

### GRA Inventory and Monitoring Cross Cutting Group

Brian McConkey and Jan Verhagen, co-chairs

GRA Council Meeting, Des Moines, 10 September 2015

#### Inventory & Monitoring Cross-Cutting Group



ON AGRICULTURAL GREENHOUSE GASES

**Co-chaired** by Canada and The Netherlands



Group Vision to:

- Work with GRA Research Groups and partners to improve transparency, accuracy, completeness, comparability, and consistency (TACCC) of:
  - Inventory (Upscaled estimates of GHG; Not only UNFCCC inventory)
  - **Monitoring** (Measurement of state and trends of emissions, mitigation, and adaptation).



# Highlights

- Meeting with the CRG July 11-12, 2015, Brasilia
  - Met with CRG plus separate short I&M meeting
- Successful
  - Increased number of countries participating in the meeting (11)
  - Increased understanding of I&M work and interaction with the CRG

#### Highlights of Four Active Work Areas GLOBAL Work Area 1

#### ON AGRICULTURAL GREENHOUSE GASES

### To share methods and lessons learned on application of remote sensing to improve activity data.

- Stocktaking of applications
- Workshop opportunity
- Interest in establishing a scientific network
- UK is coordinating



#### Output:

- Stock take of state and opportunities of earth observation in inventory of activity data (2014-15)
- Develop network or project work team(s)

# 📙 瞷 🚓 🛒 🎭 🧰 🔍

#### Advantages

- Real world
- Geographic Scope
- Global
- Repeatable
- Multiple modes

#### Limitations

- Resolution?

Free App

- Cloud cover
- Data volumes
- Complexity
- Cost?
- Skills/Experience

#### Solutions

- Data integration
- Modelling and data assimilation
- Cloud computing
- Free access to data (eg. Landsat, Copernicus)
- Collaboration and networking GRA!





# To improve the capability to quantify mitigation strategies in inventories and to address synergies and trade-offs with adaptation strategies.

- Improve knowledge sharing based on farming system similarities
- Describe activity data for national inventories that enables better analysis of system-level synergies and trade-offs among gases and practices
- Build on existing work
- Netherlands is coordinating

#### **Outputs:**

- Workshop on Farming systems (February 2015)
- Co-organized GRA-CCAFS side-event (Climate Smart Agriculture Science Conference, March 2015)
- Opportunities: Develop network or project work team

Econ

Environ

# Regional network on farming systems



- Co-hosted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives (MoAC) of Thailand and the GRA.
- Location Bangkok
- 11 13 February 2015
- Participants
  - Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Vietnam and Thailand.
  - With the support from Agriterra, farmer representatives from the Philippines and Indonesia
  - The Netherlands, UK

# CCAFS meeting during the CSA conference



- 1. Collaboration is growing.
- 2. Potential collaboration point is to extend models to include complex systems in developing countries.
- 3. Alignment is needed about protocols and measurements. There is potential to write a paper.
- 4. Exchange of names, no formal structures needed.

### Work Area 3



#### To share knowledge and facilitate collaboration on improving national inventories

- Stock take of national inventory improvements under way and planned
- Canada is coordinating

#### Output:

- Summary from stock take on inventory improvements
- Africa Inventory Workshop sponsored by New Zealand
- Opportunity: Develop network(s) to further work

# **Inventory Stock Take Results**



**ON AGRICULTURAL GREENHOUSE GASES** 

- All countries were improving aspects of both their activity data and emission factors
  - Most improving across a broad range of categories and subcategories of emissions

Opportunity with GRA	Number of Times Identified
Networking and Collaboration	66
Networking only	18
Leaning/skill development	16
Collaboration of specific project	13



#### Work Area 4

#### Methodological Guidelines for Measurement of Soil Organic Carbon Stocks of Agricultural Lands

- Initial focus on grassland due to opportunity to add most scientific value
- Develop practical, scientific guidance to increase consistency and comparability of monitoring strategies
- Canada is coordinating

#### Outputs: modules/reports (2014-2015) on:

- Post-doctoral fellow doing meta-analysis of global literature on C measurement for grasslands
  - Working through 270 papers (from 2000)
  - Meta-analysis identifying relationships needed for monitoring
- Opportunity: Overall Grassland Network to further work more broadly and/or more deeply



## **I&M Challenges**

- Active participation in Group work areas!
- Involvement of practitioners in national inventory and climate change policy advisors
  - Often Ministry of Environment
  - Most do not have the flexibility in budget or work like researchers with own project funding
- Engaging agricultural research scientists into the science of inventory and monitoring

### **Ambitions**



Recognized massive value to the potential of work I&M Group

- Opportunities to add enormous value through addressing I&M issues as GRA rather than as individual counties and partners
- GRA is unique vehicle to achieve these opportunities
- We need the GRA members and partners to be more involved!





- 1. To share knowledge and facilitate collaboration on application of remote sensing to improve activity data for inventory purposes and for monitoring adaptation
  - Facilitate networking for exchange of knowledge and experiences.
  - Facilitate collaboration on projects on applications.
- 2. To improve the capability to quantify adaptation and mitigation options at farm level ("farming system")
  - Facilitate regional and global networking.
  - Facilitate collaboration on projects on farming system typology.
  - Facilitate capability building.





- 3. To share knowledge and facilitate collaboration on improving national inventories and on the application of inventory methods to improve sustainable adaptation
  - Facilitate networking for exchange of knowledge and experiences.
  - Facilitate collaboration on projects about improvements.
  - Summarize experiences and approaches (i.e brief case studies) to provide information for improving inventories and linking agricultural GHG science to policy-relevant applications
  - Facilitate capability building.

# 4. To produce best practice guidance on monitoring soil organic carbon stocks over space and time

- Literature review of monitoring methods and their capabilities.
- Develop guidance for monitoring carbon stocks on grassland.





GLOBAL RESEARCH ALLIANCE ON AGRICULTURAL GREENHOUSE GASES

- Ambitions exceed capacity
- More targeted approach that is restricted to work areas with active participation has been productive
- Stock taking projects have increased involvement and identified more collaborative research opportunities
- Connections to UNFCCC reporting strengthened
  - National inventories and national communications
  - Inventory methods for sustainable adaptation actions
- Meeting in conjunction with RG very successful