

GLOBAL
RESEARCH
ALLIANCE

ON AGRICULTURAL GREENHOUSE GASES

GRA SURVEY 2023 RECOMMENDATIONS

GRA Council 25 April 2023

Stocktake Working Group

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Involved members in Stocktake Working Group: Bangladesh, Canada, Chile, Netherlands, Turkey, RG Co-chairs, Secretariat Team

Two meetings being held: March and July 2022

Development of achievement report

- Aim: To celebrate 10 years of the GRA and compile a document that showcases and highlights the key achievements
- Achievement template had been developed for each Research Group covering research projects, events, online resources, publications and fellowship activities from 2010 - 2021
- The activity templates have been completed by the Secretariat using the 6 months reports, annual reports, and council reports from 2010 – 2021
- RG co-chairs have identified the Top 5 highlights from their Research Group for each category
- The GRA has referred to the identified highlights from the category “Publications” in the UNFCCC submission on the Sharm El Sheik Joint Work on Agriculture that was submitted by INRAE on behalf of the GRA members

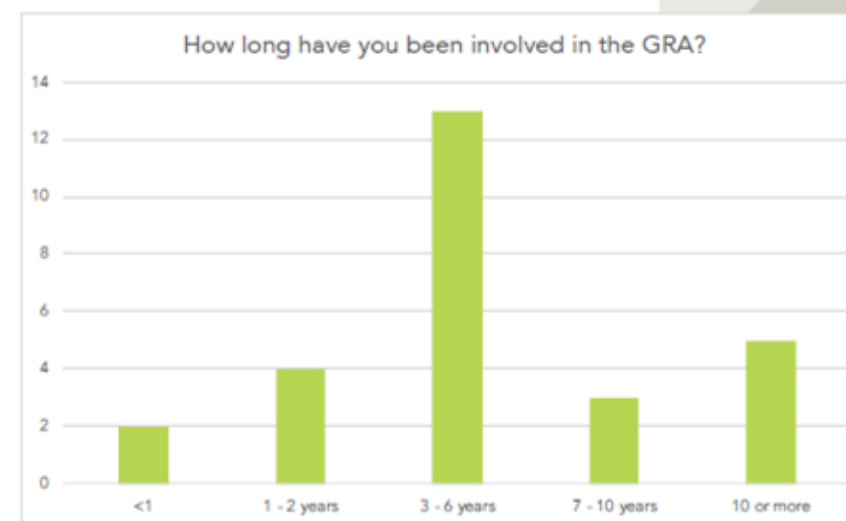
Next steps: Finalize achievement report before COP28

- GRA Survey developed to meet Research Stocktake outcome of 2022 Council meeting.
- Opportunity to survey Council about a wider range of topics:
 - Research (suitability, opportunities, communication etc.)
 - Capability (opportunities, accessibility, communication etc)
 - Governance (Council meetings and Secretariat)
- Survey was sent to all GRA Council Members
- Follow up focus groups (by region) to expand on key topics
- Separate Survey was sent to Partners – select questions

SUMMARY OF RESPONDENTS

- **27 SUBSTANTIVE RESPONSES***, **25 COUNTRIES (38% of member countries)**
 - Responses by region: Africa 6, Asia 7, Europe 4, Latin America 5, North America 1, Pacific 2.
- Only 5 respondent's countries had been active in the GRA for *less than 3 years*
- Most affiliated with National Gvt Agency or Ministry (67%) 30% to a national research institution
- Most (80%) had been involved with GRA for a 'decent' length of time (three or more years)

*At least partially completed the survey beyond demographic information and excluding duplicates. 22 respondents completed the survey. 5 'dropped out'



Members valued the GRA's support for collaboration, growing connections and networks which is one of its key strengths.

The core focus areas of supporting research and capacity building are both regarded as effective and successful

Practical suggestions to structure Council meetings to increase participation and engagement

- e.g. operational matters agreed in advance to allow time for more substantive discussions/

Members indicated that participation and engagement in the GRA could be challenging

- Practical suggestions such as developing some standard FAQs, more supportive 'onboarding' process for new Members.

GRA could be *more* relevant when considering the anticipated global challenges / Members have diverse needs

- Take advantage of opportunities

Resourcing is a limiting factor, but there is a strong desire for more engagement through additional/alternative mechanisms

- Webinars and/or Intersessional meetings – needs based participation (regional issues or special interest)

Coordinating and accessing funding remains a challenge to effective participation for many Members.

- Flagships were noted as an example of where this has been done well

Mixed feelings about establishing a Partners forum.

- Partners weren't always clear how or where they could most effectively engage with the GRA.

Reinforce its focus on adaptation as well as mitigation

- barriers to participation for some Members whose country priorities are focused more toward adaptation.

1. PILOT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIAL INTEREST AND/OR REGIONAL GROUPS BY

- a) Agree to initially establishing two Special Interest Groups (SIG): **(1) Policy** and **(2) Practice Change** (subject to a minimum number of 2 members volunteering to coordinating and leading these groups).
- b) Endorse Members from any region establishing a **Regional Representatives Group (RRG)** (subject to the same minimum requirements as the SIGs above).
- c) Note the activities of these groups will be determined and reflect the needs and interests of the group themselves, but are expected to include a mixture of:
 - opportunities for discussion
 - development of specific resources or guidance (as and where required)
 - organising and hosting webinars

2. REFORMAT COUNCIL MEETINGS

- a) Agree to reformat council meetings so that:
 - operational matters are received and approved in advance of Council meetings and use digital technology to facilitate this.
 - substantive items for discussion are reserved for the full council meeting and that the facilitation of these discussion sessions is shared (not led by the Chair)
- b) Note that the Secretariat will work with and support the Chair to reform the next Council meeting in the manner described above, including identifying the best method to receive and record approval for matters circulated prior to the meeting, and to support the identification of suitable members to facilitate agenda items for substantive discussion.

3. USE FLAGSHIPS TO ACHIEVE GREATER COORDINATION OF FUNDING AND ACTIVITIES

- a) Agree to test using the Flagships as the key mechanism to help coordinate and pool funding between Members
- b) Agree to using Flagships as the main target for any specific GRA research fund
- c) Agree to using Flagships as a key tool to coordinate other activities, particularly capability building activities (e.g., PhD and Post-Docs, as well as training and workshops from experts)

4. PROGRESS ENGAGEMENT WITH GRA PARTNERS VIA FLAGSHIPS, SIGs, and RRGs

d) Agree to use the Flagship projects, as well as any Special Interest Groups and Regional Representative Groups that are established as the primary engagement mechanism(s) for GRA partner organisations.