthening agricultural finance ecosystems, the FAST Fund demonstrates how catalytic finance can transform donor resources into investment at the scale needed to achieve food security.

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Member's Spotlight

Federal Government of Somalia's Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation Unveils Landmark Flagship Initiative to Empower Women Farmers

The Federal Government of Somalia, through the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (MoAI), has taken a major step toward advancing gender equality and rural economic transformation with the rollout of a national flagship programme dedicated to empowering Somali women and youth in agriculture.

The Ministry has finalized the Policy and the Strategy & Costed Action Plan for Empowering Women and Youth in Agriculture (2026–2030), a comprehensive national framework designed to expand and strengthen women's participation across Somalia's agri-food system. The strategy sets out five priority pillars: capacity building; improved access to productive resources; innovation and digital agriculture; market access and value-chain development; and enhanced infrastructure and institutional support.



The flagship initiative was strengthened during a Technical Consultative Workshop held on 18 June 2026 in Mogadishu, where government institutions, UN agencies, farmer organizations, private-sector representatives, and development partners reviewed and validated the strategy and costed action plan for empowering women and youth farmers.

H.E. Mohamed Abdi Hayir (Maareeye), Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation of the Federal Government of Somalia, delivered official remarks during the

workshop, underscoring that Somali women are central to the nation's agricultural transformation. He emphasized that empowering women farmers is essential for improving food security, creating jobs, reducing poverty, and strengthening rural resilience.

“We have placed women at the very center of Somalia's agricultural transformation agenda. Women and girls are fully mainstreamed across the core mandate of the Ministry,” said Minister Maareeye.





One of the flagship's most significant achievements is the establishment of the Somalia Association of Women in Agriculture (SAWA), a national platform created to elevate women's leadership and economic participation in agriculture, livestock, fisheries, agribusiness, and rural development.

Under this flagship initiative, the Ministry has delivered specialized training for women and youth farmers and agripreneurs in value addition, food processing, storage, packaging, and small-industry development in 2025 and 2026.

The Ministry also implemented the Somalia Women's Market Access Open Innovation Challenge, a national competition designed to boost rural women's agribusiness growth through AgTech and FinTech solutions.



Somalia's Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation is now calling for investment and partnership to implement the flagship initiative and the Strategy and Costed Action Plan (2026–2030), emphasizing that empowering women farmers is essential for Somalia's food security, climate resilience, rural employment, and inclusive economic growth, aligned with the Somalia National Transformation Plan (NTP10) and the Agriculture Transformation Strategy (2025–2029), which provide the national roadmap for increasing productivity, strengthening value chains, and enhancing food security.

Member Project Updates

The Liberia WASH Initiative

Safe water that keeps flowing, and pays for itself

A feature for the Global Flagship Initiative for Food Security · Kijani Group SL · August 2026

Safe water, treated at the source, without the fire

Across Liberia, millions still rely on unsafe water drawn directly from creeks, rivers, and open sources, and the only way most households can make it safe is to boil it, which means burning biomass. That single act sits at the intersection of problems the Global Flagship Initiative knows well: boiling consumes wood and charcoal, driving deforestation and emissions, while the fuel and labour to gather it fall hardest on already stretched households. Fuelwood that boils water is fuelwood not used for cooking, and hours spent gathering it are hours not spent farming or earning. Safe water, food security, and rural livelihoods are the same household, the same day, the same firewood.

The link to food security is direct. Safe water at the source cuts water-borne illness, and healthier households farm, work, and absorb nutrients better. Lower fuelwood demand eases pressure on the land and forests that food systems depend on, and time and money no longer spent gathering fuel or treating illness can go toward food, farming, and income. The Initiative removes the fire: by building and restoring water points, including solar-powered systems, that deliver clean water at the source, households no longer need to boil, and the biomass, labour, and emissions are avoided at once.

