



FIJI LIVESTOCK SECTOR STRATEGY VALIDATION WORKSHOP TANOA INTERNATIONAL HOTEL, NADI, 17-19 FEBRUARY 2016

INTRODUCTION

In May 2015 a Fiji Livestock Sector Forum, themed 'Livestock for Livelihoods – New Generation Thinking' the first in over 5 years, was held at the Tanoa International Hotel, Nadi. Participants were drawn from the private and public sectors, livestock farming enterprises, and industry associations. The meeting shared experiences on the challenges for development, where possible solutions and opportunities were discussed and recorded in a matrix of outcomes for the Livestock sector in Fiji. The next step was to formulate a draft livestock sector strategy for Fiji.

A consultant was engaged and guided by the Livestock Sector Strategy Working Group (LSSWG), appointed during the forum, along with the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) and the Pacific Community (SPC) to draft the Fiji Livestock Sector Strategy. Outcomes from the forum, and other relevant documents, were made available to assist in the drafting process.

This event was organised for validation of the final draft of the Strategy document, the final step in an inclusive, consultative process. The event included representatives from all the livestock sector stakeholders in the consultation, formulation and adoption of the strategy.

The Livestock Strategy is aimed at re-energising and modernising the livestock sector in Fiji to better meet the needs of the next generation in relation to production and consumption demands, while also providing sustainable livelihoods for farmers. It aims at promoting productivity, innovation, research and also utilizing the skills, resources and capacity of the private sector. The Strategy will also strengthen linkages to domestic, regional and international markets which are in line with Fiji's National Agriculture Policy 2020.

KEY OUTCOMES

1. **Acknowledged** the important role that the Livestock Sector Strategy Working Group (LSSWG) – a private sector-led group working in collaboration with the public sector – has played in driving the development of the Strategy from the initial Forum to now.
2. **Agreed** that the LSSWG or a similar body be maintained to continue momentum in implementation of the Strategy, and to provide a means for addressing other issues which may arise in the sector.
3. **Noted** some options for implementation oversight and continuing the momentum from the LSSWG into a subsequent entity. One suggestion involved an Implementation Committee with MoA rep as Chair and a private sector rep as Vice Chair. In general it was felt that the process should continue to be private sector/industry-led.
4. **Discussed** the role that FCLC may play in this, including noting concerns around overloading their current capacity at this stage, lack of strength in the membership base, and issues around internal governance. FCLC may be able to play a role as Secretariat for or host to a post-LSSWG implementation committee. It was suggested that FCLC needs to be strengthened further before it can play a larger role.



5. **Supported** the Strategy for being needs-based, strongly private-sector driven, and having a bottom-up approach, and appreciated the consultative process that has been followed in developing the Strategy as well as the inclusiveness of its coverage.
6. **Supported** the vision of a Productive, Competitive, Sustainable sector, and the four Strategic Outcomes were strongly supported:
 - Improved Governance
 - Competitive Value Chains
 - New Generation Opportunities
 - Sustainability and Risk Management
7. **Noted** the good data made available during the workshop and **acknowledged** that some of the data in the Strategy is outdated and may need to be updated by MoA and from other sources at this forum. In addition some of the targets in the Strategy were queried as possibly being overambitious or unrealistic.
8. **Noted** the Fiji Dairy Development Initiative supported by NZ MFAT through up to NZ\$10mill to 2020, and agreed that this was a welcome initiative for driving the dairy industry forward.
9. **Noted** the good work undertaken by the NZ Young Farmers to promote and incentivise youth involvement across a wide range of occupational fields in the agriculture sector throughout New Zealand.
 - a) **Agreed** that Fiji needed to incentivise and engage youths in the livestock sector and welcomed the prospects of working with NZ Young Farmers to seek opportunities for collaboration, advice and support.
 - b) **Noted** that Mr Terry Copeland, CEO of NZ Young Farmers will be presenting a program proposal to NZMFAT shortly to explore twinning or similar opportunities further
10. **Noted** the data provided by the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) in their Livestock Inventory presentation, including:
 - a) Livestock contribute 10% of the overall Agriculture contribution (7.6%) to GDP. This equates to 0.76% of Fiji's GDP coming from Livestock.
 - b) The average livestock GDP rate is -3%
 - c) Consumer demand for livestock products is increasing over time, with dairy (6%) and poultry (9%) products showing the highest rates of growth
 - d) Production trends over the period 2011-14 were variable, with beef, dairy and honey increasing but chickens, goats, pigs and sheep having an overall decline. The number of stock has shown a general increase over the same period.
 - e) Imports of livestock products have been steadily increasing in both volume and value, with key imported products being beef, milk, sheep meat and poultry meat – all primarily from Australia (39%) and New Zealand (57%).
 - f) Livestock products exported from Fiji are primarily to other Pacific island countries.
11. **Noted** data provided by Mr Simon Cole (FCLC Chairman) on comparative livestock product supply and demand across Pacific countries. This included:
 - a) Fiji has one of the highest proportions of local vs imported meat supply (~70% locally produced).
 - b) Fiji's self-sufficiency is high for poultry, pork and eggs (>90%), but low for beef (49%) and extremely low for sheep/goats (12%).
 - c) In comparison, Tonga and Samoa are both high in local pork and egg production, but very low for poultry meat (5% and 3% respectively)



