APRIL 16-17, 2018
NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON BUILDING A VIBRANT GOAT SECTOR IN INDIA: VISION 2030

What does a vibrant goat sector look like?

What will it take to get there?

LIVELIHOODS

NUTRITION

ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

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CRITICAL IMPORTANCE OF THE GOAT SECTOR

Goats have the immense potential to support livelihoods of the resource poor households especially in remote, tribal and ecologically vulnerable areas. Low investment, low input cost, prolific breeding, capacity for survival in drought prone, barren lands/rain-fed areas make goats a highly valuable livelihood option for the resource poor households.

Strong livelihood potential of the goat sector is evident - about 33 million small holders rearing 2-3 goats own almost 89 percent (~135 million) of the goat population in India. A goat can fetch about INR 5000 when the households need cash – serving as a moving bank!

Improvements in goat meat production and productivity has strong potential for filling the nutrition gap at the national level. The per capita meat consumption in the country is less than 3 kg per annum as compared to the 13 kg recommended by the Indian Council of Medical Research. At the rural household level the nutrition impact is direct (higher consumption of milk and meat) as well as indirect (more incomes to buy food).

Focus in the goat sector is critical for meeting the Sustainable Development Goals (No Poverty, No Hunger, Women Empowerment). The sector is a strong contender for Doubling Farmers Income – national agenda.

Alongside the traditional value chain, goat enterprise development is emerging very strongly – commercial goat farms, modem abattoirs serving the export market, supermarkets selling processed products. Commercial sector have strong focus on quality, with positive falls outs for the traditional sector.

Goat meat is widely preferred and has a robust market (price of chevon at INR 500/kg as compared with chicken at INR 180/kg). Along with meat, goat milk, fiber, use of manure present significant potential benefits. Small holders cannot capitalize on the demand potential because of several constraints along the value chain. Despite the critical importance the sector has largely been neglected and presents a huge untapped potential.

OBJECTIVE OF THE CONFERENCE

The objective of the conference is to build awareness amongst key decision makers regarding the importance of the goat sector, with focus on the states of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Odisha. The conference will bring together primary stakeholders to address the issues at all levels in the value chain for a comprehensive understanding of the issues.

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<th>Policy Makers</th>
<th>Research Institutes</th>
<th>Multi-Lateral Agencies</th>
<th>Vaccine/Medicine Manufacturers</th>
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Deliberations at the conference will focus on creating enabling environment for multi-dimensional growth of the sector by addressing the key issues and ways to surmount the constraints. Emphasis will be on approaches to support goat-based livelihoods while creating conducive environment for private sector investments in goat-based enterprises at all levels including production, providing input services, processing, and retailing.

ENVISAGED OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

- Recognize the huge potential of the sector and the strategies to capitalize the potential.
- Acknowledge the critical importance of the goat sector in meeting the SDGs and Doubling Farmers Incomes.