

# GLOBAL RESEARCH ALLIANCE

ON AGRICULTURAL GREENHOUSE GASES

GRA Council meeting, Online

11 September 2024



## Research Group Co-Chairs' Report

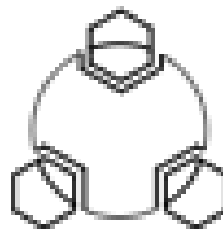
# INTEGRATIVE RESEARCH GROUP

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## Research Group Aim

To foster collaboration across all Research Groups to reduce greenhouse gas emissions intensity while improving the overall production efficiency within agricultural systems



## Co-Chairs

**Jean-François Soussana**

INRAE—National Research Institute for Agriculture, Food and Environment, France

**Pamela Joosse**

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

**Nadia Bouhafs**

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Australia

# INTEGRATIVE RESEARCH GROUP

## RECENT ACTIVITIES

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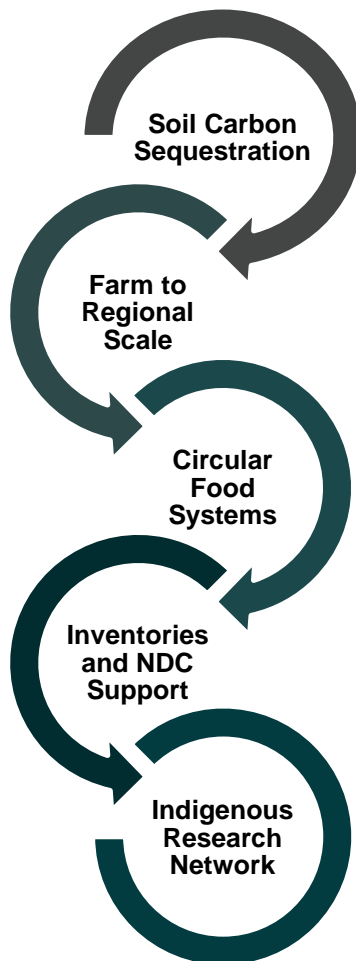
- **Annual Co-chair meeting 31 May 2024**
  - Strategic discussion on the activities for the Integrative Research Group (IRG) and future research direction
- **Proposal for restructure of CRG, IRG and their associated networks**
  - Opportunity to clarify and optimise the function of the Research profiles
  - The IRG is eager to hear from Council representatives on the proposed change

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## Research Networks

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### Networks



### Network Coordinators

- Dr Suzanne Reynders (INRAE – France)
- Claus Deblitz, (Thünen-Institute)
- Yelto Zimmer (agri benchmark)
- Nina Grassnick (Thunen Institute of Farm Economics/ agri benchmark)
- Flavia Casu
- Mirjam Spoelstra (Wageningen University & Research)
- Andrea Pickering (AGGRC, New Zealand)
- Ngonidzasche Chirinda (Mohammed VI Polytechnic University)
- Natalie Doran-Browne (the Mullion Group, Australia)
- Mai Van Trinh (Institute for Agricultural Environment, Vietnam)
- Katerina Porou (NZ)
- Shiloh Babbington (NZ)
- Ruta-Rae Aickin (Samoa)

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## Soil Carbon International Research Consortium

# About ORCaSa

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ORCaSa



**Operationalising the International  
Research Cooperation on Soil Carbon**



**A Horizon Europe project (CSA)  
Budget : ~ 3 M euros**



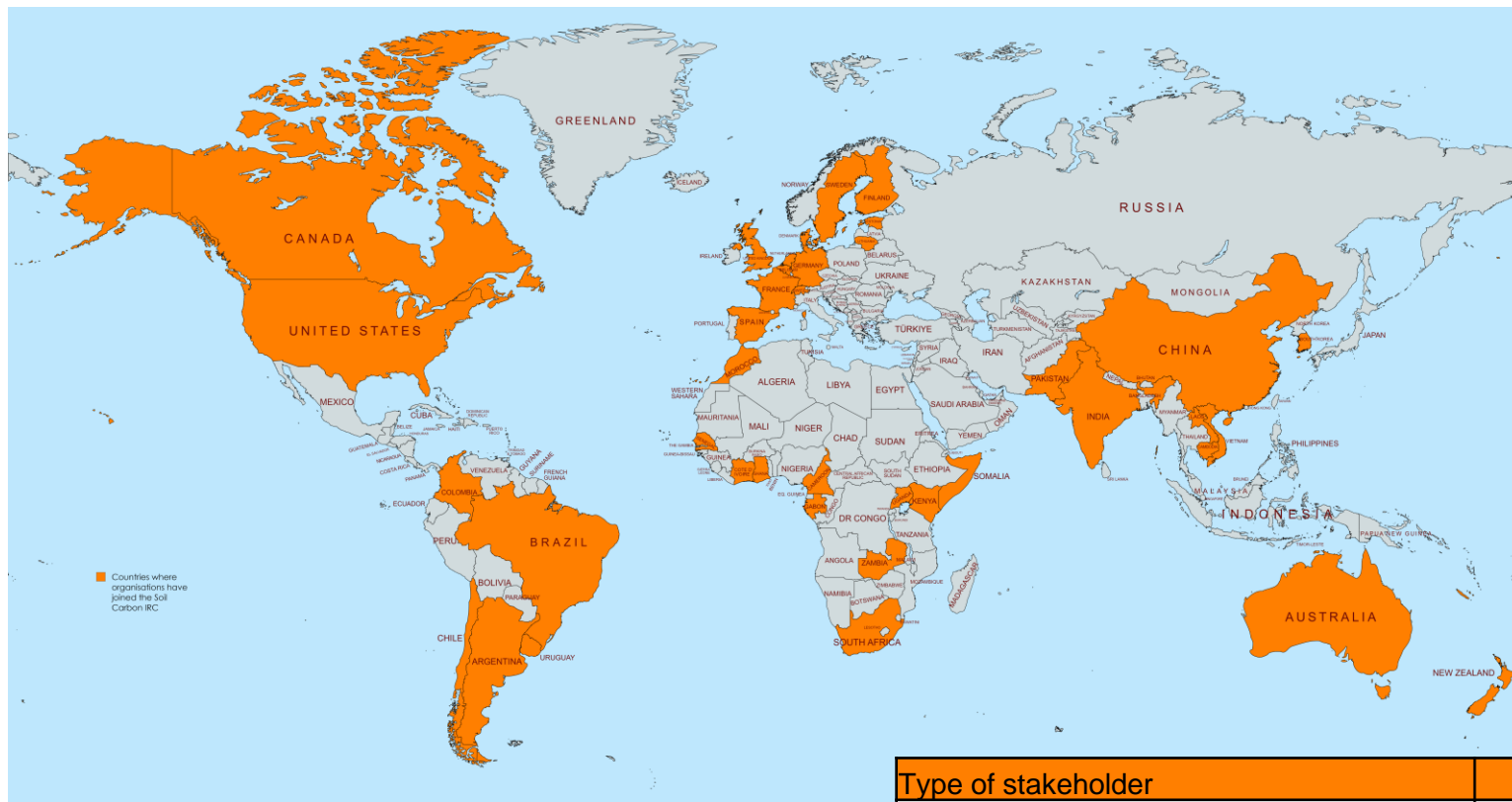
**36 months**  
(September 2022 until August 2025)



**Main objective:** establishing the first  
International Research Consortium (IRC)  
on soil carbon



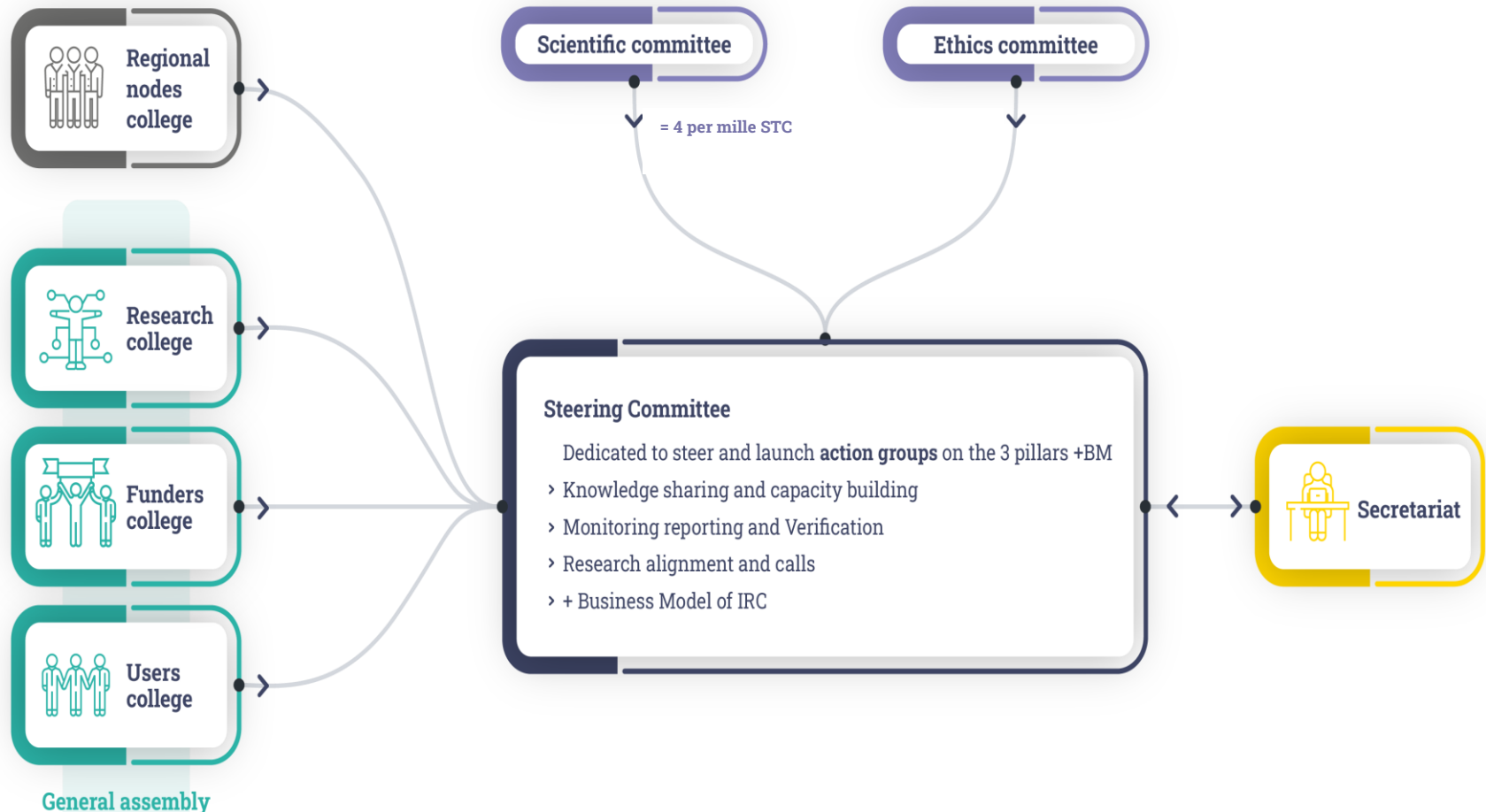
# 39 countries where organisations have joined the Soil Carbon IRC



Type of stakeholder	
Research organisation	53
Funders	4
End users	23



# Governance: Soil Carbon IRC





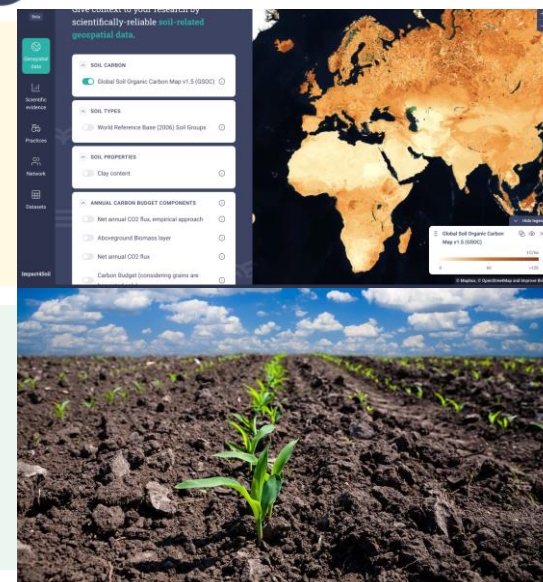
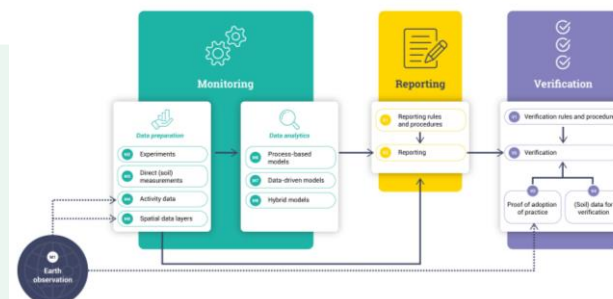
# 3 main services in preparation

**An internationally harmonized MRV framework** to raise awareness and develop scientific knowledge and methods on how to Measure, Report and Verify soil carbon stock changes in various contexts of application (Offsetting, Insetting, NDC's, CAP...)

