



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs



# Animal Health and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Intensity Network



Presented by: Ilias Kyriazakis, UK

Presented to: Joint Networks meeting; 26<sup>th</sup> June, Reading UK

# Overview of presentation

- **Network aim & objectives**
- **Structure**
- **Relevant projects**
- **Future goals**
- **Interdisciplinary issues**

# AH&GHG EI Network context and aim

- **GHG emissions intensity** from livestock farming could be reduced through efficiency and production gains resulting from improved livestock health
- **The Network aims** to bring together researchers (in veterinary science, epidemiology, animal science, modelling, economics etc) to explore links and synergies between animal disease control and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions intensity reductions

# Network objectives

- 1. Share information on current and planned research and funding activities**
- 2. Maintain and enhance capacity in this field of research**
- 3. Encourage and facilitate a joined-up approach**
- 4. Establish common agreement on priority issues and explore funding opportunities**
- 5. Pursue synergies with stakeholders and other relevant initiatives**



# Network Co-ordination

- **Lead Network Co-ordinator:** Ilias Kyriazakis (Newcastle University, UK)
- **Joint Network Co-ordinator:** Tim Robinson (ILRI, Kenya)
- **Network Secretariat:**
  - Adele Hulin and Alice Willett (ADAS UK Ltd)
  - Funded by Defra for 3 years
  - Central contact point / Member database /



# Progress to date

- **Newest Network**
- Wide promotion to increase membership
  - 79 members across 25 countries (out of 42 GRA)
- Regional Network Champions (**more needed**)
- 2 Annual Network Workshops (Ireland, France)
- 1 Regional Workshop (Ethiopia)
- Developed links with other initiatives
- Identified potential funding routes
- Communications e.g. GRA, UK Newsletters

# Links with initiatives and networks

- MACSUR Phase II (**Joint workshop 25<sup>th</sup> June**)
- FACCE-JPI (potential Knowledge Hub)
- STAR-IDAZ (potential funding source for Network continuation)
- NEAT (engaging with social scientists and economists)
- GASL (are now embracing animal health topic)

# Relevant research projects

- Modelling the Impact of Controlling Endemic Cattle Diseases and Conditions on GHG Emissions (Defra project AC0120)
  - *Reducing Greenhouse Gas Intensities through Improvements in Animal Health*
- Reducing GHG emissions intensities through trypanosomiasis control in East Africa
- Targeting animal health interventions to reduce GHG emissions intensities (concept note)



# Key goals for next 12 months

- Identify tangible Network outputs
- Identify synergies with other GRA-LRG Networks
- Pursue funding opportunities to secure Network future
- Facilitate interaction of research communities (Workshops and online members area)
- Regional activity at ALPA (Chile, November 2015)
- Continue to link with relevant initiatives



# What would success look like?

- Self-funded and secure in the long term
  - Funding from national and international activities
- Production of position paper(s) on AH GHG
- Identification of research hotspots
- Input to modelling activities
- Input to inventories, position papers, FAO initiatives etc
- Exchange of postdocs between organisations involved in relevant research
- Participation in grant proposals

# Challenges to the Network

- Legacy of the Network once Defra funding ends (June 2016)
- Secure funding for research projects on Animal health and GHG's
  - **Topic can be seen as falling between two stools**
- Enable more countries to be able to participate in Network workshops

# Interdisciplinary questions

- How do we engage researchers from other disciplines?
- **Interactions between breeding for resistance/resilience/robustness and GHG**
- **Interactions between animal nutrition, animal health and GHG Emissions Int**
- Identification of datasets / additional data requirements from other activities to develop Network objectives

# Network information

- Network Secretariat  
[animalhealthnetwork@adas.co.uk](mailto:animalhealthnetwork@adas.co.uk)
- UK Agri-Science & Innovation Newsletter  
<http://www.globalresearchalliance.org/community/alliance-member-countries/member-country-page-united-kingdom/>
- GRA Livestock Research Group Newsletter
- GRA website  
[www.globalresearchalliance.org](http://www.globalresearchalliance.org)