Where the initiative stands today

The initiative has moved from concept to a defined, verifiable model. Feasibility is complete, field scoping is active, and the project is structured to meet the Gold Standard Safe Water Supply methodology, one of the most rigorous frameworks in the sector. The figures below are indicative and subject to independent verification. At full operation it is designed to reach approximately 445,000 people across rural counties, with a central climate contribution, the avoided biomass burning, estimated at approximately 44,500 tonnes of CO₂ equivalent per year. Every water point is monitored live and remotely, so regulators, operators, and partners can see the system working rather than assume it. Beyond avoided emissions, the initiative certifies Sustainable Development Goals against monitored evidence, spanning clean water and sanitation, good health, clean energy through solar, and decent work through local operation and maintenance, each backed by data rather than narrative.

The real challenge: keeping the water on

The hardest problem in rural water is not installation but sustainability: points that work on commissioning day and then break unseen, with no one funded to notice or repair them. This failure has undermined a generation of rural water projects, and it is the one the initiative is built to solve. Together with WaterStep, the initiative is developing a diagnostic platform that monitors each water point and surfaces faults early, turning maintenance into a managed, continuous service so the water stays safe for the long term rather than for a single funding cycle.



What comes next

The initiative has cleared a critical milestone: registration with Liberia's Carbon Market Authority, which de-risks the project and opens the path to the high-integrity compliance market. The next phase completes formal certification under the Gold Standard, extends the monitoring platform across every water point, and secures the forward financing that lets the service fund its own maintenance. The initiative is on a defined pathway to formal launch, and the Global Flagship Initiative is a natural partner along it.

How the Global Flagship Initiative can amplify the work

Financial support matters most: bridging the remaining funding for certification and baseline assessment converts a de-risked project into one ready for forward purchasing and launch. Alongside that, three forms of collaboration would strengthen the initiative:

- **Visibility within a trusted network.** Featuring the initiative among GFI members places a rural safe-water and land-pressure model in front of the institutions best positioned to understand its relevance to food security.
- **Connections to donors and financial institutions.** Introductions to development banks, donor funds, and private-sector partners move the initiative from de-risked to fully financed, and from financed to launched.
- **Technical exchange and convening.** The links between safe water, avoided biomass use, land and forest pressure, and rural resilience are still under-documented. Shared learning and connections to peer programmes and research partners would sharpen the evidence base on all sides.

The ambition is straightforward: to show that safe water, healthier land, and stronger rural livelihoods can be delivered together, through one service that keeps itself running. The Global Flagship Initiative for Food Security is a natural partner in making that case visible, credible, and financed.

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Written Piece - Connecting for Food Security: Turning Resources into Lasting Solutions

By Abdullah A. Al Sarraf

**This piece was inspired by recent discussions between Dr. Conrad Rein and Abdullah A. Al Sarraf on the role of partnerships, finance and implementation in advancing global food security*

“The world does not lack resources. It lacks the connections that turn those resources into lasting solutions.”

Food security is a clear example of this reality. Around the world, governments, international organizations, financial institutions, businesses, researchers, philanthropies, and communities are all contributing in important ways. Yet too often, these strengths remain fragmented rather than aligned.

Food security is often framed through agriculture, humanitarian assistance, and emergency response. These remain essential, but they reflect only part of a broader challenge. Sustainable food security also depends on finance, investment, logistics, infrastructure, governance, implementation, long-term capacity, and public awareness.

Food insecurity rarely exists simply because food is unavailable. More often, it stems from disrupted supply chains, weak infrastructure, limited access to finance, post-harvest losses, fragmented partnerships, insufficient local capacity, or a lack of awareness about how every actor can contribute. Even where resources exist, they are not always reaching the communities that need them most.

Building resilient food systems therefore requires more than producing more food. It requires aligning finance with implementation, innovation with local knowledge, institutions with communities, and investment with long-term development. Above all, it requires people to unite around a shared commitment to preventing hunger before it becomes a crisis.

From the perspective of the Gulf region, there is an opportunity that deserves greater international attention.

The Gulf is often recognised for its financial capacity, but its contribution can extend well beyond capital. The region has demonstrated how entrepreneurship, strategic investment, international trade, logistics, and long-term partnerships can support

economic transformation. It also brings internationally experienced family businesses, sophisticated financial institutions, growing expertise in Islamic finance, advanced logistics networks, and strong traditions of philanthropy and social responsibility.

