



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



Strengthening Pakistan's Agriculture:
*Boosting Productivity and Competitiveness in Crops and Livestock through
Technology, Policy, and Innovation*

11-12 November, 2025
Pak China Friendship Centre-Islamabad

Agriculture remains the backbone of Pakistan's economy, contributing around 23% to GDP and providing livelihoods for a large share of the population. Major crops such as wheat, cotton and rice, sustain food security, drive industrial growth, and generate vital export revenues. The livestock sector is a lifeline for millions of smallholder farmers, landless households, and women. However, despite its scale and importance, the sector continues to struggle with low productivity, climate-related stress, animal diseases, and weak market linkages. Recent climate shocks, such as the major floods have further intensified these challenges, affecting crops, livestock, and the livelihoods of rural communities across the country.

Wheat, the nation's staple crop, sits at the heart of food security but continues to suffer from low productivity, post-harvest losses, and poor storage infrastructure. These inefficiencies not only reduce availability but also make wheat prices volatile and unaffordable for low- and middle-income households. Addressing these challenges demands investment in modern storage systems, efficient supply chains, and enabling policy reforms that ensure year-round stability, minimize losses, and strengthen domestic and export competitiveness.

Building a resilient agriculture sector demands integrated reforms in technology, finance, and governance. Digital monitoring, traceability, and satellite-based systems can improve water use, forecasting, and transparency. Expanding access to credit and insurance—currently limited for smallholders—will support recovery and reinvestment in productivity-enhancing practices.

Underlying these shifts is the need for reliable, local-level data. Strengthening institutions to collect and integrate socio-economic and environmental information enables real-time, evidence-based decisions. When communities and local governments are digitally empowered, they become the first line of resilience. By advancing wheat productivity, livestock development, market efficiency, financial inclusion, and grassroots data systems, Pakistan can build a climate-resilient, competitive agriculture sector that secures rural livelihoods and national food security.

Expected Outcomes:

- Identify opportunities to enhance wheat and livestock productivity, reduce losses, and strengthen storage and supply chains.
- Explore practical steps for improving coordination across federal and provincial actors to support resilient sector growth.
- Discuss approaches to expand credit, insurance, and market access for smallholders and women farmers.
- Examine how digital tools and data systems can strengthen decision-making from village level to national policy
- Highlight priorities to boost export competitiveness and support climate-smart, inclusive rural development

Tentative Programme

Wednesday, 12th November 2025

Time	Agenda item	Speakers and facilitators
13:30 - 14:00	Registration & Networking	
Opening session		
14:00 – 14:15	- Opening Remarks - Setting the Stage	Mr. Amir Mohyuddin (Secretary MNFSR) Dr. Mubarak Ali (Consultant Agriculture, Planning Commission of Pakistan)
Session 1. Data 4 Decisions: Insights to FAO Datasets		
14.15 - 14.35 Hrs.	Presentation on: FAOSTAT, ACWA Portal IPC, and WaPOR	FAO Country Office Team (In-person) and RAP Office Representative (Online)
Session 2. Panel Discussion on <i>Strengthening Pakistan's Agriculture: Boosting Productivity and Competitiveness in Crops and Livestock through Technology, Policy, and Innovation</i> Moderated by: Mr. James Robert OKOTH, FAO Officer in-charge		
14:35 - 15:45 <i>10 minutes per topic</i>	Topics: - Wheat and Storage - Livestock - Agriculture Export and value chains - Agriculture Credit and Insurance - Technology and Innovation - Empowering Grassroots Data Ecosystems	Mr. Abdul Wajid Rana, Former Policy Maker Dr. Muhammad Afzal, Livestock Expert (T.I.) Mr. Shahid Tawawalla, CEO Meskay & Femtee Trading Company Mr. Adnan Pasha, Ministry of Finance & Mr. Yahya, Head Agri Bank Alfalah Mr. Aamer Hayat Bhandara, CEO Digital Dera Dr. Shakir Mehmood, Chairman, City and Regional Planning Department, UET Lahore
15:45 - 16:00	Q&A Session and Closing	Mr. James Robert OKOTH, FAO Officer in-charge