

Manure Management research network

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Presentation to the Livestock Research Group, November 2012, on behalf of the network

Recent meeting

- First meeting 3-4 September 2012 in Rome
- 19 GRA participants from 12 countries, 2 FAO guests
- Scope of the network; most important issues:
- Develop common guidelines for measuring emissions around manure management (total manure chain)
- Link external communication to food security; joint messaging to policy much more further than only reducing GHG emissions;
- Apply system approach; both in relation to the whole manure chain but also in relation to GHG emissions as part of N- and C cycle and recovery of other nutrients from manure

Network goals

Actions to undertake the coming year

Develop a best practice guide to measure emissions from manure in all stages of the manure chain (start with project description lead by Matt Smith, USA)

Make a position paper and leaflet to be used for external communication dealing with goals, role, position/boundaries etc. (start with set up by Theun Vellinga, NL)

Make a shopping list on practical mitigation options for farmers and policy; a kind of user guide; showing best practices of mitigation options (start with set up by Dave Chadwick, UK)

- How are we trying to achieve these goals: by appointing taskleaders
- What are particular opportunities that can be advanced through such a network? Develop and implement joint project: MMIP

Governance and funding

- Co-coordination by La van Kinh, Vietnam and Paul Vriesekoop, the Netherlands
- An agreed work plan is made including three action in 2013 and participation in a new program
- Decisions of the network are made in consensus
- Members have been recruited via LRG/GRA; membership will be broadened over time in trying to involve China, Thailand, Korea, Brazil, Eastern Europe, Germany and ...
- Limited financial support for the network from Dutch government

Research goals/opportunities

- Key research opportunities identified: collaborative research program MMIP with development and implementation of a knowledge service project (the manure kiosk) and pilot projects
- Those opportunities can be realised with active members and enough funding
- Policy, farmers, industry are end-users of work; multi stake holder approach
- We would like to have your feedback on the draft MMIP
- We would like your help by joining the MMIP group and MMG network which is relevant for much more countries