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- d) Guam, Marshall Islands and Palau all have extremely low to nil local livestock production across all categories.
- e) On the consumption side, poultry is the meat product with the highest level of consumption across all countries, with the exception of Vanuatu. In several countries pork and/or beef is also consumed in proportionally high amounts.
- f) Across the region imported livestock products come largely from the US, with Australia and New Zealand being large suppliers to a limited number of countries in close geographic proximity.
- g) Fiji imports 100% of all livestock products from Aus or NZ, with the exception of 3% of beef supply. The largest imports by value are mutton and beef.

12. **Discussed** other issues/areas for possible further attention, including:

- a. Need for quality, reliable, cost-effective livestock feed, including suggestion of a National Feed Assessment and possible stand-alone Livestock feed Strategy;
- b. Inclusion of Biosecurity (BAF) in the Strategy as a suggested improvement;
- c. Identifying and including the 'maqiti' market in data and targets;
- d. Access to land, particularly the current difficulty with agricultural leases;
- e. Providing support for the development of subsistence as well as semi/commercial farmers;
- f. Engaging young people in the sector, including increasing training options and the model of NZ Young Farmers;
- g. Greater integration of climate change considerations.

RESOLUTION OF ENDORSEMENT

- 13. **The strategy was endorsed by resolution at the meeting.** The resolution was proposed by Mr Vili Cegumalua, seconded by Mr Sachida Nand and Mr Amal, and supported by acclaim from all attendees.
- 14. **Appreciation** was formally extended to the Ministry of Agriculture, SPC, LSSWG, meeting sponsors and the Consultant for their contributions to development of the Strategy and its validation.

ACTIONS / NEXT STEPS

- 15. **The Consultant** to finalise the Strategy after taking into consideration the comments and views from the past three days. The Consultant will submit the final report to MAL & SPC by 15 March, 2016.
- 16. **MOA EP&S Unit** to update data in the Strategy to reflect recent changes in the industry and information presented at the Forum.
- 17. **MOA** to also finalise the format of the strategy and the growth targets, in consultation with the LSSWG.
- 18. **MOA** and the **LSSWG** to finalise the implementation arrangements for the Strategy.
- 19. **Minister for Agriculture** to present the Strategy to Cabinet, through a Cabinet paper, together with the Implementation Plan, and funding needs (5years).
- 20. Following Cabinet endorsement, **MAL, FCLC, SPC, and Partners** should raise awareness on the existence of the document to increase membership of the FCLC, draw new farmers to the



sector, attract donor & development partners, and carry out fund-raising activities to improve the livestock industry in Fiji.

ANNEXES:

- I – Agenda
- II – Summary of Proceedings
- III – List of Participants
- IV – Group Slides on Strategy Edits/Amendments

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ANNEX 1

AGENDA

FIJI LIVESTOCK SECTOR STRATEGY VALIDATION WORKSHOP: LIVESTOCK FOR LIVELIHOODS- NEW GENERATION OPPORTUNITIES

Introduction

A Fiji Livestock Sector Forum, themed 'Livestock for Livelihoods – New Generation Thinking' the first in over 5 years, was held at the Tanoa International Hotel, Fiji, Nadi from the 12-15 May, 2015. The participants were drawn from the private and public sectors, livestock farming enterprises, and industry associations. The meeting shared experiences on the challenges for development, where possible solutions and opportunities were discussed and recorded in a matrix of outcomes for the Livestock sector in Fiji. The next step was to formulate a draft livestock sector strategy for Fiji and have it validated by the livestock sector stakeholders in Fiji from the 17-19 February 2016. The forum meeting outcomes and other relevant documents were made available to the consultant to draft the livestock sector strategy. The consultant was guided by the Livestock Sector Strategy Working Group (LSSWG) who were appointed during the recent Livestock forum meeting (May 2015), as well as with the Ministry of Agriculture (Secretariat) and SPC to draft the Livestock Sector Strategy. The validation process will include representatives from all the livestock sector stakeholders in the consultation, formulation and adoption of the strategy.

