



LEGAL AND POLICY FRAMEWORKS AFFECTING THE MANAGEMENT OF ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES - 2013 -

Country: Nepal

SECTION 1: SUSTAINABLE USE, DEVELOPMENT AND CONSERVATION OF ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES

This section targets information on legislation and policies related specifically to the management of animal genetic resources, i.e. to:

- characterization, surveying and monitoring;
- sustainable use and development;
- conservation; and
- research and development related to animal genetic resources management.

It also includes issues related to patenting and access and benefit sharing. Instruments in these fields of action may or may not include specific provisions related to animal genetic resources or to relevant broader categories such as living organisms or genetic resources for food and agriculture.

1. Overall management of animal genetic resources

Note: In the policy field, this might include, for example, a national strategy and action plan for animal genetic resources.

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Though policy specifically on animal genetic resources management is not yet formulated, this component has also been included in Agricultural Biodiversity Policy formulated by Ministry of Agricultural Development of Nepal in 2007. A national level Animal Genetic Resources promotion and conservation guideline is already prepared. Conservation, promotion and utilization of farm animal genetic resources programs have got high priority and implemented in different districts of Nepal.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

There are altogether 25 native domestic animal species in Nepal. Among them, some are in normal condition where as some are in the stage of declining and endangered. A native breed of cattle known as Siri is already extinct from Nepal. Now, Government of Nepal (GoN), Ministry of Agricultural Development (MoAD), Department of Livestock Services (DoLS) are very serious to conserve, promote and for the proper utilization of these farm animals. Accordingly, different programs have been implemented to address the issues related to the conservation and promotion of farm animal resources.

Future needs

Native breeds are undoubtedly very resistant against the disease and parasites. They can survive even in a very harsh environment. But they are less productive than the improved breeds. Therefore, farmers either want to crossbred them or go for improved breeds of animals. In this circumstances, to conserve the native farm animals under the in-situ condition, some sort of incentives should be provided to the farmers who are keeping such animals. Hence, a clear cut policy and strategies should be there to provide such incentives to the farmers keeping the native animals.

2. Integration of animal genetic resources management with the management of other genetic resources for food and agriculture (plant, forest or aquatic genetic resources)

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Programs on conservation and promotion of farm animal genetic resources is tied up with the fodder, pasture and leasehold forestry programs. There is good linkage among the animal genetic resources with the plant, forest as well as aquatic resources mentioned in agricultural biodiversity. From the fiscal year 2013/14, GoN has been launching the forage pasture mission which also focuses the programs to conserve the native animals as well to increase the production and productivity of the farm animals.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Livestock of Nepal are underfed. It is said that there is the feed deficit by 34% on dry matter (DM) basis. Such integration programs with the animal genetic resources management would certainly help to conserve, promote and sustainable utilization of farm animal genetic resources in Nepal.

Future needs

There is a crucial need of the effective integration of farm animal genetic resources with other resources, e.g., plant, crops, forest and aquatic animals for the sustainable use of the animal resources in Nepal.

3. Surveying and monitoring of animal genetic resources

Legislation

No

Policy

Under development

Details of the measure(s)

Policy for the surveying and monitoring of the farm animals genetic resources is under development. However, in some areas with some specific breeds of animals we have the programs for the tagging and performance recording. However, it is concentrated in some small areas.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Surveying and monitoring of the animal genetic resources is a must for the effective conservation and promotion of farm animal genetic resources. It is also needed for the traceability of the animals. These programs would certainly be beneficial to know the production and productivity of the farm animals.

Future needs

A clear cut policy for the effective survey and monitoring of the animal resources is very much needed in Nepal. Therefore, policy, strategies and special programs are needed to address the farm animal genetic resources.

4. Official recognition of livestock breeds

Legislation

No

Policy

Under development

Details of the measure(s)

A breeding policy is in pipe line. This draft has clearly spoken out about the appropriate breeds for the appropriate ecological zones of Nepal. Till now, we have been working as per the provision in the draft prepared in 1999 for the conservation and promotion of the livestock breeds in Nepal.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Official recognition of livestock breeds would be very effective for the sustainable use of animal resource conservation and promotion in Nepal.

