



Republic of Costa Rica

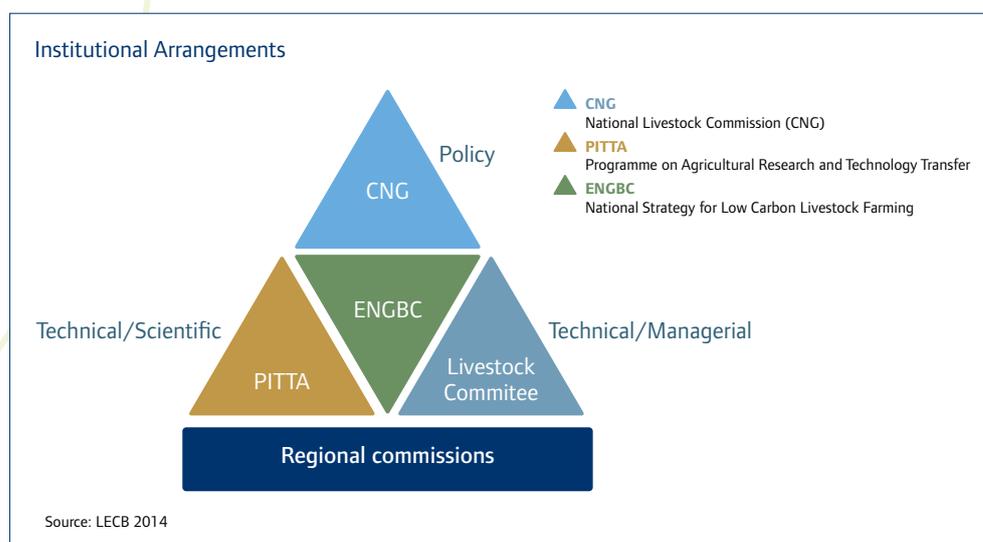
Costa Rica – Linking LEDS and NAMA in the Livestock Sector

Activity	Integration of the livestock Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (NAMA) with the livestock Low Emission Development Strategy (LEDS)
Country	Republic of Costa Rica
Sector(s) involved	Livestock (agriculture)
Time frame	2012 – ongoing

Case summary

According to Costa Rica's last national greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory (2010), the livestock sector is the second largest emitting source, being responsible for 23.6% of national GHG emissions.

To support creating a more eco-competitive livestock sector, Costa Rica is implementing three closely-related initiatives in parallel in an integrated process to improve coherence and synergy. These are the National Strategy for Low Carbon Livestock, a Livestock NAMA, and its NAMA pilot plan for implementation. These initiatives, led by the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, are carried out in a participative process with active involvement of private sector representatives. The strategy serves as an umbrella, giving political orientation to the sector. The NAMA provides operationalisation guidelines that are being implemented through a pilot plan.



