



GLOBAL
RESEARCH
ALLIANCE

ON AGRICULTURAL GREENHOUSE GASES

Enhancing Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Research

1 September 2010

Summary

The Problem

- Situation and Outlook for Agriculture
- The Challenges

Thinking about a Response

- What is Important for Good Policy

The Global Research Alliance

- Concept
 - Objectives
 - Operation
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Situation and Outlook for Agriculture

- 14% of global annual GHG emissions
 - Projected to rise 30%-40% above 2005 levels if food demand doubles by 2050
 - Very few mitigation options identified or are difficult to implement
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The Challenges

- **One-off technological fixes won't work for agriculture**
 - Need sustained application of processes and management practices (by individual farmers)
 - **For many the priority is not mitigation but adaptation and food security**
 - Are they competing objectives or
 - Complementary opportunities ?
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What is Important for Good Policy ?

- **Good information**
- **Viable options**

But there are some inconvenient truths about both

The Alliance Concept

- A robust international effort to develop, share and apply research efforts and best practice
 - Strengthening collaboration and leveraging collective effort
 - Not “science for science’s sake” - outcome focused
 - Bottom up and voluntary
 - Linking research efforts across sub-sectors
 - Bringing policy and science together
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Ministerial Statement

“Underlining the need for food security, we decide to establish a Global Research Alliance on agricultural greenhouse gases to help reduce the emissions intensity of agricultural production and increase its potential for soil carbon sequestration thereby contributing to overall mitigation efforts.”

Specific Objectives

- Research networks : deepen, broaden and build
 - Identify opportunities
 - Improve knowledge
 - Share results
 - Improve access to and application of research and new technologies
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Membership

Now 30 member countries:

Argentina
Australia
Canada
Chile
Colombia
Denmark
Finland
France

Germany
Ghana
India
Indonesia
Ireland
Japan
Malaysia

Mexico
Netherlands
New Zealand
Norway
Pakistan
Peru
Philippines

Russia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
U.K.
United States
Uruguay
Vietnam

Observers: Brazil, China, European Commission, Korea, South Africa, Thailand

How the Alliance will function

Central to the Alliance are the Research Groups

But also have

- Governance structure and
- Partnership Network

Held together by a Charter

Research Groups (1)

Three Research Groups set up :

- Livestock – NZ and the Netherlands
- Cropping – US
- Paddy rice – Japan

Cross-Cutting Issues – span all Research Groups

- Soil carbon/nitrogen cycling – France and Australia
 - Inventories / measurement – Canada and the Netherlands
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Other Elements

- Outreach to Partners
 - Linking to other Programmes
 - Alliance website –
www.globalresearchalliance.org
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Thank you