Future needs

1. Livestock Breeding Policy should be promulgated soon for the official recognition of livestock breeds in different ecological zones of Nepal.
2. Clear strategies for the breed conservation and promotion as well as for cross breeding programs should be there.

5. Animal breeding and genetic improvement strategies

Legislation

No

Policy

Under development

Details of the measure(s)

A breeding policy is in pipe line since. This draft has clearly spoken out about the appropriate breeds for the appropriate ecological zones of Nepal. Till now, we have been working as per the provision in the draft prepared in 1999 for the conservation and promotion of the livestock breeds in Nepal.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

The genetic improvement programs, e.g., Dairy Cattle Improvement Program (DCIP) and Buffalo Genetic Improvement Programs (BGIP) were initiated with the financial and technical cooperation from FAO and USAID have proved very effective in Nepal. However, these program were strictly concentrated in crossbred animals.

Future needs

The breed improvement programs like DCIP and BGIP should also be applied in native breed based on the intensive selection method.

Do these measures address:

5.1 Animal identification and recording

Note: Sections 2 and 3 include questions on traceability and on animal identification as it relates to animal health. If relevant, please use cross-references to indicate that a given law or policy affects more than one field of action.

Legislation Policy

Details of the measure(s)

The proposed draft of animal breeding policy envisages animal identification and recording for the production performance estimation and for the traceability of the animals relating about the diseases as well.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Proposed animal breeding policy will provide very positive and fruitful results on animal resource management.

Future needs

It is an utmost need to promulgate the proposed animal breeding policy and implementation of the appropriate policy with the effective implication of its strategies in the appropriate ecological zones of Nepal.

5.2 The establishment and operation of breeders' associations

Legislation Policy

Details of the measure(s)

The proposed animal breeding policy also clearly indicated the provision of animal breeders' association for the establishment of the breed specific resource centers and to maintain the pedigree records of the specific breeds of the animals. It is also mentioned in the breeding strategy draft prepared by the department in 1999.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

The breeders' associations will have very impressive impact on animal genetic resources management by establishing the breed specific resource centers, animal recording and maintenance of the pedigree records.

Future needs

It is an utmost need to promulgate the proposed animal breeding policy and implementation of the appropriate policy with the formation of breeders' associations in the appropriate ecological zones of Nepal.

6. Use of reproductive biotechnologies (excluding zoosanitary issues)

Note: Zoosanitary issues are covered in Section 3.

Legislation Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Reproductive biotechnologies including effectively heat detection, natural and artificial insemination (AI), on time pregnancy diagnosis, embryo transfer are the very important measures which are also proposed in the draft of the animal breeding policy.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Reproductive bio-technologies could be the crucial techniques that would have very impressive impact on animal genetic resources management.

Future needs

Promulgation of the proposed animal breeding policy and effective use of the appropriate biotechnological tools are the future needs for the animal genetic resource management in Nepal.

7. Genetic modification of animals used for food and agriculture

Legislation Policy

Details of the measure(s)

No significant works are done or are planned on genetic modification of animals used for food and agriculture in Nepal.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Though genetic modification of animals used for food and agriculture could have impact on animal genetic resource management, it is still not in use in Nepal.

Future needs

Appropriate policy and strategies are to be formulated to work on the genetic manipulation of the animals.

8. Suitability of imported genetic material for use in local production environments

Note: For example, rules requiring a "genetic assessment" before genetic material can be introduced.

Legislation Policy

Details of the measure(s)

The breeding strategy prepared by the department in 1999 has the provision to introduce the exotic genetic materials up to the given level in specified breeds of animals. The proposed draft of animal breeding policy envisages about the appropriate exotic blood level to be maintained in different ecological zones with respect to the breeds of animals.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Though importation of genetic materials could be beneficial to increase the production and productivity of the animals but we have to pay due attention to conserve the native animal biodiversity in Nepal.

