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CLEAN AIR
COALITION**
TO REDUCE SHORT-LIVED
CLIMATE POLLUTANTS



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High Level Roundtable on Agricultural Climate Action

“How can we make agricultural climate action more attractive?”

Global Climate Action Summit Affiliate Event

12 September, 1400-1630, ClimateWorks Foundation, San Francisco

By invitation. Limited to 25 participants: Please express interest to james.morris@un.org

Event description

The Climate & Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) is bringing a diverse mix of countries, states/provinces, farmers' associations, youth organisations, NGOs, IGOs, philanthropic organisations, banks and companies to consider the question: How can we make agricultural climate action more attractive?

Participants will share ideas that can be implemented now, and that importantly combine the goals of improving livelihoods, mitigating climate change, and mitigating air pollution – and thus delivering on both the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals.

The goal of the meeting will be to identify what can be done by those in the room, together, and ideally towards showcasing or launching something at the UN Climate Summit in September 2019. The CCAC would support this.

The event builds on the CCAC's effort to spur increased agricultural climate action to reduce methane and black carbon, part of a global effort to reduce the rate of near-term warming by up to 0.6C, thus helping us stay within the 2C Paris Agreement goal, and at the same time delivering additional and multiple benefits annually of 2.4 million avoided deaths and 50+ tonnes of avoided crop losses.

Agenda

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| 1. Introductory comments by facilitator (10 mins) | Tim Groser, New Zealand's Ambassador to the US |
| 2. CCAC update (10 mins) | Dan McDougall, CCAC Senior Fellow |
| 3. FAO comments (10 mins) | Zitouni Ould Dada, FAO |
| 4. Discussion (1.5 hours): “<u>How can we make agricultural climate action more attractive?</u>” | All 25 participants |
| 5. Wrap up and next steps (15 mins) | Tim Groser |



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Guidance to prepare for the discussion

Main question: How can we make agricultural climate action more attractive?

Possible answers and further questions to consider:

- Private sector leadership: What is the role for companies?
- Political leadership?
- Carbon credits: What is the value of carbon credits for agriculture? Do they work? What can be done further?
- Agroecology: Can such an approach connect the dots between agriculture mitigation, technology development and private sector involvement?
- Financing and funding action: How can we close the financing gap for agriculture climate mitigation? What can be done quickly?

Desired outcome from event

- Identification of work to do together to make agricultural climate action more attractive, captured in a joint press release issued by the CCAC on behalf of the co-organisers
- Identification of a group of individuals from a diverse mix of governments and organisations to work towards something for the UN Climate Summit in September 2019



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The CCAC's work on agricultural climate action

The CCAC promotes climate-friendly agricultural practices that reduce methane and black carbon to simultaneously deliver climate and air quality benefits. These include: improved livestock and manure management, alternatives to continuously flooded rice fields, and options for conservation agriculture that avoid the need for burning.

These practices can enhance productivity whilst reducing climate/air pollutants such as methane and black carbon and can provide immediate co-benefits for public health, food security and economic development, aligning with the SDGs and low-emissions agricultural development.

This event builds on the [CCAC High Level Assembly's voluntary commitments to take action to reduce methane and black carbon in the agriculture sector](#) (captured in the [2017 CCAC Bonn Communiqué](#), with [more detail online](#)), as well as the 2017 UNFCCC Koronivia decision.

CCAC Agriculture Initiative

Agriculture contributes around 11% of total anthropogenic agricultural greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, not including land-use change. Crop production, livestock production and related land use activities also make the agriculture sector one of the largest sources of short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs). Combined, the agriculture and forestry sectors are responsible for 24% of all GHGs emitted worldwide, including roughly 40% of global black carbon emissions -- a strongly warming non-CO2 influence especially in a regional context -- and half of all anthropogenic methane emissions.

At the same time, climate change impacts food and agriculture in complex ways that vary by geography – and while some temperate regions are seeing short-term positive changes, many areas are suffering from declining yields as rising temperatures and extreme weather (including droughts and floods) impact crops, livestock and fisheries. These impacts affect the livelihoods of the rural and urban communities who rely on agriculture as a source of economic and food security. Holistic approaches that integrate all stakeholders and sectors are necessary to adapt and mitigate climate change, as well as achieve sustainable development goals (SDGs).

More than 90 % of countries prioritize agriculture in their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), with regard to mitigation, adaptation and their synergies. Agriculture has the potential to foster productive, resilient and efficient agricultural sectors that can set the tone for higher ambitions in the next round of NDCs.

The Climate and Clean Air Coalition's Agriculture Initiative promotes agriculture climate actions using existing technologies or best practices that can be deployed by countries and farmers with relatively low-cost financing and policy support, whilst striking a balance between livelihood and food security considerations.

More information on the CCAC's agriculture work can be found [here](#).