The Livestock Strategy is aimed at re-energising and modernising the livestock sector in Fiji to better meet the needs of the next generation in relation to production and consumption demands while also providing sustainable livelihoods for farmers. It aims at promoting productivity, innovation, research and also utilizing the skills, resources and capacity of the private sector. The Strategy should also strengthen linkages to domestic, regional and international markets which are in line with Fiji's National Agriculture Policy 2020.

Meeting Objectives:

1. To validate the draft Fiji Livestock Sector Strategy
2. To prioritize the actions under the Livestock strategy
3. Discuss on going status of the Livestock sector strategy working group
4. To present an updated inventory of the livestock industry in Fiji



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DAY 1

Session	Time	Wednesday 17 February 2016	Speaker/Facilitator	Chair
	8:00am- 9:00am	<i>Registration</i>	<i>Maria Karalo (SPC)</i> <i>Ledua Lacabuka (MOA)</i>	
1	9:00am-10:00am	<u>Opening:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Devotion Welcome and opening remarks by SPC Opening remarks MOA Keynote address by chief guest 	TBC Dr Ken Cokanasiga, Deputy Director LRD, SPC Mr Tomasi Tunabuna, act/Deputy Secretary Agricultural Development Mr Uraia Waibuta, act/Permanent Secretary for Agriculture	Dr. Robin Yarrow, Chair LSSWG
	10:00am-10:30 am	<i>Morning Tea & Group Photo</i>	<i>All</i>	
2		<i>Briefing and Adoption of Agenda</i>	<i>All</i>	
3	10:30am-11:00am	<u>Livestock Sector Working Group Report:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fiji Livestock Sector strategy working group presentation 	Dr. Robin Yarrow, Chair LSSWG	Mr Tomasi Tunabuna, a/DSAD



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	11:00am-1:00 pm	<u>Sector Presentations:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Livestock sector Inventory ▪ Meat consumption trends in Fiji and Region ▪ FCLC Council- role, Farm Models spreadsheet, communication on issues (BAF, National Facilitation Committee) ▪ Review of status of Feed Research in Fiji ▪ PAPP Research & Extension Symposium (Samoa)- Output ▪ NARI -PNG(Feed Research) ▪ SPC (Feed Resources Perspective in PICTs) ▪ Discussion (Q&A) 	<p>Ms Sainiana Kirisitiana, MOA</p> <p>Mr Simon Cole, Chair FCLC</p> <p>Mr Simon Cole, Chair FCLC</p> <p>Mr Eroni Tamani, MOA</p> <p>Mr Simon Cole, Chair FCLC</p> <p>Dr. Pikah Kohun, National Agricultural Research Institute, PNG</p> <p>Mr Andrew Tukana/ Mr Nichol Nonga, SPC</p>	Mr Tomasi Tunabuna, a/DASA
	1:00pm-2:00pm	<i>Lunch Break</i>	<i>All</i>	
4	2:00pm-3:00pm	<u>Sector Presentations:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NZ Young Farmers ▪ Fiji Dairy improvement programme 	<p>Mr Terry Copeland, NZYFO</p> <p>Mr Brandon Sherry, Mr Tukatara Tagi, Mr Robert LaGrange, MFAT</p>	Mr Simon Cole, Chair FCLC