Future needs

1. Policy and strategies to be so designed to use the imported genetic materials in the specified areas in the specified breed up to the recommended blood level.
2. To conserve the purity of the native breeds, some of the potential areas must be selected and strong rules and regulation are to be fixed not to use the imported genetic materials on the native breeds of animals.

9. Conservation programmes for animal genetic resources

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

1. National level farm animal genetic resources conservation guidelines are already prepared to conserve, promote and sustainable utilization of these species.
2. Programs for the conservation, promotion and utilization of indigenous livestock breeds are already identified, approved and launched in the potential districts.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

These conservation measures would have very effective impact for the conservation, promotion and utilization of the farm animal genetic resources management. These genetic materials would be very important for the future research to get the breeds with better resistant against diseases and parasites, better productive in harsh environmental condition and to get their products to cope higher prices (value addition), etc.

Future needs

A clear policy should be there to provide the incentives for the farmers who maintain the native breeds for the conservation of farm animal genetic resources.

Do these measures include provisions specifically related to:

9.1 *In vivo* conservation

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

No legislation or policy is there for the *in vivo* conservation of animal genetic resources but the proposed breeding policy has the provision for such conservation.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

In vivo conservation is a very effective measure for the conservation and promotion of the animal genetic resources. However, limited government farms are not enough to do this task.

Future needs

1. Need of more specialized livestock farms for the *in vivo* conservation of the animal resources in different parts of the country.
2. Private farms are to be encouraged to come up for the *in vivo* conservation of animal genetic resources.

9.2 Cryoconservation

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

A well equipped semen processing lab is already established at the National Livestock Breeding Center (NLBC). This center collects, processes and distributes the semen of crossbred cattle and buffalo all over the country. In addition, AI mission which has been launched since last two years has given high priority for the breed improvement program for the productivity enhancement of the cattle and buffalo. Semen of the indigenous breeds is also preserved in NLBC under the animal gene bank concept.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

1. The number of crossbred animals has been increasing in an increasing rate.
2. Productivity of the animals is also increasing.

Future needs

There is high need of cryo-conservation of the genetic materials of the native breeds of animals for the effective conservation of the animal genetic materials.

10. Research and development related to animal genetic resources management

Legislation Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Nepal Agriculture Research Council (NARC) has got full mandate to conduct research related to agriculture and animal science. NARC conducts research and handover the finding to the concerning department involved in technology transfer. A special research wing National Animal Science Research Institute (NASRI) under NARC is mandated to prioritize the research needs and conduct the research accordingly. Department of Livestock Services (DLS) under the Ministry of Agricultural Development (MoAD) has the very good networking up to the grassroots level for the extension of the technical knowhow. In addition to other assigned jobs livestock and veterinary technicians are engaged to conserve and promote animal genetic resources.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Research and development measures carrying out in Nepal have very good impact on animal resources management. However, many aspects of the native breeds are still of research interest.

Future needs

Further research and development works related to the productivity, resistance towards diseases and parasites (interaction among genetic-parasitic-environmental factors), etc, are the future needs for the animal resources management.

11. Patenting

Legislation

If legislation is place or under development, does/will it include provisions (including exemptions) specifically targeting:

Animal genetic resources for food and agriculture Living organisms in general

Details of the measure(s)

Some positives measures are underway for the patenting of the animal resources. e.g., Lulu and Achhami cattle, Lime and Parkote buffalo, Khari goat, Lampuchhre and Bhyanglung sheep, Yak and Naks are some of the native breeds which have been given special interest for patenting in Nepal.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Patenting would have very good impact on animal genetic management. However, many more have to be done in this issue in Nepal.

Future needs

Government and concerned authorities have to pay special interest and put it in top priority for the patenting of the animal genetic resources of Nepal.

12. Access and benefit sharing arrangements

Note: The Secretariat of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, on 8 August 2013, invited countries to report on the conditions under which genetic resources for food and agriculture are exchanged and used (Circular State Letter C/ NRD-5). Please coordinate responses within your country.

