

Meeting of the Livestock Research Group

USDA National Institute of Food & Agriculture Waterfront Centre

Washington D.C.

10-12 April 2017

MEETING SUMMARY

The annual meeting of the Livestock Research Group (LRG) of the Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases (GRA) was hosted by the United States in Washington D.C. from 10-12 April 2017. It was attended by representatives from 28 countries (GRA members and observers), five of the LRG's research networks and eight partner organisations. Co-chairs of the GRA's Integrative Research Group joined the meeting via video-conference.

OUTCOMES

The meeting achieved the following outcomes:

Network leadership

- The LRG has a new regional network, the Platform for Sustainable Intensification of Livestock Production in Latin America and the Caribbean. This builds on years of regional cooperation on livestock GHG emissions research and is funded by FONTAGRO and New Zealand.
- Pending domestic consultations, China will assume leadership of the Manure Management Network. It will be supported in this role by the US and the Netherlands.
- Efforts are underway to revive the Grasslands Network (now part of the GRA's Integrative Research Group) and LRG members are invited to nominate relevant experts to participate.

Research collaboration – the GRA's proposed Flagships

- There was broad support for the proposed GRA Flagship on Enteric Fermentation. A revised proposal, incorporating feedback received during the meeting will be circulated to LRG delegates and the Flagship Taskforce in late May.
- LRG delegates were invited to engage directly in the taskforces for the Soil Carbon and Inventory Flagships and to provide feedback on those draft proposals.

Capability building

- There was agreement to continue the LRG's capability building focus¹ on advanced GHG inventories and measurement, reporting and verification (MRV), including follow-on activities from the soon-to-be-published white paper on MRV options.
- Regional engagement and technical training will take place for East African countries in June 2017, and there are prospects for a more general GRA workshop for West African countries in September 2017.
- Continuation of activities more broadly relating to improving livestock productivity and reducing emissions intensity, in response to needs expressed by countries e.g. a second phase of the highly successful LRG/CCAC/FAO project on reducing enteric fermentation to support food security and livelihoods.
- A new area of focus supporting countries to develop the scientific underpinning for livestock NAMAs² - including their social and economic impacts.

Policy support and implementation

- LRG delegates are encouraged to contribute to several high-profile pieces of work underway in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), including:
 - Special Report on Climate Change and Land (due for publication in September 2019)
 - Comprehensive 6th Assessment Report (various chapters due from 2021-2022)
 - Methodology Report to refine the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National GHG Inventories (May 2019)

Other business

- The next LRG meeting will take place April/May 2018 in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.
- A Latin American animal agriculture and GHG emissions conference will take place in Uruguay, 4-6 October 2017. The deadline for abstracts closes 31 May.

¹This was agreed at the 2016 LRG meeting in Melbourne, Australia.

² A NAMA is a Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action, taken under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. It refers to any action that reduces emissions in a developing country, that is prepared under the umbrella of a national governmental initiative. For more, see [here](#).