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Ethiopian
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Improved MRV of GHG emissions in the livestock sector

Minutes of the meeting on March 21, 2019

Background:

UNIQUE is implementing a 3-year CCAFS project to support improved measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) of GHG emissions from livestock in Ethiopia and Kenya. Initial discussions in January 2019 identified that the Environment, Forestry and Climate Change Commission (EFCCC) has given the mandate for both the national GHG inventory for livestock and reporting on CRGE to the Ministry of Agriculture (MOAL). The MOAL CRGE Unit is responsible for coordinating these activities. Within the livestock sector, all relevant directorates of the State Ministry of Livestock are involved in collating data for the national GHG inventory and CRGE reporting. The State Ministry of Livestock stated a need to improve its ability to report on progress towards CRGE targets. An interest was also expressed in using more advanced (Tier 2) approaches for both CRGE and national GHG inventory reporting. The CRGE Unit is also working to set up a more systematic data collection and reporting system and to build staff capacity.

UNIQUE is interested and eager to engage Ethiopian Government institutions and Ethiopia's international research organizations and development partners to provide technical support to improve both livestock GHG inventory and CRGE reporting. To identify specific ways that UNIQUE can provide support, further discussions on a more technical level are needed to better understand the current data sources, methods, roles and responsibilities used in these MRV processes; to identify specific challenges and gaps; and to outline specific activities going forward.

CCAFS works very closely with The Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases (GRA) on bringing countries together to find ways to produce more food without growing greenhouse gas emissions, and supporting countries on effective measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) of emissions and emissions reductions, with the objective of improving MRV systems is one of the key areas where GRA is working with CCAFS in the region. This work is thus part of that broader global collaboration with the GRA. As such, CCAFS and UNIQUE in collaboration with the livestock, agriculture and natural resources directorates of the MOAL and with CRGE Directorate at the MOAL convened this 1-day workshop.

Presentations

- Dawit Solomon, the regional CCAFS coordinator, presented the CCAFS programme.
- Berhanu Assefa, Director of the CRGE Unit at MOAL, provided an overview on Ethiopia's CRGE & a status report on agriculture sector MRV systems.
- Timm Tennigkeit introduced the experience of UNIQUE related to livestock MRV, and
- Andreas Wilkes introduced the key MRV components and the conceptual differences between GHG inventory and CRGE/NDC progress monitoring. Andreas also presented in the afternoon



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what UNIQUE is doing in Kenya to improve MRV in the livestock sector. **All presentations are provided to workshop participants.**

Summary of the workshop results

MRV roles and responsibilities: - The MRV roles and responsibilities within MOAL have been discussed for targeted capacity development activities. It was highlighted that the CRGE Unit with its 15 staff members plays a central role to coordinate MRV activities not just within MOAL, but also serves as the interface to EFCCC, which is in charge of MRV at the CRGE facility. The CRGE facility is hosted jointly by the Ministry of Finance and EFCCC.

In each MOAL Directorate there is either a dedicated CRGE focal point or the Director is personally responsible for CRGE coordination. The CRGE Unit has provided a checklist of data required for CRGE reporting. Each directorate provides quarterly and annual update reports, with the calculation of GHG emissions completed with support of the CRGE Unit. Data collection and reporting is integrated into the overall M&E tasks of each Directorate and is fully integrated into GTP monitoring. MOAL Directorates receive the M&E information from the regional states, where it is ultimately collected by the zonal coordinator for each Woreda. Capacities at region, zone and woreda levels differ, so there is a strong need for quality assurance and quality control procedures to be initiated from this level upto the national to improve data quality over time.

The CRGE Unit of the MOAL receives activity data from the directorates and inputs the activity data into the IPCC software to calculate the emissions based on Tier 1 emission factors.

Results of the group discussion: - In the afternoon the participants discussed the following two questions:

1. What are the challenges, constraints or capacity gaps faced in CRGE reporting related to the 4 livestock priority areas?
2. What can be done to improve MRV?

The feedback received from group 1 and group 2 is summarized below.

Group 1

Constraints	Identified solutions
1) Lack of an effective and unified MRV	Develop a unified and contextualize MRV that will build upon the previous experiences in the region (East Africa)
2) Data incomplete, missing, not specific, not representative, not updated (e.g. research data)	Establish robust database system that will support effective MRV
3) Capacity: lack of awareness + poor institutional capacity	Capacity development to enhance awareness around MRV, the importance of good quality data quality and the role that each directorate around



