



ACCOUNTING PASTORALISTS COUNTRY REPORT-INDIA

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Definition

The definition which best suits the Indian context:

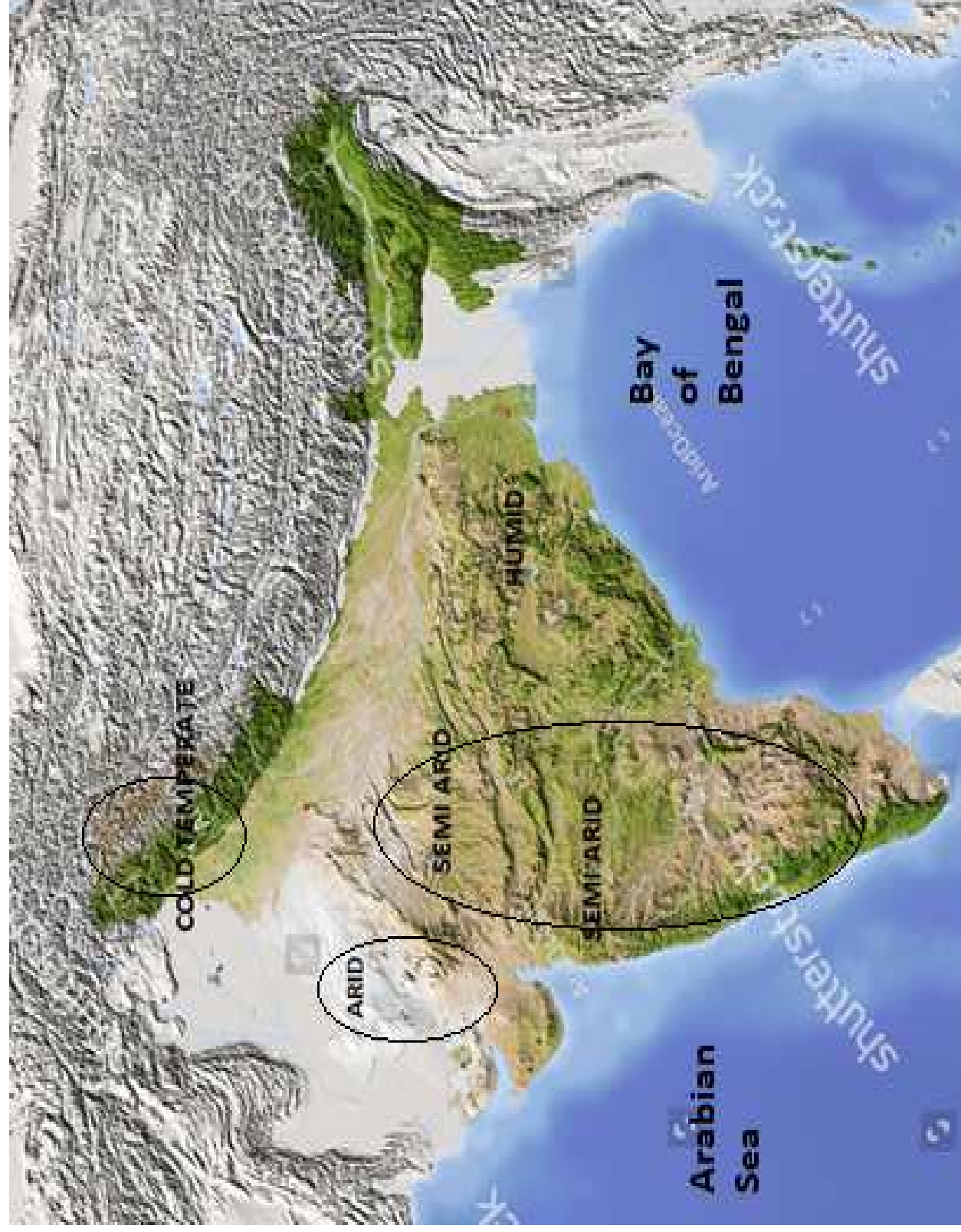
“dependence on common pool resources, mobility, primary income from livestock, existence of traditional knowledge systems and association with specific breeds”.



