

Strategic Research Agenda

GRA Council
Cost Rica, 6 July 2026

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ALLIANCE

ON AGRICULTURAL GREENHOUSE GASES



Outcome from the 2025 GRA Council meeting

“There was strong support from Members to develop a Strategic Research Agenda, noting that it was important to develop this at the right level for the GRA as a voluntary organisation which aligns existing research mechanisms and resource.”

“An SRA would be a mechanism to provide direction and guidance to the Research Groups and Networks and helpful to share with Partners and other organisations as a basis for developing future collaborations. The group agreed to develop an SRA that focused on research priorities and scope, rather than a detailed list of projects.”

WHY A STRATEGIC RESEARCH AGENDA?

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The Strategic Research Agenda will:

- Align with the GRA Strategic Plan 2026–2030 and Charter
- Provide strategic direction to Research Groups and Networks
- Identify shared research priorities across the Alliance
- Support collaboration with Members, Partners and funders
- Strengthen the GRA's ability to communicate its research ambitions

PROGRESS TO DATE

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COMPLETED	UNDERWAY	NEXT
Working Group established	Data collection	Council workshop
Membership confirmed (see Annex slide)	Research Group/Network consultation	Analysis and synthesis phase
Terms of Reference agreed (see Annex slide)	Analysis phase started	SRA drafting and approval
Work programme developed		
4 Items	3 Items	3 Items

EVIDENCE GATHERING & CONSULTATION

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Current Activities

1. *Research Landscape Review*

- Collection and review of international Strategic Research Agendas
- Examination of foresight and priority-setting exercises
- Identification of common themes and emerging issues

2. *GRA Consultation*

- Surveys issued to Research Group Chairs
- Input sought from Networks
- Collection of future priorities, challenges and opportunities

COUNCIL WORKSHOP (DAY 2)

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Purpose of Workshop

Council Members and Partners will be invited to:

- Validate emerging themes
- Identify future research priorities
- Highlight cross-cutting challenges and opportunities
- Consider areas where the GRA can add strategic value
- Inform the next phase of analysis

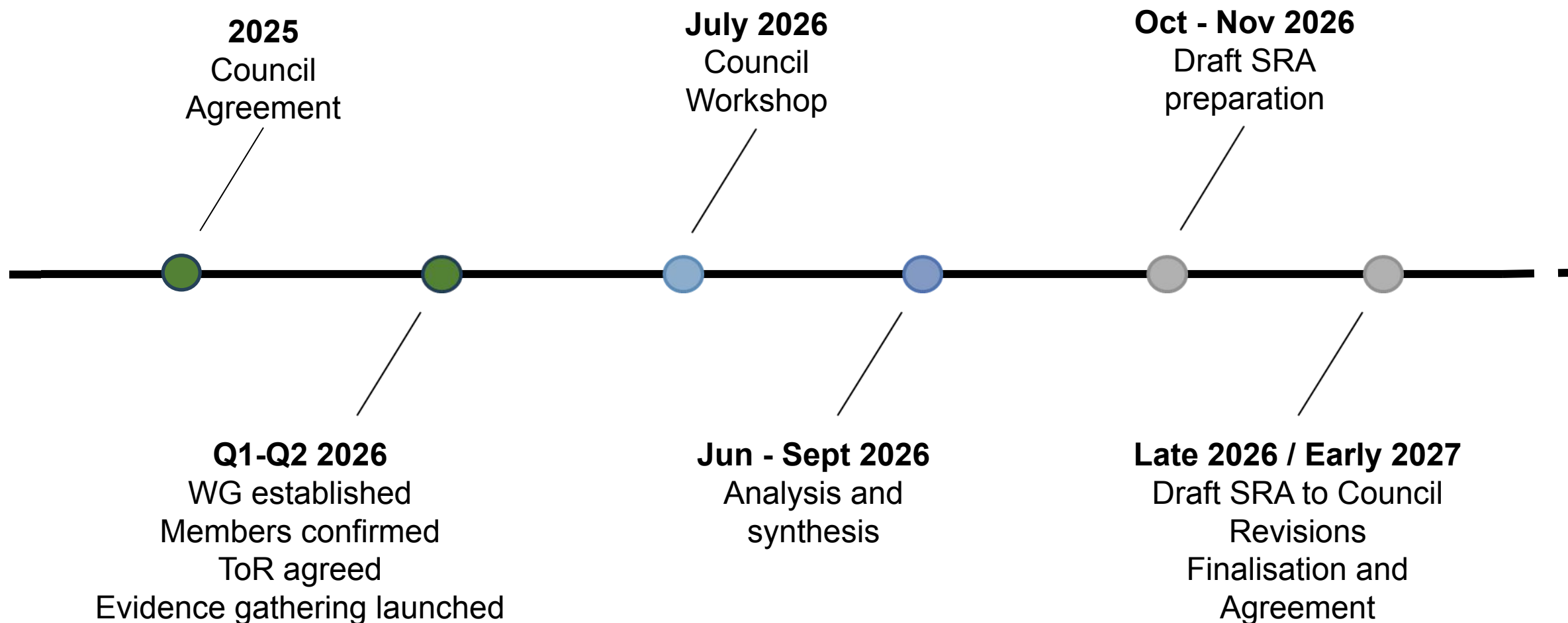
Expected Outcome

- Shared direction on the key themes to be reflected in the Strategic Research Agenda

ROADMAP TO DELIVERY

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COUNCIL IS INVITED TO NOTE

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Council is invited to note:

- Agreement of the Terms of Reference
- Establishment of the Working Group
- Progress in data collection and consultation activities
- The Council workshop on Day 2
- The planned analysis and synthesis phase during August–September 2026
- Preparation of a draft Strategic Research Agenda for Council consideration later in 2026
- Finalisation and Agreement of the SRA by Council in early 2027



THANK YOU

Questions and Discussion

ANNEX: Working Group – TOR

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To undertake this work, the GRA Council agreed to establish a Working Group, comprising Council Members, GRA Partners, and Council and Research Group representatives

Objectives

The Working Group will develop a Strategic Research agenda, that has the following aims:

- Aligns with the GRA Strategic Plan 2026 -2030 and the GRA Charter.
- Provides focus, coordination, direction and guidance to Research Groups and Networks to steer their research efforts
- Communicates with Partners and other external organizations the research objectives and the key areas of research of the GRA in order to help foster future collaboration and strengthen access to research funding

ANNEX: Working Group - Membership

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John Harrison, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine. IRELAND – Chair

*Bob Turnock, Agriculture and Agri-Food. CANADA – retired June 2026

Erik Mencos Contreras, The Earth Institute, Columbia University. UNITED STATES of AMERICA

Evalyn Davies, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. UNITED KINGDOM

Hayden Montgomery, Program Director for Agriculture. GLOBAL METHANE HUB

Kevin Karl, Center for Climate Systems Research, Columbia University. UNITED STATES of AMERICA

Marco Bindi, University of Florence, ITALY

Nalishebo Meebelo, Associate Adjunct Professor, Murdoch University. ZAMBIA

William Aitkenhead, Ministry for Primary Industries, NEW ZEALAND

Peter Ettema, Special Representative, Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases