



GLOBAL ROUNDTABLE FOR SUSTAINABLE BEEF

Climate Working Group Agenda

Monday, June 13, 2022

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Central U.S./Canada Time

Members Present:

Brenna Grant – Canfax
Courtney Hall – WWF
Alice Rocha – UC Davis
Nicholas Jolly – Beef + Lamb NZ
Anne Gillespie – Textile Exchange
Tryon Wickersham – TAMU
Brian Lindsay – Global Dairy Platform
Eric Harris – Sure Harvest
Lora Wright – Where Food Comes From

Matthew Cleveland – ABS Global
Nathan Smith – Sure Harvest
Sara Kroopf - McDonalds
Sara Place – Elanco
Siena Shepard – Textile Exchange
Isabel Schulze – GTPS
Terry Ward - Zinpro
Beatriz Pressi – GTPS

Staff Present:

Josefina Eisele, Scott Stuart, Katie Ambrose, Julie James

Opening Remarks

Courtney Hall

Hall opened the third meeting of the year, mentioning the previous discussions on monitoring on regions, expected pathways to achieve goals, and how to report progress.

Introduced MRV provider and Brian Lindsay as speakers

Introduction to Monitoring, Reporting, Verification (MRV)

Sure Harvest

A subsidiary of “Where Food Comes From”—expertise relates to developing, measuring, implementing and reporting sustainability goals. Presented three phases for GRSB to help outline goals and reporting, framework implementation, and ongoing support.

Phase 1: looking at discovery and planning aspect of project, developing initial approach based on stakeholder input; plan to have this phase finished before November; taking feedback from national and regional round tables to structure reporting and data collection against goals

Phase 2: looking at implementation of framework developed from phase 1; push out approach to data collection, paired with continual feedback, and working with national and regional round tables

Phase 3: slated to start next year, ongoing, assessing implementation of MRV and development of full sustainability report.

Initial steps include outreach to other round tables to leverage existing information and approaches. Meant to be an effort to work with stakeholders and help achieve goals

Any question for Sure Harvest will be relayed as needed.

The Climate Working Group will be working collaboratively with Sure Harvest throughout this process and will build time into future agendas to keep the Working Group apprised of progress.

Pathways to Net Zero in Dairy

Brian Lindsay, GDP

The pathways to net zero in dairy program shows that agriculture is unique as a source and a solution to climate change. Program is part of a multi stakeholder process focused on tracking, measuring, and reporting sustainability performance of the dairy industry. Currently represent about 30% of global milk production and about 50% of the formal milk production (sold through a retail outlet; in a lot of countries in Asia and Africa have a very strong informal marketplace).

Program launched in 2013, aiming to unify the industry and start responsible reporting. There are 11 sustainability criteria and one metric per criteria, designed to look at the total value chain beyond the farm. Partnered with the FAO to look at performance trends over a 10 year period (2005 to 2015). Found that dairy outputs globally increased by 30%, while emissions intensity decreased by 11%. However, also found that absolute emissions increased by 18%. Aim to repeat the trend study every five years. The 2015-2020 report is not done yet.

Started pulling together a lot of global organizations to collaborate on this project, including the Global Dairy Platform, The International Dairy Federation, The International Livestock Research Institute, and the FAO. The program is meant to be science based with the FAO providing critical science and data based back up to the work being done but also providing guidance to the sector. The partnership between FAO was highlighted as way to understand regional differences in production and consequently major emission sources. This helps to support the initiative on having a refined approach on mitigation pathways that are unique to geographies/production systems.

Launched the pathways net zero at the food system summit last year and also presented at Cop26 to introduce the concept of net zero and actively engaging on mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions. Also talked about the balance between reducing GHG emissions without causing nutrition security issues, livelihood and economic growth issues, and animal health and welfare issues. A holistic system approach essential. Want to develop pathways for a number of dairy systems globally, as dairy is a diverse sector. Methane is a challenge but also an opportunity so the net zero work will incorporate CH₄, N₂O, and CO₂ going forward to build strong mitigation options. This is done to help develop the project further and help move the dairy industry forward on a global scale.

Want to help colleagues from the dairy industry in emerging regions to move forward by getting them funding and programs in place based on FAO work. Need to be able to support these regions and build case studies based on previous experience, through a mixture of research and execution. 2015 acts as a baseline for emissions profiles, informing what needs to be done and how to mitigate, all based in research that will help make informed decisions about target efforts in the future. They are working with FAO on emissions trend reports in dairy. As well as exploring how to more frequently update dairy emissions factors as a mechanism to track

progress over time. There's only 100+ groups in the program now, but there's a lot more dairy industry who could be included.

Question on the role of GWP* in dairy net zero pathway: About to publish a briefing note on GWP*. Offers a great planning tool. Been working on that since 2018 with beef and dairy organizations to ensure the sector uses GWP* in a responsible way for the right reasons.

Question on C-seq: group of dairy and beef have collaborated to develop a way to quantify carbon sequestration. Have been developing a methodology/guideline to quantify carbon sequestration called C-seq and has a publicly available a draft version on the global dairy platform website. Hope to release in September 2022 at the international dairy federation conference pending an approval process with their expert panels.

Question on lessons learned from the project: A lot of time and money is spent chasing data and information. Developing meaningful metrics that can be applied across the globe is difficult. And being transparent in data collection and sources is essential.

Next Climate Working Group Call – August 8, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Central US/Canada