

Framework for comprehensive entry points to improve livestock water productivity in forage-based livestock systems

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Introduction

- Feed resources of the Forage Based Livestock Systems (FLPS) largely consist of pasture, crop residues, or immature cereal crops, and also plants cut for fodder and carried to the animals.
- FLPS are dominantly extensive and thus the scale of water depletion (see plate) for feed production is a major concern and improvement of Livestock Water productivity (LWP) is needed.

Photo plates: showing examples of inefficient use of feed and unproductive water depletion as the major causes of LWP related problems in FLPS



Framework for Comprehensive Entry Points to Improve LWP in FLPS

Although FLPS systems vary by their degree of intensification, scale of water related problems, and therefore in their values of LWP, a number common entry points (Fig 1) to increase LWP are identified by ILRI and partners and systematically clustered as:

- Improving the water productivity of feed;
- Improving livestock feed sourcing and feeding;
- Enhancing livestock feed use efficiencies ;
- Enabling institutions and market linkages for improved adoption of technologies.

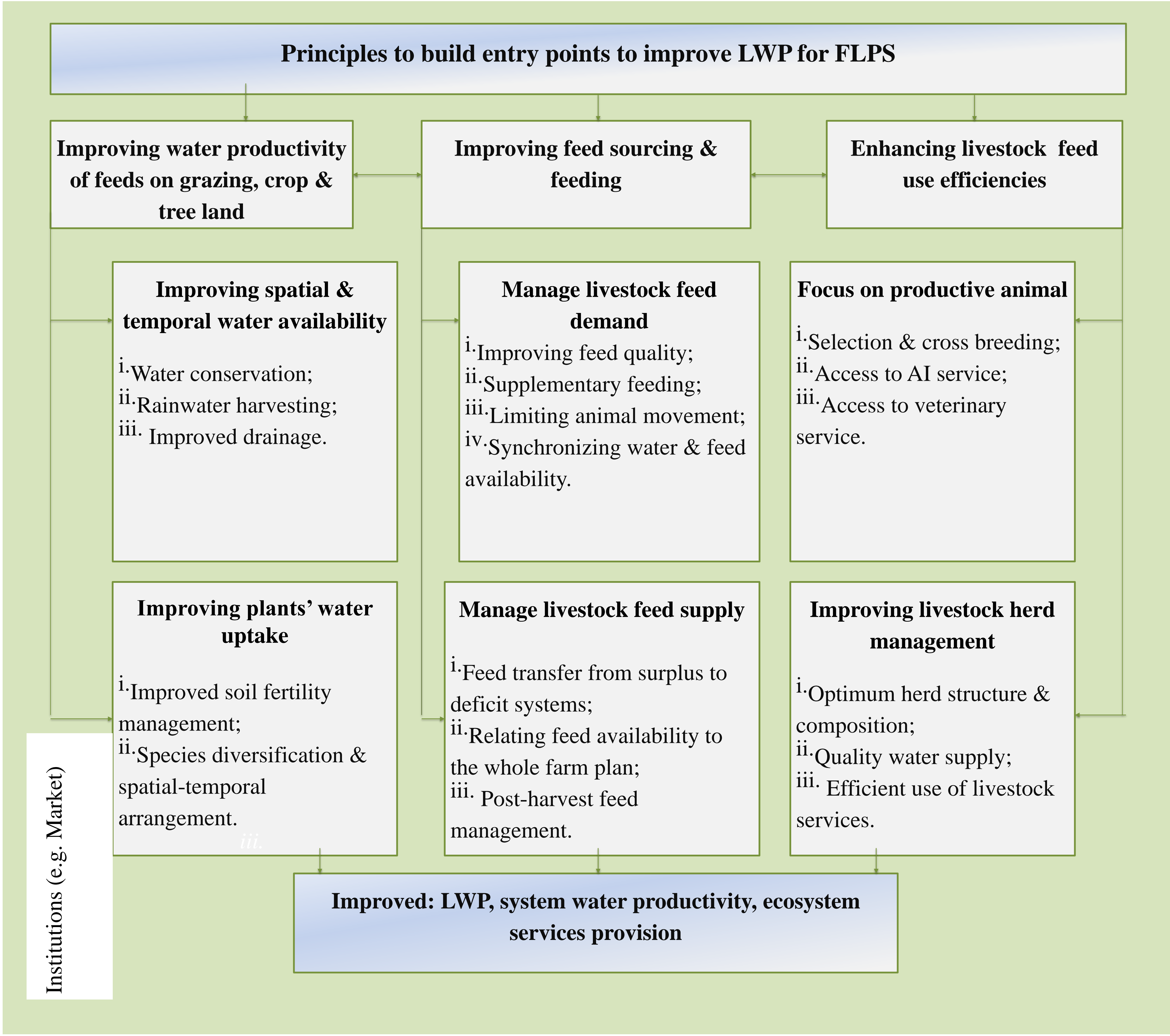


Figure 1: Framework for entry points to improve LWP in FLPS