

# INVESTING IN SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK GUIDE: ANIMAL HEALTH INDICATORS



This brief provides an overview of the Investing in Sustainable Livestock (ISL) Guide and the indicators that it recommends using to monitor and evaluate animal health performance in livestock development projects.



# **INVESTING IN SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK GUIDE: PRINCIPLES FOR ANIMAL HEALTH**

## **Table of Contents**

- 03 Introduction to the ISL
- 04 Typical Objectives and Interventions for  
Livestock Development
- 05 ISL Performance Indicators

# INVESTING IN SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK GUIDE: PRINCIPLES FOR ANIMAL HEALTH

## Introduction to the ISL Guide

The online Investing in Sustainable Livestock (ISL) Guide (<https://www.sustainablelivestockguide.org/>) is a practical instrument and an information resource for developing sustainable livestock production systems. The interactive component of the guide provides guidance, suggested activities and indicators to help livestock projects contribute to sustainability. It is grounded in tested theory and evidence and organized into seven principles for environment and seven others for animal health. The principles have relevance for project conceptualization (Principle 1), technical project design (Principles 2 through 6), and the broader socio-cultural, political, and economic context in which the project will be implemented (Principle 7) (See table below). The World Bank and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) developed these principles specifically for the ISL Guide.

The ISL Guide’s interactive component takes into consideration a variety of geographic contexts and tailors its guidance to different project objectives and interventions. So, if you are designing or implementing a project that involves livestock, it has detailed recommendations for you. Since the ISL Guide understands sustainability in a broad sense, it will eventually comprise elements not only relating to the environment and animal health and welfare, but also to equity issues such as gender and inclusion. The World Bank and FAO will expand the guide to integrate these issues in due course.

<b>PRINCIPLE 1</b>	
Contribute to a Sustainable Food Future	
<b>ENVIRONMENT GUIDE</b>	<b>ANIMAL HEALTH GUIDE</b>
<b>PRINCIPLE 2</b>	<b>PRINCIPLE 2</b>
Enhance Carbon Stocks	Prevent & Control Animal Diseases
<b>PRINCIPLE 3</b>	<b>PRINCIPLE 3</b>
Improve Efficiency at Animal & Herd Levels	Ensure the Welfare of Animals
<b>PRINCIPLE 4</b>	<b>PRINCIPLE 4</b>
Source Feed Sustainability	Healthy Animals for Safer Food
<b>PRINCIPLE 5</b>	<b>PRINCIPLE 5</b>
Couple Livestock to Land	Reduce the Risk of Zoonosis
<b>PRINCIPLE 6</b>	<b>PRINCIPLE 6</b>
Minimize Fossil Fuel Use	Prudent & Responsible Use of Antimicrobials
<b>PRINCIPLE 7</b>	
Foster an Enabling Environment	

## TYPICAL OBJECTIVES AND INTERVENTIONS FOR LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT

The ISL Guide is based on the typical objectives and related interventions of development projects that invest in the livestock sector. These tend to focus on achieving one or more of the following broad objectives: improving productivity; improving market access and developing value chains; improving climate change resilience and emergency response; improving service delivery (both public and private); and improving policies, knowledge, and information. Several types of common interventions fall under these objectives, as shown on page 4.

**OBJECTIVE:**

Improve the productivity of livestock

**INTERVENTIONS:**

- Feed resources and balance
- Access to fodder and water
- Animal health and welfare
- Animal genetics

**OBJECTIVE:**

Improve market access and develop value chains

**INTERVENTIONS:**

- Producer organizations and alliances
- Post-farm-gate facilities
- Value chain opportunities
- Develop livestock fattening activities

**OBJECTIVE:**

Improve input and services delivery

**INTERVENTIONS:**

- Develop public and private extension services
- Improve public and private animal health services
- Strengthen provision of input and services

**OBJECTIVE:**

Climate change resilience and emergency response

**INTERVENTIONS:**

- Improve manure, nutrients, and waste management
- Ensure resilience of buildings and equipment to extreme weather events
- Develop early warning information systems and feed budgeting
- Establish emergency reserves and distribution systems
- Develop risk management programs and products

