**ON AGRICULTURAL GREENHOUSE GASES** 

Dr Harry Clark

Special Representative Update Report GRA Council Meeting 23 – 26 April 2023

### New Special Representative, New approach!



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- Developing a team approach to the GRA Special Representative function
- Aiming to provide greater support on a regional basis, with less reliance on one key person
- Lead Special Representative will only be a part time position
- Work plan which prioritises what the team does will be developed based on decisions made at Council Meeting

I look forward to working with you!

### **GRA** Members and Partners



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### **67 Member Countries**



### **GRA Members and Partners**



### **GRA** Members and Partners



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### **Increased to 29 Formal Partners in 2023**

### **New Partners**



Regional Network of Agricultural Policy Research Institutes



**Global Green Growth Institute** 

### Proposed



**Global Methane Hub** 

### **In Discussion**



University of the South Pacific



Pacific Regional Environment Programme

**GRA** Secretariat





**GRA** Scholarships

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# **CLIFF-GRADS** Programme

- The Climate, Food and Farming, Global Research Alliance Development Scholarships Programme (CLIFF-GRADS) is a joint initiative of the GRA & Mitigate+: Research for Low Emissions Food Systems
- 176 PhD students have received awards since 2017
- R3 & R4: 86 students are now completing research stays after COVID-19 delays
- R5: **48 students** have started research stays
  - All training should be completed by April 2024



**GRA** Scholarships

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# **CLIFF-GRADS** Programme

- Round 6 is OPEN for proposals from host institutes closing 2 May 2023
- Applications for students will be open between 15 June 21 August 2023
  - Awardees will be announced at COP28
- Thanks to:
  - The New Zealand Government for financial support
  - Mitigate+ for their engagement and financial support
  - University of Galway for the administration of the programme



### **GRA** Scholarships

# **RUFORUM GRA Graduate Research Grants**

Aim: to build the capability of graduate students and post-graduate scientists in Africa to conduct applied research on agricultural GHGs

- 2020: R1 supported 8 projects, involving 22 Masters students
- 2022: R2 will support 8 research grants including Masters students and 2 PhD research grants
  - R2 closed on 10 April 2023
  - 57 applications received for Graduate Research Grants & 24 for Doctoral Grants
- The R2 PhD projects are part of a joint research initiative between GRA, RUFORUM and ILRI's Mazingira Centre



## GREENER CATTLE INITIATIVE





- Collaboration between FFAR (USA) & 10 partners
- R1 funding approx. US\$6m
- Opportunity for collaborative GRA member bids e.g. support Flagship projects
- Participated in project assessment process, successful bids to be announced in May 2023
- R2 discussions underway

Global Dairy Platform: Pathways to Dairy Net Zero (P2DNZ)

- GRA is a Knowledge Partner to P2DNZ which involves worlds major dairy companies
- Feed Additives Flagship a key partner
  - GDP has provide funding for a post-doc to support the Flagship
- Information from previous GRA projects (FAO/CCAC) providing case study data
- Working with FAO/SRUC/NZAGRC to develop new typologies for dairy production systems globally and evaluate mitigation options applicable to each of these



## Protocol for including mitigation actions in agricultural LCA assessments (MiLCA)



- GRA partnering with 5 major dairy companies to produce a publicly available methodology for incorporating mitigation technologies into dairy LCA
- Feed Additives Flagship will provide critical information to allow the methodology to be 'road tested' using feed additives as the test case
- RfP issued in December 2022
- Preferred contractor identified, contract in place by May 2023
- Results expected early 2024





- While many countries have methane reduction strategies in place, this is the first internationally coordinated approach to methane mitigation funding
- Focus on energy, agricultural, and waste sectors
- Hayden Montgomery is the Program Director Agriculture
- Potential opportunities for collaborative bids for global research programmes
- Support from GMH secured for "Rumengate" Flagship (led by S. Huws)
- Dedicated "methane accelerator" programme under development





- GRA joined AIM4C in 2022 as a Knowledge Partner
- Planning a GRA presence at upcoming AIM4C Summit
  - 8-10 May, Washington DC, USA
- Opportunities to link into events e.g. those being hosted by:
  - Greener Cattle Initiative
  - Global Dairy Platform
  - FONTAGRO





# **Represented GRA at seven COP27 side events**

- 'CLIFF-GRADS: Building capacity for climate research in the next generation of scientific leaders'
  - Co-hosted by CGIAR, FAO and The Rockefeller Foundation
  - Scheme highly praised, especially the alumni component which provides continuing support, and encouraged to expand the initiative if possible
- Dairy Net Zero Project presented in collaboration with Global Diary Platform, FAO, SRUC and NZAGRC
- Opportunities identified for collaboration between small island states in the Pacific & Caribbean on data gathering to support mitigation and adaptation efforts
- Formation of the GRA Indigenous Knowledge Network highly praised





# Planning for GRA presence will begin later in year

- 30 Nov 12 Dec 2023
- Expo City, Dubai, UAE

Get in touch if you have plans which could involve the GRA