Livestock Futures

Not all animal sourced foods are created equal...

In terms of nutritional value, or in the efficiency with which they convert feed into food for humans, or in terms of impacts on the environment...

Livestock production systems provide ecosystem services (and dis-services) depending on the scale and their technical configuration.

Animal sourced foods are being consumed at uneven levels, either regionally, or within countries, or at local levels;

Strong cultural and historic associations with particular animal species persisting in different contexts.

Different scales of animal production also co-exist and have complex social, economic and environmental functions.

And these scales are shifting, with a trend to larger and more concentrated operations...

These transformations bring multiple impacts...

The Livestock Revolution Cross-cutting trend is the planetary urbanization trajectory, particularly accelerating in SSA and South Asia...

Important ramifications overlapping in the other 'hot topic' papers...

Diets and human health

Preferences on protein translating into environmental impacts...

Industrial production processes creating vulnerabilities in animal production (loss of diversity, disease transmission, etc.)

Industrial production systems provide ecosystem services and dis-services (disease transmission, etc.)

Crops and livestock integration on farm to reduce nutrient concentrations or deficiencies borne of the separation of animal and cropping systems.

Nutrient-based solutions

Food waste

Generation and reuse of organic matter for animal consumption.

Eliminating waste for restoration of degraded landscapes.

Dislocation of small-scale animal keepers into marginal areas, forest edges - links to zoonotic disease transmission with wild animal trade.

Food waste

Sourcing animal foods from grazing non-arable lands, or alternative feed proteins (insects, etc.)

Utilizing animals for restoration of degraded landscapes.

Just transitions

Social dislocation and economic vulnerabilities born of rapid industrialization of agriculture.

Crop-livestock integration as farm to reduce nutrient concentrations or deficiencies borne of the separation of animal and cropping systems.

Reversing animal foods from grazing non-arable lands, or alternative feed proteins (insects, etc.)

Nature-based solutions

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