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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion (Q&A) 		
	<i>3:00pm-3:30pm</i>	<i>Afternoon Tea</i>	<i>All</i>	
5	3:30pm-5:00pm	<p><u>Sector Presentations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sheep and Goat & beef cattle improvement programme World Bank Study of livestock Sector in Fiji Discussion (Q&A) 	<p>Mr Maikali Drauna, MOA</p> <p>Mr Akuila Nacoke, EP&S</p>	Mr Simon Cole, Chair FCLC
6	5:00pm-6:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Briefing for the Discussion Groups on the processes needed and reporting format 	Dr. Robin Yarrow, Chair LSSWG	
Day 2				
Session	Time	Thursday 18 February 2016	Speaker/Facilitator	Chair
1	9.00am-10:00am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recap day 1 Presentation of the draft Fiji Livestock Sector Strategy by consultant 	<p>Mr Eduari Navukiboro, MOA</p> <p>Mr Chris Landon-LANE, Consultant</p>	Mr John Caldeira, LSSWG
	<i>10:00am-10:30am</i>	<i>Tea Break</i>	<i>All</i>	
2	10:30am-1:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue Draft strategy presentation by consultant Questions and Answers Presentation on the prioritization process 	<p>Mr Chris Landon-LANE, Consultant</p> <p>LSSWG</p> <p>TBC</p>	Mr John Caldeira, LSSWG



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		<u>Group Work Sessions</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Form groups based on the 4 Strategic Outcomes of the draft Strategy, and group membership Reporting structure: Brief discussion and reporting arrangements - 		Dr. Robin Yarrow, Chair LSSWG
	<i>1:00pm-2:00pm</i>	<i>Lunch Break</i>	<i>All</i>	
3	2:00pm-3:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue Discussion Group work 		
	<i>3.00pm-3:30pm</i>	<i>Tea Break</i>	<i>All</i>	
4	3:30pm-5:00pm	Continue Discussion Group Sessions		
5	5.00pm-6.00pm	<u>Livestock Feed discussions:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feed Plenary Session 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Goodman Fielder Pacific Feeds Fiji Coop Dairy Ltd NARI Waiyanitu Farm FNU 	Mr Tomasi Tunabuna, a/DSAD (Chair) Mr Avinesh Dayal, a/Dir AHP (Rapporteur)
DAY 3				
Session	Time	Friday 19 February 2016	Speaker/Facilitator	Chair
1	8:30am-10:30am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recap Day 2 Presentation by Discussion Groups 	Mr Avinesh Dayal, MOA Chairs of the Discussion Groups	Mr Hirday Lakhan, Dep Chair, LSSWG
	<i>10:30am-11:00am</i>	<i>Tea Break</i>	<i>All</i>	



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2	11:00am-12:30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Discussions on the Draft Strategy :▪ Presentation on Implementation options▪ Discussions on the future of the Livestock Strategy working group with appropriate mandates/roles.	Consultant- Chris Landen Lane	Dr. Robin Yarrow, Chair LSSWG
	<i>12:30pm-1:30pm</i>	<i>Lunch Break</i>	<i>All</i>	
3	1.30pm-3.00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Endorsement of Fiji Livestock Sector Strategy▪ The Way Forward▪ Closing Remarks	Consultant- Chris Landen Lane	Dr. Robin Yarrow, Chairs LSSWG

End



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ANNEX II - SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

DAY ONE

OPENING

1. The Workshop was opened with remarks by SPC Deputy Director LRD, the Pacific Community (SPC), Dr Ken Cokanasiga, and Acting Deputy Secretary for Agricultural Development, Fiji Ministry of Agriculture (MOA), Mr Tomasi Tunabuna. A Keynote Address was given by the Acting Permanent Secretary for Agriculture, Mr Uraia Waibuta.

LIVESTOCK SECTOR STRATEGY WORKING GROUP REPORT

2. Dr Robin Yarrow, Chairman of the Fiji Livestock Sector Strategy Working Group (LSSWG), presented an outline of the steps that has been undertaken since the initial Livestock Forum in May 2015, and the process followed in developing the final draft strategy to date. The working group process was private-sector led, in strong partnership with government, SPC, donor partners and others, and has enabled thorough consultation and strong ownership of the strategy.

