

GRA Purpose			
<p>To increase international cooperation, collaboration and investment in both public and private research activities, to: improve knowledge sharing, access to and application by farmers of mitigation and carbon sequestration practices and technologies, which can also enhance productivity and resilience; promote synergies between adaptation and mitigation efforts; develop the science and technology needed to improve the measurement and estimation of greenhouse gas emissions and carbon sequestration in different agricultural systems; develop consistent methodological approaches for the measurement and estimation of greenhouse gas emissions and carbon sequestration to improve research coherence and the domestic monitoring of mitigation efforts, taking into account the differences between agricultural systems and Members’ specific environmental, social and economic contexts; facilitate the exchange of information; help scientists gain expertise in mitigation knowledge and technologies, through developing new partnerships and exchange opportunities; and develop partnerships with farmers and farmer organisations, the private sector, international and regional research institutions, foundations and non-governmental organisations, to facilitate and enhance the coordination of research activities and sharing of good practices and technologies.</p>			
Key Strategies			
Further Research Collaboration	Foster Outreach, Knowledge Sharing and Information Exchange	Build Effective Partnerships	Leverage Financial and Other Resources
<i>Strategic Objectives</i>	<i>Strategic Objectives</i>	<i>Strategic Objectives</i>	<i>Strategic Objectives</i>
<p>The GRA has achieved broad global participation in research cooperation and investments to help develop relevant practices and technologies.</p> <p>The GRA has built global expertise in relevant knowledge and technologies.</p> <p>The work of the GRA is efficient, effective, and coherent.</p>	<p>There is broad awareness of the GRA’s work, particularly its research results and impacts, through an integrated outreach strategy.</p> <p>There is increased availability and accessibility of research results to relevant stakeholders, including farmers.</p> <p>There is widespread adoption of relevant practices and technologies.</p>	<p>The GRA is well connected with other initiatives that carry out activities relevant to GRA work and objectives.</p>	<p>The GRA has strong and ongoing financial and other resources to support its activities and Research Groups, including through multilateral development banks and private and philanthropic organisations.</p> <p>GRA Members and Partners will invest in research and capability building relevant to the GRA mandate, and develop effective mechanisms for resourcing and coordinating collaborative research.</p>
Implementation through Priority Actions and the Council, Research Groups, Partners, Special Representative and Secretariat			

GLOBAL RESEARCH ALLIANCE
DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN 2016–2020
As approved this 12 day of October, 2016.

Context: Challenges and Opportunities

Agriculture plays a vital role in achieving food security, poverty reduction and sustainable development. This sector is also particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, and faces great challenges in meeting a significant increase in global food demand while reducing its contribution to global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. There is thus a need to increase research cooperation and investment in mitigation practices and technologies in order to develop more efficient and productive agricultural systems.

The Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases (GRA), established in 2011, provides a framework for voluntary action to increase cooperation and investment in research activities related to reducing GHG emissions intensity in agricultural production systems, increasing their potential for soil carbon sequestration, and improving their efficiency, productivity, resilience, and adaptive capacity, thereby contributing in a sustainable way to overall mitigation efforts while still helping meet food security objectives. As reflected in the GRA Charter, the GRA seeks to:

- a improve knowledge sharing, access to and application by farmers of GHG mitigation and carbon sequestration practices and technologies, which can also enhance agricultural productivity and resilience;
- b promote synergies between climate change adaptation and GHG mitigation efforts; develop the science and technology needed to improve the measurement and estimation of GHG emissions and carbon sequestration in different agricultural production systems;
- c develop consistent methodological approaches for the measurement and estimation of GHG emissions and carbon sequestration to improve research coherence and the domestic monitoring of mitigation efforts, taking into account the differences between agricultural systems and Member countries' specific environmental, social and economic contexts;
- d facilitate the exchange of information;
- e help scientists gain expertise in mitigation knowledge and technologies, through developing new partnerships and exchange opportunities; and
- f develop partnerships with farmers and farmer organisations, the private sector, international and regional research institutions, foundations and non-governmental organisations, to facilitate and enhance the coordination of research activities and sharing of beneficial practices and technologies.

