

# GLOBAL RESEARCH ALLIANCE

ON AGRICULTURAL GREENHOUSE GASES

## GRA Flagships – proposed reframing

Presentation to GRA Council  
Bali, 7 October, 2019

# Principles of a GRA flagship

- Addresses a critical research and/or capability building of the Alliance.
- Provides unique value-added contributions by:
  - Reducing greenhouse gas emissions while supporting food security;
  - Advancing global knowledge through collaboration; and
  - Supporting countries to develop and implement greenhouse gas mitigation solutions.
- Facilitates engagement by a broad range of Alliance Members and Partners.
- Has indicative resources identified (in-kind or cash).
- Clearly identifies milestones and deliverables.

- The approach towards Flagships has tended towards the identification of research fields, or specific sources of emissions and/or removals within which (in some cases) discreet projects have been developed.
  - Enteric Fermentation
  - Soil carbon sequestration
  - Reducing emissions in paddy rice
  - GHG Inventory
- Plus establishment of taskforces to develop flagships on:
  - Nitrous oxide
  - Circular food systems

- Confusion and overlap between Research Groups, Networks and Flagships
- Research Group co-chairs being over-burdened
- Lack of resource mobilisation due to lack of clearly defined projects
- Council not engaged in supporting/championing Flagships



# Proposed way forward (1)

- It is proposed that Flagship projects:
  - Be specific time-bound projects that are relevant to multiple GRA Member countries, rather than general research areas/topics;
  - Should benefit from GRA-wide collaboration, i.e. be more effective with more contributors, e.g. large datasets;
  - Should provide opportunity for multi-country participation at low cost;
  - Lend themselves to being developed and implemented through Networks under Research Groups;
- continued....

## Proposed way forward (2)

- It is proposed that Flagship projects:
  - Develop new knowledge, high scientific impact, validate approaches, methods or hypotheses;
  - Flagship project leaders should be clearly identified and resourced to complete the project within the specified time-frame;
  - Research Group Co-Chairs should not bear the responsibility of leading Flagship projects, except presenting updates at the annual Council meeting, if required;
  - Should have global relevance, if not global participation in their delivery.

## Proposed way forward (2)

- GRA Flagship Project template to be completed by the lead.
- The GRA Flagship Project must identify at least five Council Champions, Members and Partners, consisting of at least three GRA Member countries.
- Project proposals to be assessed using criteria, and recommended to Council for endorsement.
- GRA Flagship Projects will be profiled on the GRA website, and once complete final outcomes will be presented to the Council.

# Proposed Flagship project criteria

## Project Scope

- Project timeline (defined end date) specified.
- Project outcome defined.
- Globally applicable.

## Project Participation

- Benefits from GRA wide collaboration.
- Provides a range of collaboration opportunities – including low cost e.g. data, sample or knowledge sharing.

## Research

- Will the project generate new knowledge, high scientific impact.
- Identified community of experts within the GRA Membership (i.e. proposed by a RG or Network – or key coordinators identified if cross-cutting).

## Resourcing

- Flagship project lead identified.
- Funding confirmed for Flagship project lead and core project activities (Minimum 30%, cash or in kind contributions of total project costs).
- Proposed funding mechanisms for additional activities and contributions identified (i.e. fellowship fund, workshop funding, or research call).



# Questions to Council

- Does the proposed new approach address the concerns raised last year?
- Who should assess Flagship proposals?
- How will you help to ensure that Flagships are implemented?
- Welcome other comments and reflections



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