



GLOBAL ROUNDTABLE FOR SUSTAINABLE BEEF

Climate Working Group

Monday, January 22, 2024
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Central U.S./Canada time

Brenna Grant - Canfax
Matthew Cleveland – ABS Global
Leopoldo Estol
Nicolas Goycochea – LSQA
Sam Werth – USRSB
Caio Zanna – MACS
Andrea Russi da Cunha - LSQA
Kara Barnes
Jessica Loughland
Nicholas Jolly – NZ Beef & Lamb
Sarah Neville
Sara Kroopf – Mars Petcare

Anne Gillespie – Textile Exchange
Tony Hegarty – Belvedere Agriculture
Alex Bjork – WWF
Terry Ward – Zinpro
Nicole Buckley Biggs – AgriWeb
Oscar Rodas
Beatriz – MBPS
Eric Mittenthal – NAMI
David Smith
Alice Rocha – UC Davis
Kristi Block – NAMI

GRSB Staff: Ruaraidh Petre, Katie Ambrose, Julie James, Scott Stuart

AGENDA

1. Summary of Context recommendations

Brenna Grant

Context Network presented 4 key findings from their member interviews

1) Engagement with existing frameworks lacking beef representation (highest priority)

Objective was to engage with existing frameworks lacking beef representation like SBTi, ensuring a unified voice in hopes of presenting consistent industry messaging approach, through holding discussion/working sessions when possible; Develop pathways forward through task forces or working groups

2) Assessment of existing methodologies

Aims to understand applicable principles and criteria and gaps that GRSB can address and educate members. Needed to identify alignment and differences in order to create education materials and what options are best for which purposes. Facilitate call with members to present materials, answer questions, and provide guidance on how to utilize findings

3) Landscape assessment of existing GHG accounting tools/solutions

Prioritize 2-3 complementary tools to understand how they complement GRSB and their gaps related to tracking and measuring GHGs in beef. Recognizing regional specificity in terms of

tools, maybe global is not best but need regional tools. Rank tools utilizing criteria and weighting systems

4) Roadmap development

Providing resources to membership (slated for next year, priority is first three items)

2. GHG Protocol – Task Forces topics and leaders, objective and timeline *Brenna Grant*
 - a. Land Sector Removals – position paper

Dairy paper on land sector removals put forth for comments in the previous meeting and need to know if there is interest in adopting that paper or creating a GRSSB-specific paper, or to create a task force to address this now.

Some members (Werth, Jolly, and Loughland) will review the document (circulated by Brenna Grant) and come back later with thoughts.

- b. GHG Protocol Conference in September 2024
(deadline for all material, who to attend)

Proactive item, looking for member to volunteer and understand what will be rolling out during the conference, if messaging/materials needs to be prepared by the GRSSB, etc. WWF expecting members to be present.

Little information is available about the conference thus far, aside from dates. Some participating members have existing relationships with GHG Protocol and call for governance bodies nominations have been discussed—academics needed to meet eligibility criteria.

3. SBTi – how to engage? Key speaking points *Sam Werth*

How can GRSSB meaningfully engage with SBTi and if any members are already engaging and in what manner and identify opportunities for engagement.

WWF has engaged with SBTi, and has shown to be open to engagement with multi-stakeholder groups like GRSSB; what is needed with regards to engagement is likely a conversation to be had with SBTi directly, to determine if information/materials is still required for beef. WWF to provide some points of contact with SBTi.

Capacity issue at SBTi, may be helpful to climate working group to provide education roll to SBTi technical experts, to make themselves available if SBTi members have logistical industry questions. Historically, SBTi did not want to have too much industry input, to remain neutral. But session to share knowledge/information could be beneficial. Recommend contacting technical advisory group at SBTi.

Beef and Lamb NZ submitted something in the hopes of being part of the dairy global platform; goal to emphasize short lived pollutant roll of methane and land removal; SBTi seemed very receptive. Beef industry could start some conversations with SBTi without being too aggressive to garner some influence into beef pathways.

Would be good to know which methodologies/resources would be best to receive time from GRSSB.

GHG Protocol seems to have better penetration in the market, but there is some limitation in the GHGP scopes, and differs from ISO LCA analysis requirements. Exhaustive protocols like ISO makes it very difficult to sustain a claim for products. GHGP might be worth more focus, as it focuses more on carbon accounting and intersects with policies like corporate sustainability directive.

4. Alternatives to SBTi

Sam Werth

Asking how members are engaging in this space, and asking for guidance and feedback on GRBS actions.

Members emphasize GHGP, especially given that FLAG guidance has already been released. However, GHGP lacking rangeland accounting for avoided grassland conversion and their roles in nature positive goals. Conversion from rangeland to crop land looks better under SBTi, so this needs to be discussed—potential for a future seminar.

GRSB/ USRSB/NAMI very interested in engaging with GHGP; NAMI members have been applying to be part of the GHGP taskforce. Determined that GHGP is more relevant for establishing efforts.

5. Draft Call for Proposals that came out of Scoping Report

Brenna Grant

- a. Assessment of Existing Methodologies
- b. Assessment of existing GHG accounting tools/solution

Work to consolidate methodologies, based on items 2 and 3 from the Context Network outcomes, and compare how they compare to GRBS methodology. Putting out a call for proposals to be sent out this week and due in the end of February, as well as possibly developing an advisory committee.

Proposals need to be delivering value to members; to be reviewed by executive committee and board will have final approval. Asking for members of climate working group willing to put in time to engage with this endeavor.

Write up for the call for proposals available, explaining work done in 2023 and needed next steps. Goal to reach unified principles and criteria that have alignment to GRBS guidelines and meeting individualized needs of different stakeholders.

Scoping call to be set up by Brenna Grant and Sam Werth with interested members.