Taken together, these strengths form an ecosystem capable of contributing not only investment, but also operational expertise, innovation, implementation experience, and durable partnership.

Humanitarian assistance will always remain indispensable during emergencies. Lasting food security, however, requires investment before crises emerge. Strengthening irrigation systems, water infrastructure, storage facilities, cold-chain logistics,

agricultural technology, renewable energy supporting agriculture, food processing, and local agribusinesses builds resilience while reducing future dependence on emergency relief.

One often overlooked resource is the family business sector. Across the Gulf, family-owned enterprises have been built over generations on trust, continuity, reputation, and long-term thinking. Their experience in logistics, manufacturing, finance, procurement, infrastructure, and international trade aligns closely with many of the practical challenges facing global food systems. Their contribution should not be limited to philanthropy alone. They can also become valuable partners in implementation, innovation, knowledge sharing, and sustainable economic development.

Islamic finance also presents opportunities that deserve broader international understanding. Too often, it is viewed only through a religious or banking lens. In reality, many Islamic finance structures are built around productive assets and real economic activity. This makes them especially relevant to food security, where financing can support irrigation systems, agricultural equipment, warehouses, food-processing facilities, logistics infrastructure, renewable energy supporting agriculture, and small and medium-sized enterprises across agricultural value chains.

This matters because sustainable food security depends on productive capacity. By linking finance to productive economic activity, these approaches can help create long-term value for communities while offering

investors confidence that their capital is supporting tangible development outcomes. When financing creates assets that improve production, strengthen supply chains, reduce food loss, generate employment, and increase local resilience, development and investment objectives reinforce one another.

Finance alone, however, is never enough.

Partnership is perhaps the most important infrastructure of all.

Governments establish priorities and enabling policies. International organizations contribute coordination and technical expertise. Development finance institutions mobilise capital and reduce investment risk.

Commercial banks structure financial solutions. Private investors provide resources. Universities generate research and innovation. Technology companies improve efficiency. Civil society strengthens community engagement. Family businesses contribute operational knowledge and entrepreneurial experience, while local communities ensure ownership and long-term sustainability.

Equally important are citizens.

Food security is not solely the responsibility of governments or institutions. Every individual can contribute. Reducing food waste, supporting local producers, volunteering, mentoring entrepreneurs, donating surplus food, encouraging responsible consumption, and raising awareness all strengthen food systems.

Growing up in Kuwait, caring for others was never viewed solely as the responsibility of government or charitable organizations. It was part of everyday life. During the holy month of Ramadan in particular, families, restaurants, companies, mosques, charitable organizations, and volunteers work together to prepare and distribute meals to those in need. While every society has its own traditions, this experience illustrates an important principle: food security becomes stronger when helping others is understood as a shared responsibility.

Another underutilised resource is experience. Across the world, thousands of business leaders have spent decades building companies, managing supply chains, structuring finance, leading operations, negotiating partnerships, and solving implementation challenges. Their experience is a form of development capital that cannot be replicated by funding alone.

Creating opportunities for experienced professionals to contribute through mentoring, advisory roles, investment partnerships, and knowledge exchange could help bridge the gap between strategy and delivery.

Perhaps the greatest opportunity before us is not to create entirely new solutions, but to better align the strengths that already exist. Governments, international organizations, financial institutions, businesses, family enterprises, researchers, communities, and citizens all possess unique capabilities. When these strengths are brought together around a common purpose, they become far greater than the sum of their individual contributions.

Ultimately, food security is about more than food.

It is about our shared humanity.

Hunger does not ask about nationality, race, religion, culture, or geography before it affects a person. Our willingness to help should not depend on those differences either. Every individual deserves the opportunity to live with dignity, free from hunger and with access to life's basic necessities.

Human dignity is not only about protecting people from conflict or discrimination. It is also about helping create the conditions that allow people to eat, drink clean water, contribute to society, and build a better future for themselves and their families.

One hand may not be able to end global hunger. But millions of hands, united by a shared purpose, certainly have the power to reduce it.

If food security teaches one lesson, it is this:

the future will not be defined by how many resources the world possesses, but by how effectively we connect them.

