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ON AGRICULTURAL GREENHOUSE GASES

Proposal for a GRA Flagship on Circular Food Systems



Presentation by the
Taskforce Circular Food Systems
to GRA Council
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Participants of the Taksforce Circular Food Systems

France;

Argentina;

Indonesia;

Switzerland;

USA;

Lithuania;

Germany;

Uruguay;

Brazil;

Chile;

Vietnam;

Ghana;

The Netherlands;

Japan;

Denmark;

United Kingdom;

Spain;

CCAFS;

CIAT;

FAO;

CIMMYTH

About the GRA Flagship on Circular Food Systems: WHY?

- Need an comprehensive approach for sustainability (for present and future generations);
- a paradigm shift from a production driven agriculture to an ecological resource driven agrofood system: unavoidable waste = by-products
- Circularity is an interesting concept to look at agrofood systems: it can improve food security, increase productivity and income of the stakeholders including small holders as well as identify numbers of by-product that can be circulated;
- BUT

About the GRA Flagship on Circular Food Systems: Need to know!

- Evidence to change perspective;
- Effect of circular systems on GHG emissions and removals;
- How to implement circular food systems ;
- Good practices;
- Barriers and incentives for the transition;

The **holistic system approach** requires a good understanding of **scope** (food system within a biobased economy connected to non-food sectors) and **scale** (from local to international).

Incentives are key drivers: credibility in terms of economics and societal services (connection to SDGs); attract **social and environmental sciences** in GRA-research

GRA Flagship on Circular Food Systems

Why the GRA?

- Climate change → GHG → Carbon and Nitrogen are central;
- how to keep as much as possible Carbon and Nitrogen in the system;
- This area (C & N) is included in the mandate of GRA;
- GRA can handle this issue by thinking global and acting local;
- GRA is a strong and experienced organisation with many engaged researchers;
- Circular food system is a system approach: so the contribution from the whole GRA is needed.

GRA Flagship on Circular Food Systems Components

Components of the Flagship:

1. Describing and understanding the existing concepts of circular agrofood systems, their impact on each scale and the possible benefits (create an economy on by=products);
2. Assessing the feasibility and potential of decrease GHG emissions;
3. Identifying the gaps within research and involve partners to transfer the new knowledge to stakeholders;
4. Develop a strategy to accelerate the transition including identifying enablers and barriers.
5. From the concept to the practice: identify and develop showcase; monitor showcases as learning cases (data collection).

GRA Flagship on Circular Food Systems

Actions for the next 12 months

Planned actions to make it happen, results to be presented next Council at Indonesia:

Organising ourselves on a regional scale (Americas, Africa, Asia, Europe) to work on:

- Inventory of major research and develop a new research agenda;
- Inventory of good practices and cases (on the level of farmers, companies and national economies)
- Benchmark existing policies and identify needs for knowledge and research;
- Assessing existing regulations (pro's, cons, barriers, enablers);
- Identify and map the potential for cycling of Carbon and Nitrogen;
- Inventory of by-products that can be circulated;

Thanks for your support