Legislation Policy

If instruments are in place or under development, do/will they include provisions (including exemptions) specifically targeting:

Animal genetic resources for food and agriculture Genetic resources for food and agriculture in general

Details of the measure(s)

No significant works have been done so far as far as access and benefit sharing of animal genetic resources management. However, some observation tours, training and participation in national and international workshops and seminars were carried out in line with access and benefit sharing arrangements.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Some observation tours, participation in workshops and seminars have helped in awareness creation and experience sharing.

Future needs

Many works are to be done for the access and benefit sharing of the animal genetic resources in Nepal.

SECTION 2: MARKETING AND CONSUMER INFORMATION AND PROTECTION

This section targets information on legislation and policies addressing the marketing of animal products, including those addressing:

- the production and marketing of organic products;
- the production and marketing of products sold under protected designations of origin or similar labels;
- production and marketing of products sold under labels indicating adherence to animal-welfare-related standards; and
- food safety.

While some policies and legislation in these fields of action may include specific references to animal genetic resources, it is likely that many will not. The latter may, nonetheless, have indirect effects on animal genetic resources and their management. Consumer demand for animal products often has a major influence on the use and development of animal genetic resources. A lack of demand may place a breed at risk of extinction. Marketing initiatives for breed-specific products, or products from production systems in which locally adapted breeds are kept, can provide a means of promoting the use of at-risk breeds and reducing the risk that they will become extinct. Legislation and policies that facilitate initiatives of this kind can have a positive effect in terms of the maintenance of animal genetic diversity. Conversely, legislation and policies that inhibit the marketing of particular types of products, or products from particular locations or production systems, may inhibit the use of animal genetic resources associated with these products, locations or production systems.

1. Marketing of animal products in general

Note: This question refers to measures that are not specifically focused on market subsectors such as organic products or products with designated labels of origin.

Legislation Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Food act in general concerns about the marketing of the animal products. However, marketing of the animal products, except few items like pasminas and carpets, of the indigenous breeds or of the niche products have not yet addressed well.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Lack of clear policy for the marketing of the animal products specially from the native breeds and of niche products hinders in the conservation of animal genetic resources.

Future needs

Special policy and programs are to be formulated to address the marketing issues of the animal products especially from the native breeds. If special attention is not paid for the marketing of the value added products the breeds which are at risk could be extinct.

2. Production and marketing of organic products

Legislation Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Agriculture policy, 2004 and poultry policy, 2011 have the provisions about the marketing of organic products. Some guidelines are also formulated for the promotion of the agricultural products.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Very few impact is there because of the limited measures applied in the production and marketing of organic products.

Future needs

The policy for the promotion and marketing of the organic products with special promotional programs is a must.

3. Production and marketing of products sold under protected designations of origin or similar labels

Legislation Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Some of the products, e.g., pasminas and carpets made from wool from native sheep are sold under protected designations of origin.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Significant impact are expected from the marketing of such products.

Future needs

The policy for the production and marketing of all products to be sold under protected designations of origin or similar labels is strictly needed for the management of animal resources in Nepal.

4. Production and marketing of products sold under labels indicating adherence to particular animal welfare-related standards

Note: For example, rules relating to the marketing of products as “free range” or under similar designations. Basic animal welfare legislation (i.e. not specifically related to marketing) is covered in Section 3.

Legislation Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Though some guidelines, e.g., animal transportation, animal slaughtering, etc. are there no special measures are practiced for the production and marketing of products using the levels indicating that they are produced with particular animal welfare-related standards in Nepal.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

No significant impact because of lack of clear cut guidelines practiced for the production and marketing of products sold under the indicating labels.

Future needs

Policy and programs to address the marketing of the animal products produced under the welfare-related standards are needed in near future.

5. Safety of food products from animals

Note: If relevant, include measures related to the marketing of products derived from genetically modified organisms.

