

Implementation of a Sustainable Cattle Platform in the Americas (D1458)

Description:

In Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), the livestock sector plays a critical role supporting rural livelihoods, generating export earnings, and ensuring food security. It contributes 46 percent of agricultural GDP, 30 percent of world beef exports, and helps to support 60 percent of rural households, mostly small family farms.

Unfortunately, however, LAC's livestock sector also has serious adverse environmental impacts. Estimates of the percentage of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions it generates range from 15 to 30 percent. In addition, it is a leading proximate cause of deforestation, ecosystem degradation and biodiversity loss.

To maintain the vital economic benefits of LAC's livestock sector while minimizing its environmental footprint, the sector needs to adopt clean- and climate-friendly technologies such as silvopastoral systems that maintain tree cover; feed additives that reduce emissions of methane; and improved grazing systems that stem ecosystem degradation. To help promote faster and wider diffusion of such technologies, we need to create an institutional mechanism to convene key stakeholders, take stock of opportunities for and barriers to progress, and compile, generate, and disseminate cutting edge research.

The broad objective of this TC is to create a shared vision of sustainable livestock in LAC and to promote policies and lines of action to speed the transition to systems with higher levels of economic, social and environmental sustainability.

The specific objectives are to:

- create and convene a network of key stakeholders in the region, including government agencies, multilateral organizations, trade associations, and research institutions;
- create an institutional platform to compile and disseminate information on sustainable livestock management, measure and monitor regional progress, promote sharing and scaling of innovative experiences, and strategically position LAC countries in international forums, summits and meetings;
- commission studies of the opportunities for and barriers to the adoption of clean- and climate- friendly livestock management technologies in the region; and
- disseminate the results to the network of key stakeholders.

Submitted by:

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Status:

Under Evaluation

Category:

Research and Dissemination

Tags:

Team Leader Name

Gonzalo Munoz

Has the proposal been discussed and authorized by the responsible sector or country department/division, as applicable?

Yes

Team Leader Responsible Department

CSD

Are there specific countries that will directly benefit from your proposal?

Yes

Mark the specific countries that will be directly benefited from your proposal?

Argentina

Bolivia

Brazil

Chile

Paraguay

Uruguay

Where applicable, describe how the proposal aligns with the respective country strategy (for each country selected)

As a starting point, we will work with the member countries of the Southern Agrarian Council (Consejo Agropecuario del Sur, CAS), a ministerial forum for consultation and coordination of regional actions made up of representatives of five countries:

Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay. CAS countries account for 12 percent of global food exports, about 30 percent of the world cattle stock and one of the most important reserves of freshwater and forest biomass in the world. Subsequently, we will extend participation to the rest of the LAC.

The Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) serves as the technical secretariat of the CAS. At the recent 27th Conference of the Parties (COP27) they issued the following statement that directly aligns with the objectives of this TC: [http://consejocas.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/XLV-RO-CAS-Declaraci%C3%B3n-I-Posici%C3%B3n-de-los-Ministros-de-Agricultura-para-la-27-Conferencia-de-las-parte...CC.pdf](http://consejocas.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/XLV-RO-CAS-Declaraci%C3%B3n-I-Posici%C3%B3n-de-los-Ministros-de-Agricultura-para-la-27-Conferencia-de-las-parte...)

The proposal is aligned with the country strategies on the issues of productive diversification and productivity increase with social inclusion and environmental sustainability and with the countries' climate commitments in their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

Does the proposal align to one or more sector frameworks?

Yes, the proposal aligns with at least one sector framework

Identify and describe how the proposal aligns to the sector framework(s)

The TC aligns with the Climate Change Sector Framework by promoting three of the four recommended lines of action—adapting and building climate resilience; decarbonizing rapidly; and building effective governance—and by generating knowledge and innovation for climate action by strengthening countries' capacities to generate high-quality data and analysis to guide public and private decisions.

The TC aligns with the Agriculture Sector Framework, in particular with the second challenge of reducing the impact of agriculture on the environment via the widespread adoption of state-of-the-art technologies and changes in agricultural practices.

Finally, the TC aligns with the Environment and Biodiversity Sector Framework by focusing on the challenge of environmental governance gaps, as there is a lack of institutional capacity, insufficient environmental information and limited use of economic instruments to control pollution and manage natural capital.

Select the regional challenges and cross-cutting issues to which the proposal aligns to

Social Inclusion and Equality

Productivity and Innovation

Economic Integration

Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability

Institutional Capacity and Rule of Law

Justify the alignment to each selection above

The TC is aligned with the Bank's strategic priorities of the Second Update of the Institutional Strategy (AB-3190-2), in the following strategic priorities, as well as in the three cross-cutting themes:

Social inclusion and equality: This TC will help to enhance social inclusion and equality by disproportionately benefiting small family farms. Such farms comprise 80 percent of all farms in the region and the large majority have some type of livestock production. Most family farms are subsistence-oriented with limited human, financial and technical resources partly due to lack of technical assistance. TC will systematize and generate knowledge in particular for family farming.

