

New Platform is Launched to Intensify Sustainable Livestock Production in Latin America and the Caribbean



On April 12, in Washington D.C., the new **Sustainable Livestock Production Platform: Higher Productivity with Lower Emissions of Greenhouse Gases**, was presented. It is coordinated by CATIE (Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center), in collaboration with the Ministry for Primary Industries of New Zealand (MPI), the Global Research Allianca (GRA), and the Regional Fund for Agricultural Technology (FONTAGRO).

Muhammad Ibrahim, CATIE's director general, Richard Rortvedt, CATIE representative in Washington, researchers from public and private institutions, development organizations and universities; as well as representatives from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), participated of the presentation of this platform.



The platform's main objective is to seek to establish alliances with key audiences in order to intensify sustainable livestock productive systems, as a regional research strategy for the adaptation and mitigation of the effects of climate change in Latin America and the Caribbean.

This platform will be coordinated by the Livestock and Environment Program (GAMMA) at CATIE, and that will work on a regional agenda for sustainable livestock

production. Furthermore, it will share knowledge and will strengthen capacities for producers, and key audiences of the public and private sectors.

Mainly, the platform will collaborate with the formulation and dissemination of policies and resource mobilization. The beneficiaries of this project are over 150 researchers, 400 extension workers and professionals, over 1000 graduates, currents students in animal production, veterinary, soil sciences, among others, and over 10 producer organizations, as well as decision makers at the national and regional public policy levels.

During the presentation event, CATIE's Director General stressed the importance of using resources effectively, and exchanging knowledge with countries that are more advanced in the topic, as important aspects of participating in the platform.

On the other hand, Hayden Montgomery, GRA representative, mentioned that a coordinated regional research agenda on livestock greenhouse gases will allow countries to be more effective, to share experiences in their own language and reach producers and decision makers more easily.

The platform's organization committee is composed of representatives of CATIE, the New Zealand's MPI, the GRA, the National Institute on Agricultural Research (INIA) of Uruguay, Costa Rica's National Institute for Agricultural Innovation and Technology Transfer (INTA),

Peru's La Molina National Agricultural University, CIAT, the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) and FONTAGRO, among others.

Initially, the platform is funded by the FONTAGRO and MPI agreement, designed to build capacities for measuring greenhouse gases in agricultural systems in Latin America, and the Climate Technology Transfer Mechanisms and Networks in LAC program, executed by FONTAGRO and financed by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).

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