

GLOBAL RESEARCH ALLIANCE

ON AGRICULTURAL GREENHOUSE GASES

Country report : Australia

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Presentation to IRG Annual Meeting
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- Australia's current roles
 - GRA Vice-chair and host of GRA Council meeting 2020
 - Co-chair of Integrative Research Group
 - Co-lead of Inventories and NDC Support Network
 - Member of CIRCASA

- Australia's GRA representation led by *ACIAR (Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research)*
 - Brokers and funds collaborative international research partnerships
 - Supports research collaboration across 10 research programs
 - Invests ~AUD120M in >200 projects in 35 countries

Projects, initiatives and contributions to IRG topics: Australia

➤ *Australia's Nationally Determined Contribution*

- Economy-wide target: reduce GHG emissions by 26–28% below 2005 by 2030

➤ *Core policy instrument*

- Climate Solutions Package—\$3.5billion (\$2b extends Emissions Reduction Fund)
 - Funds for carbon crediting, purchase and safeguard mechanisms
 - Voluntary participation across sectors including Agriculture, LULUCF

➤ *Examples of investments across scales*

- National scale: Inventory – Tier 2/3; NDC includes agriculture, LULUCF, SOC
- Project scale – Offset methods for C crediting
 - Methods ensure credits are genuine, additional, consistent with inventory scale
 - 7 Agriculture and 11 LULUCF Methods (Measurement or Modelling)

➤ *Industry and University – data, mitigation, adaptation R&D*

- Agriculture emissions management e.g. livestock CH₄, N₂O, mapping SOC dynamics

Projects, initiatives and contributions to IRG topics: Regional development

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DFAT investment in regional climate capacity building

ACIAR Strategic Plan 2018 – 2027

Water & Climate research program for climate-resilient farming systems

- Understanding, planning for, and responding to predicted changes in climate
- Building regional capacity to reduce agricultural emissions; improve MRV for country NDCs

Soil and land management research program

- Knowledge, technology on management of agricultural soil, land
- Practical, sustainable solutions for challenges facing smallholder farmers.

Opportunities, future actions and funding

New opportunities/ actions

- State government positions of ‘net-zero C by 2050’; climate adaptation/resilience actions
- New C offset methods –credits for efficient, low C practices (abatement & sequestration)
- Industry-led initiatives e.g. CN30 – C neutral red-meat by 2030
- Farmer actions e.g. *Farmers for Climate Action* – co-benefits of mitigation and adaptation

New regional projects – (ACIAR in collaboration/co-funding with NZ)

- Applying a climate lens to small holder livestock projects - **Links to GRA LRG**
- Supporting NDC & non-NDC mechanisms to reduce GHGs from mixed farming systems in East Africa and the Asia-Pacific - **Links to IRG Inv. & NDC + F2R Networks**
- Avoiding SOC loss from land with LU/practice change - **Links to IRG SCS Network**
- Climate change & Pacific Food Systems: *Decision making for transformational change*

Future funding

- Ongoing research & investment in more productive, resilient lower emissions agriculture
- State programs e.g. Land Restoration Fund (Queensland)
- Uncertain prospects for large national programs in GHG emissions reduction

Thank you