Legislation Policy

Details of the measure(s)

No specific measures are practiced related to the marketing of products from genetically modified organisms.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Some programs, e.g., animal hygiene, slaughter house and meat processing have the good impact on food safety. However, its impact on the animal genetic resource management is still meager in Nepal.

Future needs

Implementation of the rules and regulations for the safety of food products from animals.

6. Traceability of animal-origin products

Note: Sections 1 and 3 include questions on animal identification as it relates to breeding and to animal health. If relevant, please use cross-references to indicate that a given law or policy affects more than one field of action.

Legislation Policy

Details of the measure(s)

No special measure are in use.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Since there are no special measures used in traceability of animal-origin products, no tangible impacts are seen on animal genetic resources management.

Future needs

Traceability of the animal-origin products would be very useful for the management of animal genetic resources.

SECTION 3: ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE

This section targets information on legislation and policies addressing animal health and animal welfare. While some policies and legislation in these fields may include specific references to animal genetic resources, it is likely that many will not. The latter may, nonetheless, have indirect effects on animal genetic resources and their management. Animal genetic resources and their management can be affected both by the direct effects of animal diseases and by the effects of measures taken to control animal diseases. For example, a disease epidemic may threaten the existence of at-risk breeds, particularly if their populations are concentrated geographically. Animal diseases, as influenced by the presence or absence of effective animal health services, can also influence the type of animal genetic resources that can be kept in particular locations, influence breeding objectives and/or affect the economic sustainability of livestock-keeping livelihoods. Compulsory culling measures used to control disease epidemics may pose a threat to geographically concentrated breed populations. Legal restrictions on the import of genetic material because of zoosanitary reasons may affect breeders' access to genetic resources. Legal restrictions on livestock movements, restrictions on particular husbandry practices, or onerous requirements for animal health-related actions on the part of livestock keepers (or in the food processing and marketing chain), may inhibit the keeping of animal genetic resources associated with the production systems targeted. Zoosanitary legislation related to the use of semen, embryos and other genetic materials may have implications for cryoconservation programmes. Legal and policy frameworks related to animal welfare might promote or inhibit the keeping of animals in particular production systems or the use of animals to provide specific products or services. In turn, these developments might promote or inhibit the continued use of the animal genetic resources associated with the respective production systems, products or services.

1. Delivery of animal health services and control of animal diseases

Legislation Policy

Details of the measure(s)

The acts "Animal Health and Livestock Services, 1998" and its regulation 1999, "Animal Slaughterhouse and Meat Inspection act, 1998 and its regulation 1999. Nepal Veterinary Council Act, 1998, Animal Quarantine guidelines, 2007, Animal Transportation guidelines, 2007 have postulated very important measures for the animal health services and control of animal diseases. However, their implementation in practical life is very limited. Some regulatory standards for the good livestock and veterinary practices for quality assurance are in pipelines.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Animal health services and animal disease control measures have good effect in the livestock sector. However, their impact on native animal genetic resources management is very limited.

Future needs

Special programs on delivery of animal health services and control of animal diseases are necessary to address the specific native breeds of animals in Nepal.

Do these measures include provisions specifically related to:

1.1 Animal identification

Note: Sections 1 and 2 include questions on animal identification as it relates to breeding and on traceability. If relevant, please use cross-references to indicate that a given law or policy affects more than one field of action.

Legislation Policy

Details of the measure(s)

No special measures are there for the identification of animals for traceability. However, proposed animal breeding policy has the provision of identification by tagging to assess the productivity as well as traceability of the animals.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Since no such measures are practiced yet for the conservation of animal genetic resources, there is no clear cut impact on *animal genetic resources management*.

Future needs

Policy and Programs for the animal identification to assess the productivity and traceability is needed.

1.2 Control of the import of animal genetic resources (live breeding animals and/or germplasm) for zoosanitary reasons

Legislation

Details of the measure(s)

The act "Animal Health and Livestock Services, 1998" and its regulation 1999 have the provision for the import of animal genetic resources including live animals and germplasm.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

The import of live breeding animals and germplasm has increased the number of cross breed animals. However, lack of clear policy not to disturb the native germplasm it is a matter of worry to conserve the pure breed of the native animals.

