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Beate Scherf works as Animal Production Officer at the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations. She has over 30 years of experience in sustainable development of agriculture working with governments, policy makers, civil society, producers and the industry and in particular in international policy processes. Her expertise ranges from the sustainable use and conservation of animal genetic resources to livestock production as component of sustainable agriculture. She has coordinated a team developing the second global assessment of the state of animal genetic resources to which 129 countries, 15 international organizations and more than 130 authors and reviewers contributed. She currently coordinates a comprehensive and evidence based assessment of the contribution of livestock to food security, sustainable food systems, nutrition and healthy diets, considering environmental, economic and social sustainability. She published a number of books and in a wide range of journals, books and congresses.