Africa is currently losing its natural resources due to increased population pressure, agricultural expansion, and rapid urbanisation, resulting in increased frequency of meteorological variations. Other issues are the genetic erosion and loss of biodiversity, lack of appropriate policies and poor governance in natural resource management, increased conflicts over natural resource use and the transboundary nature of natural resources.

AU-IBAR is developing a continental strategy and implementation framework for the conservation of animal genetic resources for both livestock and fisheries by collecting, analysing, archiving and availing information on Africa's animal genetic resources. It supports regional fisheries organisations and member states to sustainably manage marine and inland capture fisheries based on international best practices. AU-IBAR also avails best practice and policy guidelines to manage the conflicts arising from wildlife-livestock-human interface and enhancing capacities for early warning and emergency preparedness and response to disasters associated with climate change. Data to inform policy making and public education on the contribution of livestock to climate change and its impact on animal production is compiled and analysed. Carbon market opportunities for rangeland systems in Africa to inform policy making are investigated while promoting activities that bring about payments for environmental services such as ecotourism, rehabilitation of degraded land and controlled grazing.

Pilot activities are initiated to identify and test best practices collected through information sharing platforms, fora and networks while building on ongoing or past work on genetic resources to develop the continental framework on conservation. The experience and existing policy guidelines from the ALive platform as well as partnerships therein are exploited.