GRA Strategic Plan Development and Review

The GRA Council adopts this Strategic Plan for 2016-2020 as a non-binding document that tracks the GRA's continued effectiveness and ensures progress towards the implementation of the GRA Charter.

The GRA's Strategic Plan identifies concrete Strategic Objectives and Priority Actions to advance the four Key Strategies identified by its membership:

- 1) Further research collaboration
- 2) Foster outreach, knowledge sharing and information exchange
- 3) Build effective partnerships
- 4) Leverage financial and other resourcing

Each Strategic Plan element is designed to accomplish the GRA purpose, as described in the GRA Charter and in accordance with the GRA Communication Policy.

The Strategic Plan will serve as a bridge between the day-to-day work of the GRA's Council, Research Groups, Special Representative, Secretariat and Partners.

At its annual meetings, the GRA Council will review the implementation of the Strategic Plan and consider whether new Priority Actions should be added, or existing Priority Actions should be amended.

[SNAPSHOT OF CURRENT STATE OF GRA TO BE INCLUDED]

KEY STRATEGY 1: Further Research Collaboration

Strategic Objective 1A: The GRA has achieved broad global participation in research cooperation and investments to help develop relevant practices and technologies.

Strategic Objective 1B: The GRA has built global expertise in relevant knowledge and technologies.

Strategic Objective 1C: The work of the GRA is efficient, effective, and coherent.

KEY STRATEGY 2: Foster Outreach, Knowledge Sharing and Information Exchange

Strategic Objective 2A: There is broad awareness of the GRA's work, particularly its research results and impacts, through an integrated outreach strategy.

Strategic Objective 2B: There is increased availability and accessibility of research results to relevant stakeholders, including farmers.

Strategic Objective 2C: There is widespread adoption of relevant practices and technologies.

KEY STRATEGY 3: Build Effective Partnerships

Strategic Objective 3A: The GRA is well connected with other initiatives that carry out activities relevant to GRA work and objectives.

KEY STRATEGY 4: Leverage Financial and Other Resourcing

Strategic Objective 4A: The GRA has strong and ongoing financial and other resources to support its activities and Research Groups, including through multilateral development banks and private and philanthropic organisations.

Strategic Objective 4B: GRA Members and Partners will invest in research and capability building relevant to the GRA mandate, and develop effective mechanisms for resourcing and coordinating collaborative research.

[PROJECTION OF FUTURE STATE OF GRA AS CONSEQUENCE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN TO BE INCLUDED]

GRA Operational plan

Priority Action	Strategic Objective
1. Facilitate participation in GRA Research Group activities from across the diversity of GRA Member countries via need-based travel support and other means. (Action: Council, Members, Partners)	1A, 2B, 4B
2. Expand GRA membership to include active participation from regions currently underrepresented. (Action: Council, Special Representative)	1A, 2B
3. Develop a schedule of events to promote global dialogues related to the work of the GRA. (Action: Secretariat, Members, Partners)	1A, 3A
4. Promote technical and scientific exchanges among national agricultural research systems of member countries. (Action: Members)	1A, 2A, 4B
5. Invite countries to nominate and provide support a third Co-Chair for the Paddy Rice Research Group and the Livestock Research Group. (Action: Members, Research Groups, Secretariat)	1A
6. Develop an inventory of capability building needs.	1B, 3A
7. Conduct survey of possible fellowships from members and partners, e.g. post-doc opportunities to support implementation of Flagships.	1B, 3A
8. Assist Members to develop improved GHG Inventories, including through sharing other countries experiences of inventory improvement, in order to recognise sustainable productivity increases, in accordance with nationally defined priorities and policies. (Action: Partners, Research Groups, Members, Council, Special Representative)	1B, 2C, 3A, 4B
9. Encourage Members to report on their activities relevant to the Research Group work plans ahead of Research Group annual meetings. (Action: Members)	1C