Future needs

Clear policy should be there for the importation and use of exotic germplasm for the effective conservation of the animal genetic resources.

1.3 Control of the export of animal genetic resources (live breeding animals and/or germplasm) for zoosanitary reasons

Legislation

Details of the measure(s)

The act "Animal Health and Livestock Services, 1998" and its regulation 1999 have also the provision for the export of animal genetic resources including live animals and germplasm.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

No significant impact on the conservation of animal genetic resources till now.

Future needs

Control policy for the export of native and endangered breeds of animals should be there.

1.4 Zoosanitary rules related to the use of reproductive technologies

Legislation

Details of the measure(s)

The proposed breeding policy spells about the zoosanitary rules to the use of reproductive technologies.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Application of zoosanitary rules in reproductive technologies helps in maintaining the health status of the animal resources.

Future needs

The proposed breeding policy should be promulgated soon for the implementation of the zoosanitary rules related to the use of reproductive technologies.

1.5 Control of livestock movements (within the country) for zoosanitary reasons

Legislation

Details of the measure(s)

Guidelines for the movements of livestock within the country are already in use. Livestock if needed to transport from one district to other need to be veterinary checked and certified by the qualified veterinarian registered in the Nepal Veterinary Council.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Control of the movement of livestock will have positive results in animal genetic resources.

Future needs

Effective implementation of control of livestock movements specially from/to the areas potential of indigenous breeds of livestock.

1.6 Restrictions or compulsory actions related to husbandry practices (for zoosanitary reasons)

Legislation

Details of the measure(s)

No special restrictions or compulsory actions related to husbandry practices are there in Nepal except in the case of epidemic/endemic situation. However, some guidelines, e.g., good livestock and veterinary practices that are in pipeline mention about such husbandry practices.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Since no special measures are applied for the restriction to the husbandry practices except in some critical situations no visible impact could be seen Nepal.

Future needs

Restrictions or compulsory actions related to husbandry practices are needed especially in the areas identified for the conservation of the indigenous livestock breeds.

1.7 Compulsory culling in the event of outbreaks of specific diseases

Legislation

If legislation is in place or under development, does/will it include provisions to protect at-risk animal genetic resources from the effects of culling programmes?

Details of the measure(s)

Compulsory culling/stumping out is mandatory in case if Avian Influenza (H5N1) out break is declared in the specified areas.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

This compulsory culling may have negative impact in conservation of animal genetic resources at risk.

Future needs

Provision to protect at-risk animal genetic resources from the effect of culling programs.

2. Animal welfare

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Though there is no clear legislation or policy on animal welfare, there are specific guidelines e.g., animal transportation guidelines, slaughtering methods, etc, to consider the animal welfare issues.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

No tangible impacts are seen till now on animal resources management because of the guidelines prepared for the animal welfare.

Future needs

Clear regulation and policy are needed for animal welfare and ultimately for the conservation of animal resources.

SECTION 4: AGRICULTURE, LAND USE AND NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

This section targets information on legislation and policies that address the overall management of the production systems, ecosystems and environments within which animal genetic resources are used and developed. The questions address the following main topics:

- general frameworks or strategies for rural development;
- agriculture, land use and natural resources management;
- management of biodiversity;
- other aspects of environmental protection;
- overall livestock-sector development;
- management of rangelands and other grazing lands;
- establishment of livestock farms or holdings
- establishment and operation of civil society organizations in the livestock sector
- participation of livestock keepers in decision-making in livestock-sector development; and
- prevention, preparedness and response to natural or human-induced disasters

While some policies and legislation in these fields may include specific references to animal genetic resources, it is likely that many will not. The latter may, nonetheless, have indirect effects on animal genetic resources and their management. For example, policies and legislation that promote or constrain the keeping of livestock in particular production systems, for particular purposes or in particular geographical areas may promote or discourage the use of the animal genetic resources associated with these systems/uses/locations (hence possibly affecting their risk status), lead to the establishment of breeding objectives targeting the development of animals suitable for the favoured systems/uses/locations or lead to the import of genetic resources suitable for these systems/uses/locations.