**The Impact4Soil platform to drive cooperation** and knowledge sharing on soil carbon at international level.

5 modules: maps (visualization of carbon stock and evolution over time), scientific evidence (from metanalysis), practices (from verified sources), data (from scientific repositories), network of initiatives and stakeholders.

**A Research alignment and calls** program through an aligned Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda considering all types of land use in each region; and through Knowledge hub and Thematic Annual Programming activities to facilitate international collaboration between projects for the Soil Carbon IRC members.



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## Farm to Regional Scale Network

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## Farm to Regional Scale Network

- Organized Session "Opportunities and challenges of farm-level GHG accounting" at DAFA conference "Agriculture research and climate change", Germany, March 2024
- Finalizing paper on "Opportunities and challenges of farm-level GHG accounting" --> paper submission to "Science of the Total Environment" planned for September 2024
- Support of project proposal for MACSUR SciPolNet project --> project start expected end of 2024
- Support of organizing the [AgriGHG-2024 symposium](#) taking place in October 2024, Berlin (Germany)

### Activities in collaboration with agri benchmark:

- GHG Baseline for selected countries in the agri benchmark Beef Network (Emifa-flagship Project)
- GHG balances for typical crop farms (will be finalized by the end of 2024)
- GHG policies in selected countries re. crop production



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## Circular Food Systems Network

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## Circular Food Systems Network

### Key Updates:

- The CFS Network funded three research projects on measuring circularity in agri-food systems:
  - AgResearch NZ: A holistic framework for circular food system assessment
  - Wageningen Environmental Research: Circularity in integrated systems : resource recovery for feed, fuel and (organic) fertiliser self-sufficiency in Ethiopia
  - Wageningen Plant Sciences: Circularity in integrated systems: resource recovery for feed, fuel and (organic) fertiliser self-sufficiency in Ethiopia
- May 2024 the CFS co-chairs participated in the Pacific Ocean Pacific Climate Change Conference in Samoa and attended the annual meeting of the Indigenous Research Network of the GRA.
- July 2024, the CFS hosted a summer school on circular food systems
  - Hosted 20 Msc, PhD and Young Professionals at the campus of Wageningen University in The Netherlands.
  - The program was to expand participants knowledge of circular agriculture and food systems.

### Opportunities to connect with CFS:

- The Network has activated a LinkedIn account that interested parties can follow for updates: [\(25\)](#)  
[Circular Food Systems Network: Overview | LinkedIn](#)



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## Inventories and NDC Network



# Website live in May 2024 – [www.graindc.org](http://www.graindc.org)

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Welcome to the  
Inventories and NDC  
Network.

What we do

**THE NETWORK SHARES NEW SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION,  
KNOWLEDGE, DATA, AND INVENTORY METHODOLOGIES  
TO IDENTIFY PRIORITIES FOR COLLABORATION.**

We achieve this through this website, newsletters, webinars, flagship proposals, development of case studies and other activities. These efforts are aimed at improving the accuracy, comparability, completeness,

## New website for the I&NDC Network

## Published May 2024.

- A substantial update from the single page it previously had on the GRA website.
- Provides much more information as well as integrated member management.

