

GLOBAL RESEARCH ALLIANCE

ON AGRICULTURAL GREENHOUSE GASES

13 / 07 / 2016

SAI Platform Rice Project Group and GRA Priorities



Opportunity for collaboration between PRRG and SAI Platform Sustainable Rice Project Group

1. SAI Platform

SAI Platform is the **only global food industry initiative for sustainable agriculture**.

It **seeks involvement from all food chain stakeholders** willing to play an active role in the development, recognition and implementation of sustainable practices for mainstream agriculture.

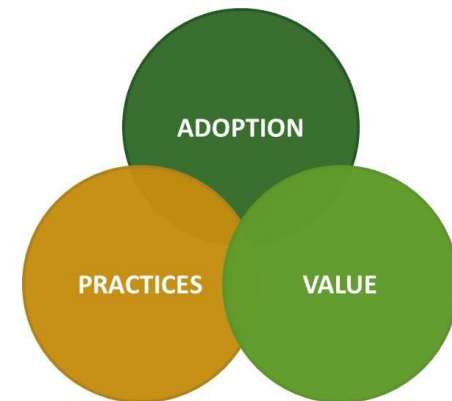
The initiative **gathers and develops knowledge on sustainable agriculture**, which it then shares with all interested parties to reach common understanding of the concept and of its long-term implications.

It has **an inclusive approach, taking into account any valuable initiatives and concepts**, for instance elements from both integrated and organic farming, as far as they contribute to sustainable agriculture.

It aims at developing sustainable agriculture for the mainstream agricultural produce through a **continuous improvement process** that allows for an easier and more flexible adoption by farmers, worldwide.























































































2. SAI Platform - vision

- 2020 Vision - Implement secure and thriving agricultural supply chains and protect the earth's resources through widespread adoption of sustainable practices that deliver value to our members, farmers, farming communities, and consumers.



- More than 80 members....
- Agreement to an industry-wide farm sustainability 'standard' - brought a lot of new members to the SAI Platform - attractive because there was a lot of confusion with many Public and Private standards and methodologies.

3. SAI Members

4. SAI Platform – Sustainable Rice Project Group

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“Acceleration, No Duplication”

Build on existing work and focus on speeding up the practical implementation of sustainable practices based on a common industry standard (Farm Sustainability Assessment 2.0).

The group recognizes that to see large scale adoption, engagement has to be practical, simple and have win-win scenarios for farmers, customers and the environment.

Practices that improve quality and yields, while at the same time reducing water use and greenhouse gas emissions are already well known and tested.

4. Sustainable Rice Project Group – Nth Italy case study

Northern Italy project - rice mills conducted LCA assessment and identified weaknesses in particular in GHGs and biodiversity.

Along with a local University, designed a training programme for local growers (50 to begin with, now 80).

Programme addressed information needs of growers - GHGs were one of the key topics identified, i.e. measurement.

Utilised Cool Farm Tool (www.coolfarmtool.org) for training to assess GHGs and mitigation options.

Now fundraising for continuing the project next year.

4. SAI Platform – Sustainable Rice Project Group

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More information: www.saiplatform.org/activities/alias/sustainable-rice

Two-monthly teleconference of Rice Project Group. Next call 6th September. GRA PRRG Co-Chairs invited to participate to explore areas of potential collaboration.

Development of GRA Priorities

10. Development of GRA Priorities

Identified weaknesses of the GRA:

- Lack of Connection between GRA Council and GRA Research Groups
- Often there is a lack of funding for Research Group activities

GRA International Research Collaboration Working Group meeting in Brussels identified the importance of identifying and clearly articulating priorities as a way to better mobilize and target resources.



13. Request from GRA Chair and vice-Chair to Research Groups

- Request from Chair and vice-Chair of GRA Council to the GRA Research Groups to work together to present a short-list of proposed projects or activities that are collectively considered to be of highest priority for the GRA.
- Short-list will be considered by GRA Council at its next meeting in Mexico City, in October 2016.



3. Template for development of GRA Priorities

Proposed GRA priority template

- Proposal title
- GRA objective(s) accomplished by the proposal
- Outcomes and outputs
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Funding mechanisms
- Outreach activities
- Alignment with GRA members' priorities
- Integration with GRA partner activities
- Vision for 2020 and beyond