SECTOR PRESENTATIONS

3. Sainiana Kirisitiana from MOA's Agriculture & Rural Statistics Unit presented an Inventory of the Fiji livestock sector, including – performance, consumption, data, trade and self-sufficiency.
4. Simon Cole, Chairman of the Fiji Crop and Livestock Council (FCLC), presented on Meat Supply in the Pacific region. Fiji has one of the proportions of local vs imported meat supply (~70% locally produced). This local supply is primarily in poultry and pork (both >90% local), with beef at 49% and sheep/goat at 12% local supply only. Almost all of the imported meat comes from Australia or New Zealand. On the consumption side, more than half of meat consumed in Fiji (excluding fish) is poultry.
5. Mr Eroni Tamani from MoA presented a Review of the Status of Feed Research in Fiji, where the current focus is on improving nutritional status, pasture cultivar selection, low-cost rations, and climate change considerations. Challenges being encountered include capacity, logistics and economics; and establishment of a Livestock Working Committee was one suggestion for the Way Forward.
6. Simon Cole gave a second presentation relating to a Private Sector perspective on outcomes from the Pacific Research and Extension Symposium held in late-2015 in Samoa. He emphasised the need for research to be relevant to farmers' needs, and the need for research results to be communicated back to farmers. Results and their practical applications must be accessible.
7. SPC presented an overview of the current situation and some issues affecting livestock feed resources in Pacific island countries. Most countries in the region currently import feeds. There are a variety of possible feed ingredients available locally, but further



research is need, especially as demand is increasing. A possible solution for greater coordination was proposed – Pacific Livestock Feed Resources Network (LFRN) – to develop standardised methodologies and to promote linkages between scientific and industrial research.

8. After the lunch break, the CEO of New Zealand Young Farmers presented on their vision, activities and successes. They focus on personal, professional and leadership development of young people in agriculture, including a stream for ag in schools. They do this through provision of learning resources, a series of competitions, and various social events.
9. NZ MFAT gave an overview of the Fiji Dairy Industry Development Initiative, which is up to NZ\$10 million over 5 years to 2020. It has 6 components covering Extension, Training, Industry Strategy, Purchase Agreement/QA, Database development, and Infrastructure.
10. Mr Drauna of MoA presented on developments for Sheep & Goats. This initiative is currently structured around introduction of new breeds, building on the success of the Fiji Fantastic. Objectives are to increase production and profitability; develop a sustainable industry; and reduce imports.
11. Mr Nacoke of MoA presented on a report from the World Bank project ID mission in June 2015. The livestock sector will be supported, as well as horticulture and sugar. Potential activities include – policy review, breed improvement, access to credit, slaughter facilities, institutional strengthening and capacity development, with a value of circa FJ\$16 million.

DAY TWO

USE OF LOCAL FEED FOR POULTRY, PIGS & INLAND POND FISH IN PNG

12. Dr Pikah Kohun presented the National Agriculture Research Institute's (NARI) work on livestock feed for smallholder farmers in Papua New Guinea (PNG). NARI focus on research, training, and marketing advice on feed for poultry, pigs, and inland fish farms. This includes better utilization of locally grown crops for feed production, and training farmers on small-scale feed formulation & manufacturing as a business.
13. NARI has been undertaking research on local feed for smallholder farmers in an effort to reduce dependence on imported grains & ingredients; reduce feed price, which has been increasing in the in last 10 years (56-110%); reduce the price of locally produced pork, chicken meat, eggs & fish; and improving smallholders' profit margins, narrowed due to high feed cost.
14. The use of tropical grass as silage material for feed was raised in the discussion. However, due to its high fibre content tropical grasses are not suitable for making good silage as its carbon properties are too high for proper compression.



DRAFT LIVESTOCK STRATEGY

15. The Consultant presented the Draft Fiji Livestock Strategy, briefly outlining the strategy preparation process and the current status of the Fiji livestock sector. The presentation then moved on to the contents of the Strategy focussing on the four priority Outcomes (Improved Governance, Competitive Value-Chains, New Generation Opportunities, Sustainability and Risk Management) to move the sector and its complementary industries forward. The presentation includes a cost estimate of approximately F\$88.7 million - to fund the Strategy's implementation over its five-year lifespan.
16. The discussion focussed on land and credit access; rural infrastructure needs; livestock feed; climate change impact and adaptation; and attracting new farmers and youth into the livestock sector.
17. Participants were of the view that the Strategy's vision would be realised if farmers and the private sector lead the implementation, with government facilitating growth in the industry through its policy on livestock.

Governance

18. The M&E framework for this strategy is important for tracking progress, success, and lessons learned for effective activity implementation and policy interventions.

Competitive Value Chains

19. The meeting recognised the contribution of value chain activities to boost export performance and food security in the country.
20. During discussion, a suggestion was to put goat & sheep together in terms of priority sectors. Sheep farming seems to be low on the priority list given that it focus on the local '*magiti*' market (live weight gate price for sheep is currently \$8/kg), but is a potential growth area. High quality cuts of the 'Fiji Fantastic' breed farmed in Wakaya and Mago Islands are currently being exported to the US.