Productivity and innovation: This TC seek to boost productivity and innovation by systematizing livestock best practices and generating new scientific knowledge.

Economic integration: This TC will contribute to a more sustainable production in compliance with the current and future demands of international meat markets.

Climate change and environmental sustainability: The IDB has set a goal of aligning all its operations with the Paris Agreement as of 2023. This TC seeks to build capacity, develop inputs and tools at the livestock production-level that allow this commitment to be met, in addition to monitoring the environmental footprint.

Institutional capacity and rule of law: This TC will strengthen the dialogue between different national and regional institutions, which will generate greater technical capacity and knowledge on sustainable livestock issues.

What is the estimated funding that you need in order to implement this proposal?

350.000

Select the expected outputs of this proposal

Institutional Strengthening Deliverables (Training products, Management Information Systems, etc.)

Upstream strategies, action plans, etc.)

Policy Dialogues

Events (other than policy dialogues)

Knowledge Products

Please provide a brief description of the output(s) selected above (The number of units planned, and the estimated cost). If you selected others, please specify.

I. Implementation of a sustainable cattle platform (\$150,000):

The first component of the TC will finance actions—specifically, meetings, consultancies, interactions with public policy makers, dissemination through training and workshops—aimed at accomplishing the following goals:

- Compile and disseminate existing scientific knowledge about the characteristics of livestock production systems in LAC and how they vary across space and over time.
- Define and measure homogeneous indicators for the different regions for the main aspects: biodiversity, air and soil and water, for example: (i) percentage of natural habitats; (ii) provision of ecosystem services; (iii) total GHG emissions; (iv) GHG emissions intensity/kg meat or milk; (v) water consumption; (vi) erosion.
- Share lessons learned from successes and/or failures of sustainable livestock initiatives in the LAC.
- Generate a space for exchange between representatives of the different links in the regional livestock value chain.
- Create policy dialogues with research institutes, trade organizations, and Ministries of Livestock, Agriculture and Environment to promote policies and lines of action that accompany the transition from current livestock production systems to systems with higher levels of economic, social and environmental sustainability.

IICA will collaborate with IDB to implement this first component.

II. **Studies through a competitive call for proposals** (\$200,000):

The second component of the TC will fund a set of four to six research projects carried out by leading LAC research and policy institutions. This component will generate new knowledge to be disseminated in Componente I. The research projects will focus on policies and programs to leverage opportunities for and overcome barriers to the adoption of sustainable livestock production technologies in LAC. In a September 27, 2022 virtual scoping workshop organized by IDB/CSD, this topic was identified by a group of six international experts as one on which additional scientific evidence is urgently needed and one that would be of high value in promoting environmental sustainability. (The experts were Jacobo Arango, Senior Scientist, CIAT, Muhammad Ibrahim, Director General, CATIE, Frank Merry, Senior Scientist, Conservation Strategy Fund, Pablo Montoya, Director of Sustainability, Grupo Éxito, and Walter Baethgen, Sr. Research Scientist, Columbia U.).

The process for selecting and funding the four to six research projects, and disseminating the results will be modeled after the 'red-de-centros' initiatives managed by RES. The process entails (i) forming a scientific committee of leading academics experts; writing and widely disseminating a public call for proposals; selecting the strongest proposals based on objective criteria discussed below; holding a preliminary workshop to promote networking and information sharing and to evaluate and strengthen proposals; holding a final workshop roughly 12 months later to present results; packaging the results in both technical and non-technical policy-oriented formats; and finally disseminating the results to key stakeholders. Proposals will be evaluated using the following criteria (not in order of importance): (i) policy relevance; (ii) potential for short- and medium-term policy impacts by leveraging or networking with key stakeholders; (iii) contribution to the knowledge base; (iv) innovation; (v) rigorous and feasible research design; (vi) sound dissemination plan; (vii) affiliation with a leading research center. Proposals will be invited from all LAC countries and efforts will be undertaken to ensure all subregions in LAC are represented.

Research teams will produce seven sets of deliverables: a revised proposal, an oral presentation of this proposal in a first workshop, a detailed research plan, a first implementation status report, a second implementation status report, a draft paper reporting results, and an oral presentation of paper in a second workshop, and a final paper. The managers of the initiative will compile findings from the research projects and help to manage dissemination.

Outcomes: If the outputs are delivered successfully, what is the change expected (in capacity, knowledge, behavior, etc.)

This TC will:

- (i) strengthen capacities and develop knowledge to increase beef production with a smaller environmental footprint;
- (ii) facilitate the alignment of livestock development operations with the Paris Agreement and each country's climate commitments (NDCs, among others);
- (iii) Generate inputs and tools to promote policy measures at the regional level that promote a more sustainable livestock with the environment.

(1) Attachments

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0 Comments