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	this plus the need to develop technical and institutional capacity
4) Weak enforcement of CRGE strategy: - Lack of investment - Not enough individual commitment from officials	Improve budget mobilization and develop effective M&E
5) Research gaps	Strengthen research on CRGE issues (e.g. tracking adaptation and mitigation measure both in projects and programs, understanding the impacts of technology in achieving the goals and targets stated in the CRGE and NDC, taking the countries NDC to the task, technology, updating conversion factors for developing effective MRV systems that feeds into NDC etc.)
6) Lack of integration & collaboration between stakeholders in CRGE	Platform and coherent structure should be established that will support both the development and implementation of a unified livestock MRV systems, and where partners can discuss data, reporting and other aspects of the CRGE reporting and update themselves with new developments

Group 2

Constraints	Identified solutions
1) Awareness of all stakeholders (from experts to development agents) on MRV	Awareness creation workshops and trainings
2) Technical capacity (skill gap) on data collection, management, reporting, software	a) Methodologies, guidelines to improve understanding by implementers / stakeholders / experts (e.g. IPCC software) b) reliable, relevant, consistent, timely data collection c) human and physical capacities (training, software, MRV infrastructure)
3) Weak institutional setup from regions to woredas	Clarify roles and tasks. Need structural solution from woreda to region. Regions should aggregate, analyse, verify and report. Woreda collects data timely.
4) Lack of methodology for official data generation	Country-specific emission factors that will help a unified MRV for the livestock sector in Ethiopia
5) Coordination & integration problems	Development of plat form that will be house at the MOAL and led by CRGE directorate



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Summary

- Technical support to improve both livestock GHG inventory and CRGE reporting was identified to be crucial, considering existing data systems and MOAL priorities.
- The immediate need to develop and put in place a contextualized and effect a unified MRV system for the livestock sector is highlighted for the country in a clear and unequivocal manner, and requests made both the various directorates of the MOAL and the CRGE Directorate of the MOAL. Both technician and financial support to make this happen and achieve these goals is also highlighted and requests made for both UNIQUE and CCAFS EA.

Recommendations were also made about the fact that the GHG inventory and CRGE/NDC capacity development should consider also the timeline of national communication/biennial update report compilation and the existing CRGE monitoring and evaluation system.

For the livestock sector the following MRV capacity building priorities have been also identified:

- Need to refine CRGE scenarios, assumptions and calculation methodologies;
- Develop tier 2 factors related to dairy-cattle, beef feedlots, poultry, small ruminants, including dedicated survey and analysis guidelines
- Develop consistent Excel tools and templates at regional and federal level for MRV of priority activities with interface to IPCC software
- Address QA/QC procedures
- A coordination platform to ensure coordination within the MOAL as well as with international partners.

Regarding the next steps, it was agreed that in April 2019 a capacity building work plan will be developed between the CRGE Unit and UNIQUE during the World Bank Livestock and Dairy Development Programme workshop. The UNIQUE team together with CCAFS and other partners will also work towards developing a simple and contextualized MRV for the livestock sector of the MOAL. For this purpose a concept note is will be put together for short-term funding that include relevant national partners from the MOAL and EIAR, CG centers, GRA and Australian experts. A Memorandum of Understanding will be reached stating the priority actions and means of collaboration.



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Annex 1: Workshop agenda

Time	Discussion	Facilitator
9:00 – 9:10	Welcome remarks	Dr. Dawit Solomon
9:10 – 9:30	Introduction to CCAFS programmes on livestock MRV	Dr. Dawit Solomon
9:30 – 9:40	Brief introduction to UNIQUE's work on livestock MRV	Dr. Timm Tennigkeit
9:40 – 9:50	Livestock related priorities and related CRGE GHG targets	Mr. Berhanu Assefa
9:50 – 10:10	Translating GHG targets into MRV systems	Dr. Andreas Wilkes
10:10 – 10:25	Coffee break	
10:25 – 12:00	Plenary discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the current roles and responsibilities for MRV in the ministry and how does the ministry interact with other actors (e.g. at regional level)? 	Dr. Andreas Wilkes
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch	
13:00 – 14:00	UNIQUE shares what it is doing in Kenya to improve MRV	Dr. Andreas Wilkes
14:00 – 15:40	Identifying priorities and options for future improvement of MRV: Group discussion: 1. What are the challenges, constraints or capacity gaps faced in CRGE reporting related to the 4 livestock priority areas? 2. What can be done to improve MRV?	Dr. Andreas Wilkes
15:40 – 16:00	Coffee break	
16:00 – 16:20	Group report back	
16:00 – 16:30	Summarizing key needs and options for future collaboration	Dr. Timm Tennigkeit



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Annex 2: List of participants

	Position	Name	Phone Number	Email
Livestock Resource Sector				
1	Milk Resource Development Directorate	Tariku Teka	991152532	tarikuteka@gmail.com
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Natural Resource and Food Security Sector				
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12	Soil Resource Information and Mapping Directorate	Kiflu Gudeta	911348283	gkiflu@gmail.com
Agriculture Sector				
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