Sustainability

21. The El Niño effect on food and feed production worldwide in 2008 was highlighted to demonstrate the impact of climate change and the resilience of local farmers to adapt, emphasising the use of natural resources and good practice farm integration.
22. Insurance of livestock was raised given the prevalence of natural disasters in the country; while farming equipment and assets are covered by insurance, there has not been much discussion on livestock coverage. MOA clarified that the FAO have done some preliminary work on insurance for the sugar industry, and this could be extended to livestock farming. MOA is working on a draft report for Ministerial endorsement and on to Cabinet.

New Generation Opportunities

23. Women and Youth group participation in the sector are deterred by issues on land access



and credit availability and its conditions. Attracting youth to the sector means engaging children from early-childhood on opportunities in agriculture and as an option outside of white collar jobs. The current mentality, which focusses on getting children ‘off-the-farm’, needs to change. In addition, a Navuso-model type of training on farm operation, savings, crop management, and livestock husbandry needs to be provided to young farmers and new entrants to the sector.

24. A suggestion is for the Young farmers’ wing of the Fiji Crop & Livestock Council (FCLC) to take a lead role on the above. The FCLC clarified that there is a distinction between farming and farm businesses.

Panel Discussion: Feed & Livestock

25. The panellists provided some background information on the feed sector in Fiji, its challenges, issues that requires government assistance, and their own experiences in dealing with shortages of raw materials (e.g. copra). While two of the panellist were commercial companies involved in the feed industry, Waiyanitu Farm (Navua) deals with smallholder farmers specifically. It provides advice and custom-made livestock feed for farmers to suit raw materials that are abundant in the farmer area (e.g. copra for Tailevu, corn for Tavua etc.) and provided; in this way the farmer can be guaranteed constant feed supply.
26. Dr. Pikah from NARI reiterated PNG’s work in mixing as much locally grown crops (cassava & sweet potatoes) into animal feed as a cheaper way of supporting smallholder farmers rather than relying entirely on commercially produced feed.

DAY THREE

RECAP OF DAY 2

27. As part of the Feed Plenary, issues were ranked by priority during the plenary, as follows (most to least important):
1. Quality/Feed Testing/Research
 2. Cost
 3. Raw material availability/Local ingredients
 4. Policy vs Regulation
 5. Organic feed

VALIDATION

28. Four groups were formed by Workshop participants to consider the Strategy with specific focus on:
- Group 1. Strategic Outcome 1. Improved Governance
 - Group 2. Strategic Outcome 2. Competitive Value Chains
 - Group 3. Strategic Outcome 3. Sustainability and Risk Management
 - Group 4. Strategic Outcome 4. New Generation Opportunities
29. The groups were requested to review relevant parts of the document to: identify factual errors/omissions; identify strengths and weaknesses; discuss adoption/implementation



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options; and identify priority areas.

Group 1 - Improved Governance

30. Edits (*Refer Annex 1*): Statistics in the Strategy need to be validated by MOA, especially statistics and data from agriculture industry bodies. Targets in the document need to be realistic.
31. BAF needs to be included. Fiji's BAF protocols need to be clarified to support importation of raw materials and exporting.
32. Given the important role played by the feed industry, there is a need for a separate 'Livestock Feed Strategy' to complement the livestock strategy. SPC pointed out that while the idea is good, a national feed assessment has to be undertaken to determine the current status of the feed industry before a policy can be formulated.
33. FCLC still needs to build its capacity to implement relevant recommendations of the Strategy. Agriculture industry reps (private sector) should take lead role in the implementation of the Strategy. Suggested FCLC could act as the Secretariat to the new 'Implementation Committee'.
34. Strengths of the Strategy include – all-inclusiveness, clear implementation, strongly private sector-led, bottom up approach.

Group 2 - Competitive Value Chains

35. Edits (*Refer Annex 1*): Data needs to be updated
36. Weaknesses: Biosecurity (BAF) is missing from the Strategy. This is an important component as it facilitates the success of value-chain operation in the sector. More consideration needed of climate change aspects.
37. Strengths: Wide consultation, gender/youth components, consideration of environmental issues including organic farming, capacity building, information sharing.
38. Working group for the Strategy implementation should include reps from commercial banks and the Reserve Bank of Fiji.