**OBJECTIVE:**

Strengthen policies, knowledge, and information

**INTERVENTIONS:**

- Develop and harmonize livestock policies, plans, regulations, and programs
- Develop livestock information systems.
- Improve capacities at central and local government levels.
- Establish research grants and educational programs
- Establish programs to diversify pastoral livelihoods and promote alternative livelihoods

# INDICATORS FOR ANIMAL HEALTH

## **1 Animal diseases control program— Number**

This indicator measures the number of programs developed and funded for the control and eradication of pertinent animal diseases. Such programs reflect a shortlist of target diseases at the regional or national level and are based on analysis of risk and country priorities.

→ Reported annually using project advancement reports.

## **2 Data management and information system developed – Yes/no or on a scale from 0-4**

This indicator measures the ability to generate or compile, analyze and disseminate data in ways that serve to define health strategies, review results or endorse the status of a country. Establishment of fully functional systems can be reported as “Yes/No”, or scaled in levels, for example, level 0 if no system is in place; level I if data is only collected and compiled; level II if this data is analysed; level III if outputs are disseminated adequately; or level IV if overall quality control is included.

→ Reported annually using project advancement reports.

## **3 Processing plants that have adopted national food safety standards – Number/percentage.**

This indicator measures the number of slaughterhouses, dairies and other processing units; animal gathering points; and markets that have received project support and that have adopted and implemented national food safety standards.

→ Reported annually using project advancement reports.

## **4 National livestock strategies developed and endorsed— On a scale from 0-2**

This indicator measures the creation of a national livestock strategy. Such a strategy includes protocols and standard operating procedures to define national priorities for animal health and welfare that can sustainably increase livestock productivity and achieve diversification, commercialization and competitiveness of the livestock subsector. The indicator reflects whether such a strategy is absent (0) or developed and endorsed at sub-national level (1) or national level (2).

→ Reported annually using project advancement reports.

## **5 Livestock production units that have adopted Good Animal Husbandry Practices (GAHP)— Percentage**

This indicator measures the percentage of livestock units that have implemented GAHPs. It should be broken down by farm size, species and type of farm, where possible.

→ Reported annually using project advancement reports.

## **6 Livestock production units that have adopted an Animal Welfare management plan – Number/ proportion**

This indicator measures the number of livestock units, slaughterhouses, dairies and other processing units; animal gathering points; and markets that have received project support and developed and implemented animal welfare management plans. As a minimum, plans should address the Five Freedoms: freedom from hunger and thirst; freedom from discomfort; freedom from pain, injury, or disease; freedom to express normal behavior; and freedom from fear and distress. This indicator should be broken down by farm size, species and type of farm, where possible.

→ Reported annually using project advancement reports

# INDICATORS FOR ANIMAL HEALTH

## **7 Livestock production units that have adopted an antimicrobial resistance (AMR) management plan – Number/proportion**

This indicator measures the number of livestock production units with AMR management plans that have the objective of decreasing antimicrobial use in animals (measured in kilograms per livestock production unit per year). Management plans should include improving hygiene, and improving wastewater and sludge management in food production, under the One Health approach. National monitoring systems for antimicrobial use can also be used as indicators, in line with antimicrobial surveillance and monitoring capacity.

- ➔ Undertaken using dedicated surveys annually; or at the start of the project, at medium term, and during terminal evaluation.

## **8 Coordination mechanisms under the One Health approach – Number**

This indicator measures the number of coordination mechanisms implemented by governments that explicitly include the concept of One Health and which aim to be intersectoral across public health, human health and environment. This indicator can also include initiatives from the private sector.

- ➔ Reported annually using project advancement reports.