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Why is it good practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">» Alignment with existing LEDS and/or national environmental and climate strategies: Both the proposed Livestock LEDS and the Livestock NAMA are aligned with the National Development Strategy of the country.» Awareness and support among key stakeholders through a participatory process: From the beginning, all relevant stakeholders from the private and public sector were involved in the process through the Livestock Committee, becoming supporters of the activities and ensuring ownership and stability.» Inclusion of a diverse set of interventions developed on the basis of a thorough analysis of barriers: The Livestock LEDS is based on an in-depth analysis not only of mitigation scenarios but also of the barriers that need to be overcome to create the enabling conditions for the implementation of the actions that are envisioned in the Livestock NAMA.
Success factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">» Producers involved from the beginning» Tailored messages according to audience» Centralised coordination» Political support
Overcoming barriers/ challenges	<p>What were the main barriers/challenges to delivery? How were these barriers/challenges overcome?</p>
Financial	<p>Lack of financial resources at the national level to initiate the processes.</p> <p>International cooperation has played a key role in supporting the planning process and the launch of pilot activities. Also, keeping an integral view of the processes (LEDS and NAMA) framed within sectorial objectives made it possible to identify domestic resources that can be allocated to continue the activities and push them towards the implementation phase.</p>
Capacity	<p>When the NAMA design process started, there was little comprehension of how to conceptualise a NAMA or when to start the MRV design.</p> <p>It was important to introduce key players to the relatively new concepts of NAMAs and MRV through specific capacity-building efforts. For example, MRV considerations were needed by those involved in the design from the beginning of the processes (although not readily acknowledged) while the extension officers supported the farmers' implementation per se.</p>
Socio-cultural	<p>Resistance to change sometimes creates resistance towards new proposals and processes.</p> <p>Topics that generated controversy or resistance, especially from those reluctant to change, were discussed in the Livestock Commission. The participation of diverse actors acting in concert diminished resistance and promoted understanding and agreements between stakeholders. Also, the inclusion in the discussion of topics related to adaptation that can be tangibly understood eases the process (see below, in Lessons learned – Beyond mitigation)</p>
Stakeholder participation	<p>Reluctance of stakeholders to participate in activities around new topics.</p> <p>A key factor for stakeholder involvement has been the creation of trust, through people-to-people relationship building, coupled with the provision of technical information.</p>

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Lessons learned

- » **Go beyond mitigation:** Both the strategy and the NAMA initially only focused on mitigation. Nevertheless, during the process it was realised that, with a little extra effort, adaptation criteria could be included and both issues could be dealt with in a joined approach (e.g., actions aiming at accelerating the growth of pasture will increase the availability of food for cattle and at the same time will decrease the impact of rainfall in soil). This has helped to build ownership and increase efficiency in policymaking.
- » **Inter-sectorial communication:** From the beginning, efforts should be made to establish trustful relationships among key sectors (e.g., environment and livestock). Although it may seem time and resource consuming, it prevents the building-up of communication barriers between institutions.
- » **Synergies in cooperation:** Synergies in cooperation efforts, avoiding duplication and streamlining lines of work improved the efficiency of processes. As was mentioned before, having one person in the lead to coordinate the sector-related initiatives facilitated the alignment of efforts.

How to replicate this practice

It is recommendable to follow three steps for a conceptualisation strategy leading to implementation:

1. Design a broad low carbon strategy for the specific sector, including a participation strategy for key stakeholders.
2. Design the NAMA, in alignment with the strategy, and involve all relevant stakeholders.
3. Pilot implementation with those willing to engage such that each actor is aware of his role and contribution.

Any transformation may generate resistance in some parts of the society. These resistances need to be understood and dealt with along the way.

Institutions involved

The key institutions involved are:

- » Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Farming (MAG)
 - » Livestock Directorate: in charge of leading and coordinating all three initiatives
- » Ministry of Environment and Energy (MINAE)
 - » Climate Change Directorate: gives orientation on climate change issues and support in UNFCCC processes (i.e. COP, NAMA Registry)

Other relevant actors:

- » Livestock Corporation (CORFOGA)
- » National Chamber of Milk Producers (CNPL)
- » Tropical Agricultural Research and Education Centre (CATIE)
- » International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)
- » National Institute of Agricultural Technology Innovation and Transfer (INTA)

Cooperation with

- » UNDP in Costa Rica supported the NAMA process and pilot activities
- » UNEP-DTU supported the Livestock LEDS process

Finance

- » The NAMA process and pilot plan was financed by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB), the European Community and the Australian Government through the UNDP LECB programme.
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Organisers	The Global Good Practice Analysis and accompanying case studies are a joint initiative by the International Partnership on Mitigation and MRV and the UNDP Low Emission Capacity Building Programme in an effort to document and share examples of good practice in the design and implementation of INDCs, LEDS, NAMA and MRV systems. For an extensive version of this factsheet and more information, including the criteria applied, please visit www.mitigationpartnership.net/gpa



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