India's 'invisible' livestock keepers

- Majority of India's livestock is mobile, kept in long-distance, trans-humant, or village bound pastoralist systems.
- It includes cattle, buffalo, sheep, goats, camels, pigs, yaks, ducks, donkeys, horses, guinea-fowl.
- There are an estimated 13 million pastoralists in India belonging to over 46 communities





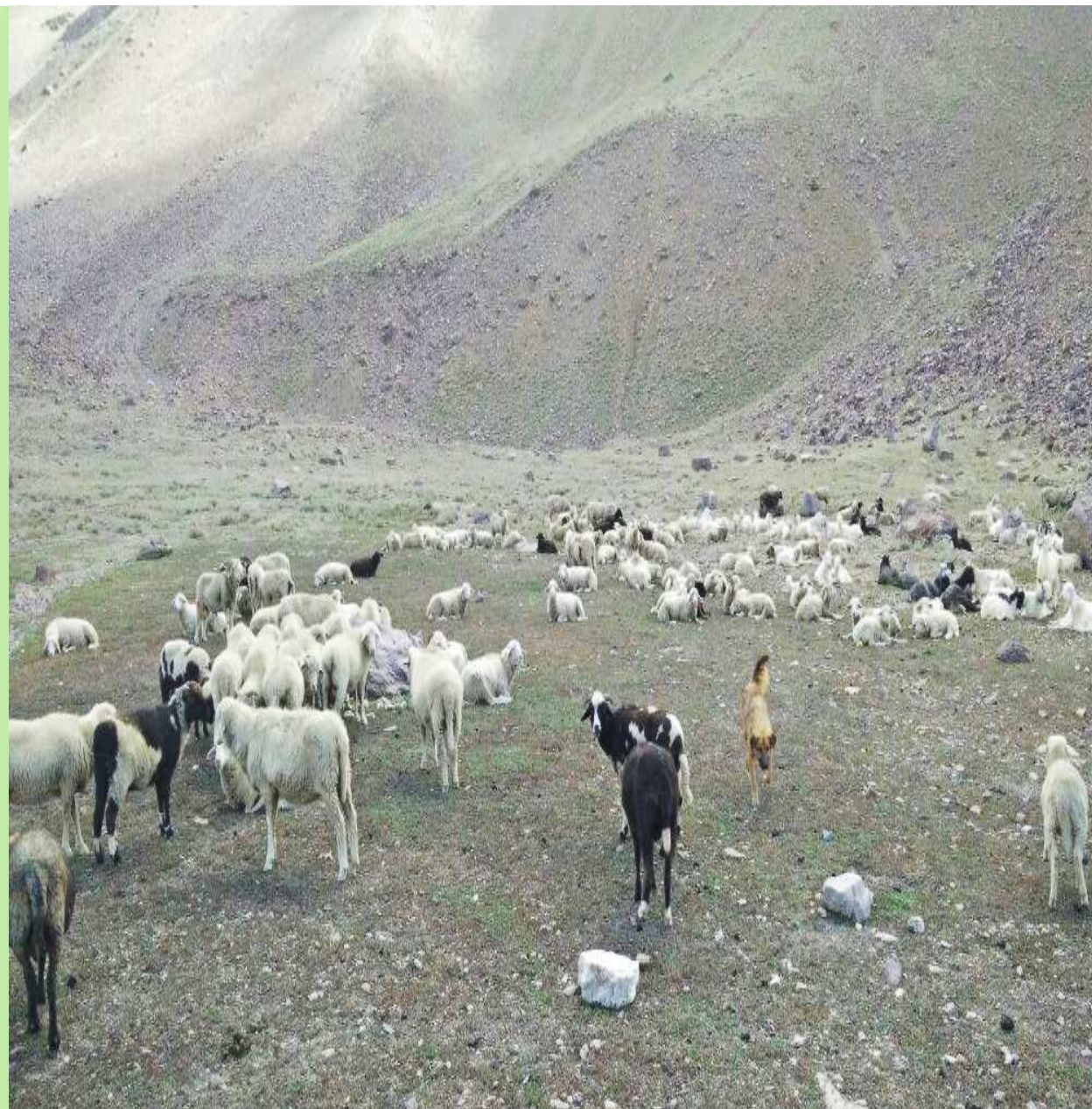
Data Sources

- 19th livestock census
2012-India report
- Breed survey report -2012
- 18th livestock census-2007



Livestock Numbers (millions)

	Total	In pastoralist systems	% in pastoral systems
Cattle	207.78	163.54	79
Buffalo	104.09	61.08	59
Sheep	62.67	59.67	95
Goat	129.08	103.26	80
Camel	0.35	0.35	100
Pig	7.09	7.09	100
Donkey	0.26	0.26	100
Yak	0.076	0.076	100



Economic Contribution

Pastoralism produces ca. 53% of India's milk and 74% of meat.

Monetary value:

Meat	\$ 2.7 billion
Milk	\$ 2.2 billion
Manure	\$ 45.7 billion



WAY FORWARD

- Livestock census must include data collection based on production systems
- Policy makers must acknowledge that India's livestock sector is mobile/pastoralist and this is its strength.
- Livestock policies must focus on securing rights and access to commons.
- The role of pastoralism in conserving biodiversity (both wild and domestic) must be recognized.