## **9 Disease early warning system and emergency preparedness in place – Yes/no**

This indicator measures the creation of an early warning system that builds on the added value of combining and coordinating cross-sectorial alert mechanisms between relevant government ministries, including protocols and a chain of command. It refers to the surveillance system and alert and response strategy to face emerging diseases, including zoonotic diseases, for which a contingency plan should be implemented, widely known across relevant stakeholder, rehearsed, for example, through simulation exercises. This indicator also measures the improved resilience of pastoralists by enabling destocking, redistribution, or other actions to avoid the loss of livestock value in the event of a crisis.

This indicator can be rated according to the level of development and implementation. Level I would indicate that there is a strategy for developing a disease early warning system and an emergency preparedness plan; level II would indicate that the strategy has been implemented; and level III would indicate that the strategy has been trialed.

- ➔ Reported annually using project advancement reports.

## **10 Contingency fund for livestock emergencies created and operational – Yes/no**

This indicator measures the creation of a contingency fund for livestock emergencies related to drought, disease, and other hazards. Establishing such a fund requires well-documented contingency action plans for specific, high-priority, emergency diseases, together with a series of generic plans for activities or programs common to these plans (e.g. setting up national and local animal disease control centers). These also need to have resource and financial plans and appropriate legislative backing for all actions. In addition, contingency plans need to be considered and agreed upon in advance by all major stakeholders, including the political and bureaucratic arms of government and the private sector, particularly livestock farmer organizations. Plans should be refined through simulation exercises and personnel should be trained in their individual roles and responsibilities.

- ➔ Reported annually using project advancement reports.

## **11 Veterinarians/paraprofessionals trained on animal health issues and options in the livestock sector – Number**

This indicator measures the number of veterinarian/paraprofessionals along supply chains that have been made aware of and trained on animal health issues in the livestock sector, for instance, through the inclusion of animal health issues and options in curriculums, extension manuals, and capacity development programs. The indicator should also break down the kinds of training received, differentiating between

# INDICATORS FOR ANIMAL HEALTH

“light training”, such as talks and webinars, “structural modules” (e.g. those of a week in duration), and more robust training based on longer, in-depth courses.

- ➔ Undertaken using dedicated surveys annually; or at the start of the project, at medium term, and during terminal evaluation.

## **12 Farmers/extension agents/service providers— Number**

This indicator measures the number of farmers/ extension agents/service providers along the supply chains that have been made aware of and trained on animal health issues in the livestock sector, for instance, through the inclusion of animal health issues and options in curriculums, extension manuals, capacity development programs, etc. In addition, the indicator should break down the kind of training received, differentiating between “light training”, such as talks and webinars, “structural modules” (e.g. those of a week in duration), and more robust training based on longer, more in-depth courses.

- ➔ Undertaken using dedicated surveys annually; or at the start of the project, at medium term, and during terminal evaluation.

## **13 New regulations adopted— Number of regulations**

This indicator measures the number of new regulations adopted or amended to effectively support the activities of relevant fields, such as controlling transboundary and emerging zoonotic and animal diseases; ensuring food safety; and controlling AMR. Tools such as the World Organisation for Animal Health’s Performance of Veterinary Services Pathway (known as the OIE PVS Pathway) can be used to define the baseline and gaps, particularly the Veterinary Legislation Support Programme.

- ➔ Reported annually using project advancement reports.

## **14 Promotion of R&D in livestock development initiatives— Number of initiatives**

This indicator measures the number of research initiatives (e.g. grants or projects) involving technical personnel or researchers from the country in areas that are relevant to livestock development and sustainability. Such areas include livestock waste management; nutrient balancing; zoning; local and natural feed resources and feed-use efficiency; animal welfare; labor conditions in production and processing units; climatesmart livestock development; local breeds; and local natural resource feed.

- ➔ Undertaken annually; or at the start of the project, at medium term, and during terminal evaluation.

## **15 Pastoralists with ongoing, financed projects — Number of projects**

This indicator measures the numbers of pilot projects that enable pastoralists to access donor and other multinational financing, as well as other financed projects to improve equity relating to grazing and wateruse rights within pastoralist communities.

- ➔ Undertaken using dedicated surveys annually; or at the start of the project, at medium term, and during terminal evaluation.