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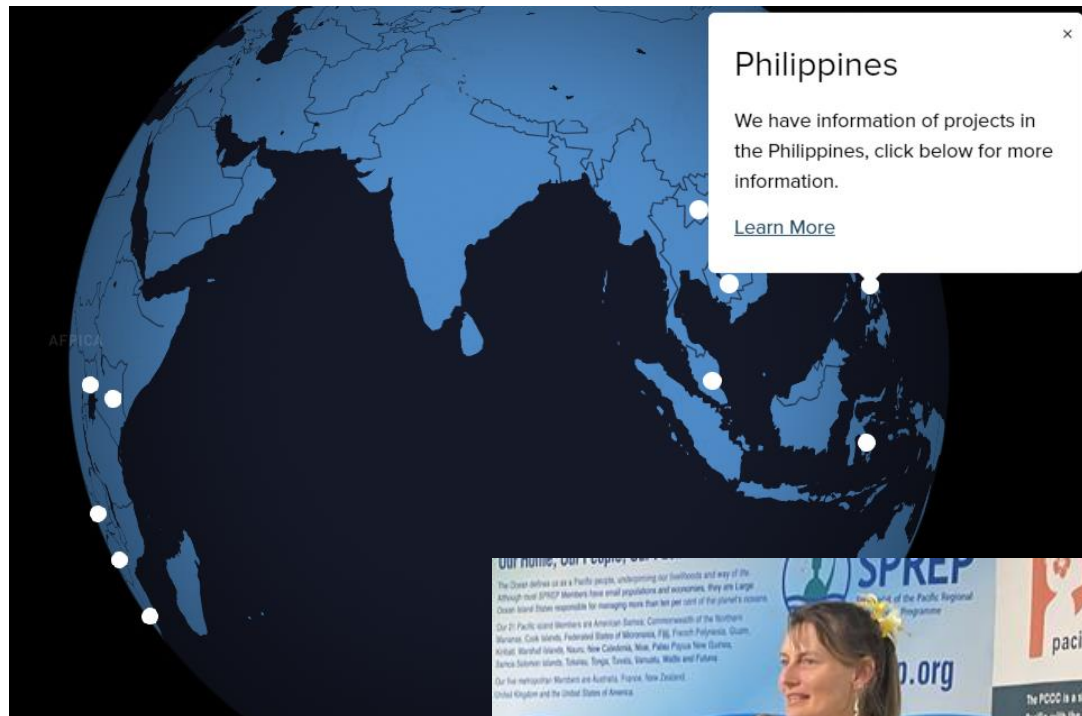
# GRAIT – Co-ordination Initiative

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## Network Update

- Officially launched the GRAIT (GRA Agriculture Inventory Training) Programme – co-ordinated by Dr. Andrea Pickering.
- Dedicated page on the Network website (International Collaboration page) to include work projects throughout developing countries.



<https://graindc.org/grait/>

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# Other activities

- Quarterly Who's Counting newsletters.  
<https://graindc.org/resources/newsletters/>
- Research ideas:
  - Reducing enteric fermentation emissions through feeding papaya seeds and mango (skin and seeds) to cattle.
  - Incorporating Animal Health metrics into national agriculture inventories (Harry Clark leading).
  - Guidance on incorporating mitigation technologies into National inventories.
- Inventory compilers coordination meeting from Australia, Ireland, the UK and US.
- Two agricultural inventory capability building workshops in Fiji.



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## Indigenous Research Network

# Indigenous Research Network

## Update

- Launched in 2022, Co-led by New Zealand and Samoa
- Aims to strengthen indigenous voices in agricultural issues and empower traditional knowledge and practices in the fight against climate change
- [The Indigenous Research Network Newsletter](#) was published in March 2024 and includes network updates and opportunities

## 20 May 2024 - Annual Meeting

- Second Annual meeting and Field trip in Samoa alongside the Pacific Oceans and Climate Conference.
- 68 participants in person and 10 participants virtually, representing 21 different countries.
- The meeting was followed by a field trip and workshop to discuss the development of a flagship project for the Network.

## 14 August 2024 - Indigenous Research Network: The Power of Inclusivity

- Workshop held alongside Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) in Peru
- The workshop was led by New Zealand and co-sponsored by Australia, Canada, Peru, and The United States.
- Aligned with the APEC Policy Partnership on Food Security Roadmap Towards 2030. Empowering young indigenous voices in climate decisions and actions.

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## IRG next steps



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## 2023-24 PLANS

### Next steps

- **Research Group Restructuring:**
  - Discussions are ongoing about potential reorganisation of the CRG and IRG, considering the role of existing networks within these groups.
  - The next steps of the group dependant on outcome and proceeding discussions of this council session
- **Engaging with IRG members** on the outcome of restructure to ensure community of researchers remain connected
- **Continue progressing the work underway in the networks**, including linking research to knowledge transfer and policy connections
- **Continuing to work with the other Research Groups**, particularly the CRG on the opportunities presented by a restructure