
In its current planned form we hope to cover the issues indicated below in the report for WG13. This outline is not all inclusive and it will need to be edited as the document takes shape.

I. Overview of energy consumption and predictions for future consumption in Asia.

II. Forces that drive increases in demand for meat and animal products. Patterns of meat consumption for the world and for Asia. Case studies and demographics.

III. General explanation of energy flows in agriculture, with a focus on energy flows in land-based and aquatic-based industrialized meat production.

IV. A discussion of the history of land-based and aquatic-based industrialized meat production systems including their economics.

V. Discussion on different sectors of industrialized meat production such as cow, pig, chicken and aquatic species sectors including discussion on the inputs and outputs in each sector and the negative externalities (hidden costs) of production for each sector. Case studies from countries that have used these systems will be discussed.

Negative externalities may be loosely grouped into 3 areas but are related: (a) socioeconomic, (b) environmental and (c) public health.

Effects on community health, working conditions, corporate vertical integration, contract farming, etc..
Water over-consumption and water pollution, etc.,
Land degradation and deforestation, and biodiversity loss, etc.,
Manure handling etc.,
Production and fate of multi-antibiotic-resistant bacteria through heavy use of pharmaceuticals.
Use and fate of hormones during production.
Accumulation of heavy metals and persistent organic pollutants in the food chain and in soil and sediments.
Effects on climate change.
The potential for causing regional and global infectious disease pandemics through industrialized meat production.

VI. The failings of the oversight infrastructure of the industry in developed and developing countries and the lack of transparency and its relationship to food security and trade.

VII. Ethical worldviews and their influence on the decisions related to the consumption of industrially-produced meat. Cultural value of local livestock breeds. The effects of the media and advertising on the public’s understanding and desire for meat. The influence of culture and the perception of social status in relation to consumption of meat.

Annex – case studies

Please send comments and suggestions to:
Dr. Robert Kanaly (chair): rkanaly(at)yahoo.com
and to:
Dr. Darryl Macer: rushsap(at)unescobkk.org