10.	Promote integration of research across the Research Groups, including adequately addressing cross-cutting topics, identifying synergies between mitigation and adaptation practices and technologies, and regional capability building activities. (Action: Research Groups, Council, Partners)	1C, 1B, 2A, 3A
11.	Continue with regional teleconferences to update Council members of GRA progress and activities. (Action: Secretariat, Members, Special Representative)	2A
12.	Develop a GRA communications plan, to identify target audiences and identify mechanisms to disseminate GRA information and results to internal and external audiences. (Action: Council, Secretariat, Members)	2A, 3A
13.	Identify and promote those GRA research priorities that contribute to and support the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. (Action: Research Groups, Council, Members, Special Representative)	2A, 3A?
14.	Develop and disseminate material on the GRA's work including environmental, health, social and economic benefits not directly related to climate so that the GRA "story" is known and understood by stakeholders, farmer organisations GRA Partners and development agencies. (Action: Council, Research Groups, Partners, Special Representative. Secretariat)	2A, 2C
15.	Publish all outputs of GRA Research Groups and Networks, meeting documents and presentations in the Alliance website resource library, making all information on the Alliance website publicly available, and encourage dissemination of data and research results via other fora. (Action: Members, Research Groups, Secretariat)	2A, 2B
16.	Translate GRA outputs, including relevant documents and the website, into UN languages where possible. (Action: Members, Partners, Secretariat)	2B
17.	Develop and present research summaries for policy-makers at GRA meetings, with further distribution as appropriate. (Action: Council, Research Groups)	2C
18.	Work with relevant stakeholders, farmers' organisations, GRA Partners, and development agencies to promote the use of relevant technologies and practices in pilot development projects and on demonstration farms to facilitate the diffusion and adoption of such technologies and practices by farmers. (Action: Partners, Members, Research Groups)	2B, 2C, 3A

19.	Pursue partnerships with the following organisations: Asian Development Bank, International Fund for Agricultural Development, International Soil Reference and Information Centre (ISRIC); Global Agri-business Alliance (GAA); World Business Council on Sustainable Development (WBCSD); Sustainable Agriculture Initiative Platform (SAI Platform); International Fertiliser Development Centre (IFDC); Caribbean Agricultural Research & Development Institute (CARDI); and Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA). (Action: Special Representative, Secretariat)	3A
20.	Develop a proposal for a GRA conference to be held alongside the 2018 Council meeting. (Action: Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretariat and Research Group Co-Chairs)	3A, 2A
21.	Identify possible GRA Flagship Research Projects for presentation to and review by the Council for potential adoption on an annual basis. (Action: Research Groups, Council)	4A, 4B
22.	Council members to take the responsibility for consulting with other national actors and GRA partners to champion implementation of Flagship projects and promote the mobilisation of resources to support these. (Action: Members)	4B
23.	Develop a spreadsheet for implementation of existing Flagships on Enteric Fermentation, Soil Carbon Sequestration, GHG Inventories, and Low Emissions Rice, identifying project leads, existing resources and types of resources required (identify minimum threshold of resources required).	4B, 3A
24.	Establish Taskforces to develop a Flagships on Circular Food Systems (led by The Netherlands) and Nitrous Oxide (led by the CRG) for presentation to Council in 2018. (Action: Members, Secretariat)	1A
25.	Undertake GRA joint programming on an annual basis, to support activities of the Alliance, including GRA Flagships, including by integrating Members' national research programmes with the activities of the GRA, utilizing other existing mechanisms, and developing new mechanisms to increase research collaboration and resourcing, including through regional networks (Action: Council, Members, Secretariat)	4B 1A, 3A, 4A