1. General framework or strategy for sustainable agriculture, land use and natural-resources management

Note: This question relates to broad strategic-level instruments such as national agricultural or rural development policies, strategies or laws. Instruments related to specific aspects of agricultural and rural development should be described under other questions as and where relevant.

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Agriculture policy, 2004 has mentioned about the sustainable agriculture, land use and natural resource management. Guidelines for the conservation of the farm animal genetic resources conservation is also prepared and is in use.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Programs for the conservation of animal genetic resources conservation are prepared and implemented in the areas suitable for the specific livestock species.

Future needs

General framework and strategies for the sustainable agriculture, land use and natural resources management are to be prepared and effectively implemented.

2. Management of biodiversity

Note: Please use this question to provide information on the general framework for managing all aspects of the country's biodiversity (e.g. instruments related to the designation and management of protected areas). Include, for example, information on whether animal genetic resources issues are included in your country's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan and on any provisions addressing potential conflicts, or perceived conflicts, between the management of animal genetic resources and the management of other elements of biodiversity. Specific animal genetic-resources-related instruments (e.g National Strategy and Action Plans for Animal Genetic Resources) should be reported in Section 1 (Question 1).

Legislation

Yes

Policy

Yes

Details of the measure(s)

Biodiversity and specifically agricultural biodiversity clearly mentions about the conservation of animal genetic resources, fodder, pasture and rangelands. Significant numbers of programs are formulated based upon the agricultural biodiversity policy.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Biodiversity management is becoming popular and has the significant positive impact on the animal resources management.

Future needs

Programs must be prepared based on the agriculture biodiversity policy.

3. Environmental protection

Note: Instruments specifically targeting the management of biodiversity are covered under Question 2. Please use this question to provide information on instruments addressing other environmental issues (e.g. addressing pollution of land and water, deforestation, climate change, water use or flood protection). If an instrument addresses both biodiversity and other aspects of environmental protection, please indicate this using a cross-reference to your answer to Question 2.

Legislation

Yes

Policy

Yes

Details of the measure(s)

Programs like plantation of fodder and pasture, seasonal forage cultivation, rangeland management, hedge-row management, biogas plants, etc. are some of the activities used as the measures by the DLS for the environmental protection.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

The above mentioned measure have very good impact on fodder pasture production, reduction of land slide, soil conservation and so on. These outputs have positive impacts on the animal genetic resources management in Nepal.

Future needs

The above mentioned measure are to be implemented in larger scales and should be tied up with the animal genetic resource conservation as well.

4. Overall development of the livestock sector

Note: This question relates to broad strategic-level instruments addressing the livestock sector as a whole, such as national livestock development strategies or laws. Instruments related to specific aspects of livestock development should be described under other questions as and where relevant.

Legislation

No

Policy

Under development

If provisions are in place or under development do/will they include:

Particular provisions aimed at supporting livestock keeping in harsh production environments

Note: Please consider direct and indirect forms of support (e.g. grants or subsidies, favourable access to credit or livestock services, facilitation of market access).

Legislation

No

Policy

Yes

Particular provisions aimed at supporting large-scale, high external input or export-oriented production systems or supporting management practices associated with such systems

Note: Please consider direct and indirect forms of support (e.g. grants or subsidies, subsidized inputs, favourable access to credit or livestock services, support for infrastructure development or mechanization).

Legislation Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Some of the measures recently in practice, e.g., livestock insurance, favorable access to credit, soft loan (subsidised interest rate) for livestock farming, subsidies on livestock related machines and equipments and other farm inputs, etc. are becoming popular.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Farmers have shown very good interest in commercial livestock farming, value added livestock production which will have positive impact on animal genetic conservation.