By aligning finance with implementation, innovation with local knowledge, business with development, governments with communities, and people with one another, we move beyond responding to hunger toward building resilient societies capable of nourishing future generations.

Because in the end, no nation feeds the world alone. No institution changes the world alone. No individual transforms the world alone.



Together, we can transform generosity into resilience, investment into opportunity, partnerships into lasting impact, and shared responsibility into meaningful change creating a future where fewer people go hungry and more communities have the opportunity not only to survive, but to thrive.



Science Piece - 2026: The Year of Converging Livestock, Food Security, Health, and Climate Resilience

By Tom Arnold, Chair of the Ireland Africa Rural Development Committee (IARDC)

The year 2026 has seen a remarkable convergence of policy documents focused on livestock production and food security, health and climate resilience. They include: the FAO Global Plan of Action for Sustainable Livestock Transformation (July 2026); The EU's Livestock Strategy (July 2026); the EU Council Conclusions on One Health in Agrifood systems (July 2026) which will influence the FAO Global Conference on One Health in Agrifood Systems, scheduled for Rome (September 2026); and the Strategic Initiative on Private Sector Investment in Livestock Value Chains for Food Security in Africa, published by the Global Flagship Initiative for Food Security (June 2026).

The four documents are strikingly consistent despite being produced for different constituencies (EU public policy, global intergovernmental policy and an investment framework for Africa). They converge on a vision of livestock as a strategic asset for food security, nutrition, rural development and climate resilience, provided that the sector is transformed through sustainability, innovation and stronger governance rather than simply expanded production.

Five overarching policy recommendations emerge from the documents.

1

One, adopt a 'One Health' approach as the organising principle for a livestock policy which should no longer be treated as a dominantly agricultural issue. Instead governments should establish 'One Health' livestock strategies that jointly address human nutrition, food security, animal health and welfare, antimicrobial resistance, zoonotic disease prevention, environmental sustainability, climate resilience, biodiversity and rural livelihoods.

This will require much stronger coordination between agriculture, health, environment, finance and trade ministries, supported by integrated surveillance systems and shared indicators.

2

Shift public and private investment from livestock expansion towards sustainable livestock transformation. Future investment should improve productivity, resilience and sustainability rather than simply focus on increasing animal numbers. Public policy should therefore leverage private capital while providing the enabling environment.

For Africa in particular, blended finance and public/private partnerships should place particular emphasis on mobilising private investment into commercially viable livestock value chains that benefit smallholders.

3

Three, place smallholder farmers and inclusive value chains at the centre of livestock development. Rather than mainly focusing on production, governments should strengthen the entire value chain from food production through animal health, processing, transport, marketing and exports - while ensuring that women, youth and smallholders can participate and benefit fairly. This recommendation is particularly important for Africa, as livestock represents one of the largest opportunities for rural employment and economic transformation.

4

Four, reward livestock systems that deliver public goods. Future policy should increasingly reward livestock systems that provide multiple public benefits, including lower greenhouse-gas emissions, healthier soils, water conservation and resilient rural communities.

5

Five, build resilient livestock systems capable of withstanding future shocks. The recent experience of animal disease outbreaks, climate shocks, supply chain disruption and geopolitical instability has shifted resilience to the centre of livestock policy. Resilience should become the central performance indicator alongside productivity and sustainability.



The above five recommendations, drawn from commonalities of the quoted documents, provide a coherent agenda that aligns EU policy, FAO's global framework on livestock's transformation and African investment priorities and rural employment opportunities. They shift the debate from 'More livestock versus fewer livestock' to 'Better Livestock Systems' that simultaneously enhance food and nutrition security, rural prosperity, animal health and welfare, environmental sustainability, and resilience in the face of increasingly complex global risks.

The hope must be that this unusual degree of converging policy thinking can be translated into decisions and action at upcoming international meetings - that protect livelihoods, strengthen resilience in dry land communities, and support the millions of livestock holders whose income, nutrition and wellbeing depend on sustainable livestock systems - such as COP 17 on Desertification (August 2026); the FAO's One Health in Agrifood Systems (September 2026) and COP 31 on Climate (November 2026) and COP 32 (November 2027).