



LIVESTOCK SECTOR

An array of false solutions are being put forward by agribusinesses from Emissions Intensity climate greenwashing, Net zero greenwashing to Sustainability certifications: 1) Emissions Intensity climate greenwashing: tweaking feed formulations to reduce dependence on emissions-intensive soy have the effect of marginal reductions in emissions and are promoted to legitimise large increases in absolute emissions as production volumes of meat increase. 2) Net zero greenwashing: deliberately excluding climate and environmental impacts across some parts of the product life cycle, including typically Scope 3 indirect, upstream emissions including animal feed that compose most emissions. This has the effect of downplaying overall emissions profile of meat production. Carbon-neutral meat is inaccurately marketed on this basis. 3) Misleading sustainability certifications: raw ingredients including grain for animal feed are claimed to be sustainable and deforestation-free within certification programs. Credit trading within these systems means that a proportion of 'sustainably certified' soy for example can be purchased from non-certified producers which could include soy on legally and illegally deforested land.

RELEVANCE FOR BONN/ COP28: Transforming Food Systems will be one of the main themes on COP28 global agenda. UAE will be pushing for techno fixes solutions put forward by the AIM for Climate Alliance focusing on "climate-smart agriculture" and public-private partnerships perpetuating the same corporate led agricultural model. During the global stocktake, reducing emission from the industrial animal agriculture sector would raise climate ambition and get us closer to the Paris Agreement targets.

HERE ARE SOME THINGS YOU MIGHT HEAR THAT ARE FALSE:

- Industrial agriculture and increasing productivity through innovation are key to ending hunger, mitigating climate impact and creating a resilient, and prosperous food systems,
- Agribusinesses play a critical role in improving food security by providing affordable, nutritious and safe food
- Some of the biggest global corporations in the meat and dairy sector have made ambitious net zero pledge by 2040

HERE'S HOW TO RESPOND:

1. The reality is that the world already produces more than enough food for everyone and that hunger is a result of poverty and the extreme power imbalance created by the activities of agribusiness companies.
2. -Globally, there is enough cropland to feed 9 billion in 2050 if the 40 percent of all crops produced today for feeding animals were used directly for human consumption, while available grasslands were more efficiently used as the basis for livestock feed. (FAO)
3. Profound transformation of agricultural production towards agroecology practices is needed to ensure food security as highlighted in the 2009 UN High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) on food security and nutrition in hand with a redirection of subsidies towards agroecology practices and a reduction in meat and dairy consumption and production in high consumption countries
4. Agribusinesses products are artificially cheap and cost effective due to massive government subsidies, and externalities not being reflected in the cost.
5. Solutions at the farm levels such as feed efficiency, factory farms biogas or livestock production improvement do not address all emissions associated with the entire meat production production supply chain (growing feed crops, fossil-based fertilizers, farm operations, processing, packaging, refrigeration etc.). Moreover the impact of industrial agriculture goes beyond climate change, it impacts human health (zoonosis risk, Non communicable diseases and antimicrobial resistance), indigenous and human rights, animal welfare, and depletes and pollute water resources.
6. Corporates net zero commitments rely on emission intensity reduction whilst keeping increasing production of livestock that drives 90% of their emission. This is a diversion, ambitious climate action would be reducing the number of animals in their supply chain.

Important links:

- [An agribusiness greenwashing glossary](#), Grain
- [True or False? Evaluating solutions for agriculture and climate change](#), IATP