Group 3 - Sustainability and Risk Management

39. Edits (*Refer Annex 1*)
40. Suggestions: Include access to private veterinary services and land use education in the Strategy. MOA to identify model farms and devise programmes for mentoring of young farmers. Some emphasis on the issue of land & credit access in Fiji.
41. Strengths: The Strategy should be supported for placing more emphasis on animal welfare, and for the wide consultation.. Also includes – youth, women, bees (which aren't in Fiji 2020)



42. Weaknesses:

- The document does not differentiate between subsistence and commercial farming – this needs to be clearly defined.
- The labour productivity target for the sector is too low and should be increased.
- The Strategy needs more performance metrics on outcomes for monitoring purposes.
- The value-chain component should also focus on other livestock farming inputs and not on livestock feed alone.

43. Disaster risk management for farmers – details need to be sorted on coverage and access; and how this affects small farmers/subsistence versus commercial farmers. MOA and government to work on mitigation measures to minimise losses for small-holder farmers.

44. The representative from the Ministry of Land provided some clarification on the recent changes in the Ministry regarding lease approvals for farming purposes. The Ministry has developed a new process and requirement list, in collaboration with the TLTB, to assist farmers. Turnaround time on lease application is 6-months; mortgage transfer (lease) 10days. Lease renewal tends to take up time due death of lessor, affecting transfers of lease and other complementing legal requirements.

Group 4 - New Generation Opportunities

45. Edits (*Refer Annex 1*): The Strategy needs a communication plan to attract young farmers through the use of social media and the internet for livestock news dissemination, Ministry's updates, and information generally for livestock farmers.

46. Strengths: broad stakeholder base, good sector coverage, strong support including from donor partners.

47. Weaknesses/Risks: Implementation activities should have timeframes; Goals may be overly-ambitious; Farmer awareness/communication plan needed; Concerns about capacity of FCLC.

48. Priorities: 1) Engage Youth; 2) Improve the Image of Ag; 3) Access to Land & Finance.

49. Suggestion to follow the New Zealand model by introducing competition in local agri-shows for young farmers and village-based farmers. In terms of gender equality, the Navuso Agriculture School has to change to a co-ed institution from its current male-only school. In addition, the share farming concepts should be encouraged to draw youths into the sector given the high cost of entry and resources required to establish new livestock farms in Fiji.

50. Also suggest FCLC could establish a Project Management Unit to implement and monitor the progress of the Strategy.

Next Steps and Action Required

51. The Strategy will be finalised after taking into consideration the comments and views



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from the past three days. Fiji MAL's Economic & Planning Unit will update the data and statistics to reflect recent changes in the industry by end of February 2016.

52. The Consultant will submit the final report to MAL & SPC by 15 March, 2016.
53. MAL EP&S to finalise the format of the strategy and the growth targets, in consultation with the LSSWG.
54. Ms Jiu Daunivalu presented briefly on a proposed structure for an implementation committee and interrelated governmental structures.
55. MAL and the Working Group will finalise the implementation arrangements for the Strategy.
56. The Minister for Agriculture will then present the Livestock Strategy to Cabinet, through a Cabinet paper, together with the Implementation Plan, and funding needs (5years).
57. After Cabinet endorsement, MAL, FCLC, SPC, and Partners should raise awareness on the existence of the document to increase membership of the FCLC, draw new members to the sector, attract donor & development partners, and carry out fund-raising activities to improve the livestock industry in Fiji.

STRATEGY ENDORSEMENT

58. It was agreed that the above steps were a suitable way to take the Strategy forward from this meeting.
59. It was noted that a number of elements were needed to further strengthen the Strategy, to be incorporated from discussions and presentations over the past 3 days plus discussed inputs from MoA EP&S.
60. The Draft Livestock Strategy was then put forward for endorsement by the group.
61. The strategy was endorsed by resolution at the meeting. The resolution was proposed by Mr Vili Cegumalua, seconded by Mr Sachida Nand and Mr Amal, and supported by acclaim from all attendees.

CLOSING

62. Closing remarks were made by PS MoA, LSSWG Chairman and other attendees, and appreciation was formally extended to the Ministry of Agriculture, SPC, LSSWG, meeting sponsors and the Consultant for their contributions.
63. The Validation Workshop ended with a Prayer.

END



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ANNEX III – LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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LIVESTOCK FOR LIVELIHOODS- NEW GENERATION OPPORTUNITIES

Tanoa International Hotel, Nadi, Fiji: February 17 – 19, 2016.

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