Future needs

Special provision should be there for the farmers who are/will be engaged in larger scale livestock production especially in the areas of animal genetic resources conservation.

5. Management of and access to rangelands or other grazing lands

Legislation Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Rangeland policy 2012 has been promulgated by the Government of Nepal. It has clearly put attainable objectives for the livestock sector development.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Rangeland policy, 2012 has pointed out measures to increase the access of the livestock to the grazing lands. This also aimed to increase the production and productivity of the rangeland. This will directly impact on animal genetic resources management.

Future needs

- Rangeland implementation guidelines are to be formulated to implement the policy.
- Communities are to be made accountable in the management of rangeland for its sustainable use.
- Access road to the rangelands are to be constructed.
- Provision of drinking water for the livestock is needed in the rangeland.

6. Establishment of livestock farms or holdings

Note: This question relates to planning rules related to the size, location, ownership, registration, etc. of livestock farms or holdings.

Legislation Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Some guidelines are formulated for the establishment of the commercial livestock farms.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

The guidelines for the establishments of small scale, medium scale and large scale livestock farms will provide effective tools to provide the farmers with some incentives that will have positive impact on animal genetic resources management.

Future needs

Special incentive mechanisms for the establishment of the indigenous livestock farms.

7. Establishment and operation of civil society organizations in the livestock sector

Note: Instruments specifically related to organizations focused on breeding (genetic improvement) activities are covered in Section 1 (Question 5.2). Please use the present question to provide information on instruments of a more general nature (e.g. related to the operation of cooperative societies or community organizations).

Legislation Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Public private partnership programs (PPPP) are also used as the measures in different programs of livestock sector. Private sectors are involved in the AI mission programs as well as farm animal genetic resource conservation. Farmers' groups, committees and cooperatives are also involved in the animal genetic resources.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Involvement of civil society as private sector in livestock sector has the positive impact on animal genetic resources management. PPPP has proved effective in dairy cattle development program, AI mission program, leasehold forestry program, Lulu cattle and Achhami cattle conservation programs, etc.

Future needs

There is a need of specific strategy along with the policy for the involvement of civil society on animal genetic resources conservation.

8. Participation of livestock keepers in decision-making related to the development of the livestock sector

Legislation

No

Policy

Under development

Details of the measure(s)

Participation of the representatives of the farmers as livestock keepers is ensured in all projects and programs in decision-making related to the development of the livestock sector. Livestock keepers' participation is ensured right from the group up to the the steering committees.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Involvement of the livestock keepers in decision-making programs have resulted very good impact on the animal genetic resources management.

Future needs

Compulsory involvement of livestock keepers in every level of decision making would be very beneficial for the animal resource management.

9. Prevention, preparedness and response to natural or human-induced disasters

Legislation

Yes

Policy

Under development

If instruments are place or under development, do/will they include any provisions specifically targeting:

Animal genetic resources

Note: For example, measures targeting the protection of at-risk breeds.

Legislation

No

Policy

Yes

Livestock in general

Legislation

No

Policy

Yes

Details of the measure(s)

Avian influenza (H5N1) control order, 2007, National Surveillance Plan for HPAI, 2011, Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for control and contentment of HPAI in Nepal, 2012 are already in place. Some other programs and projects are already launched to address the issues like climate change. Establishment of gene bank is also one of the instruments used for the prevention, preparedness and response to natural or human-induced disasters. In addition, livestock insurance is also recently launched program to get the compensation if their farms are affected because of the response of the natural or human induced disaster management.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

The measure used for the prevention, preparedness and response to the natural or human-induced disasters have very good impact on the animal resource conservation.

Future needs

The programs for the prevention, preparedness and response to the human or natural -induced disaster would be very impressive. Hence, GoN should give high priority in conservation and promotion of indigenous animal.

SECTION 5: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please provide information on any aspects of your country's legal and policy framework that affect animal genetic resources and their management but are not covered by any of the questions above.

Not applicable.

Submit by e-mail