

Indicator for DSF Criteria

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

August 2016

Criteria – Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Strategic Intent – *GHG emissions across the full value chain are quantified and reduced through all economically viable mechanisms*

One of the biggest challenges in quantifying GHG emissions from any production system is the application of a consistent methodology. It is appreciated that many in the dairy value chain have quantified the GHG emissions from their systems, although many will utilize differing methodologies. As such, to aggregate these and calculate the global dairy GHG emissions is not possible.

In order to ensure we can report the GHG emissions from the dairy value chain by members of the DSF, we need to basically ensure that members are calculating their emissions (regardless of the mitigation programs they have in place) in a consistent manner.

Fortunately, through the International Dairy Federation a ‘common methodology’ for milk production and processing has been developed by the dairy sector and permits the sector to compare and review emissions levels in a consistent way.

The IDF Guide to Standard Life Cycle Assessment Methodology can be found [here](#).

This methodology has been reviewed and updated in 2015 and this same methodology has been adopted by the FAO LEAP initiative as the basis for its own livestock methodology.

To enable the DSF to report our continuous improvement over time, it is proposed to use this methodology as the ‘way’ to calculate the GHG emissions from the value chain. This will provide the DSF with consistent results calculated on the same functional unit. Subsequent reporting can then easily be undertaken on an aggregate level.

Therefore those members of the DSF with mitigation programs under the Greenhouse Gas Criteria at farm or processing level will be asked to report their starting point (as needed by the Strategic Intent) and subsequent evaluations of progress by utilizing the IDF Methodology.

For Implementing Members who are further along the value chain such as retailers, we require the adoption of the **World Business Council for Sustainable Development Greenhouse Gas Protocol, Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard**.

<http://www.ghgprotocol.org/standards/corporate-standard>

Who will need to provide this indicator report?

Implementing Members who have indicated that they plan to undertake activities under the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Criteria.

When does the reporting process start?

The Strategic Intent for this Criteria requires the member to establish their current situation and as such, the DSF requires the baseline measure for the individual project within 12 months of the release of this document. If members have already established the baseline figure (within the year preceding or during the year of the launch of this 'indicator'), they are requested to share this with the Framework so that the global baseline can be established.

How often will the Indicator Report need to be provided?

The GHG figures will need to be recalculated and reported at three yearly intervals. The next reporting date will be December 2019.

How will the data be used?

The DSF intends to communicate publically the progress of the sector under each of the DSF Criteria.

Once data has been received from the Implementing Member, it will be aggregated with data provided by other members working under the Greenhouse Criteria to paint a picture of progress for the criteria.

No individual member will be exposed by this process, although the DSF wants to be as transparent as possible in the reporting of aggregated figures, especially as it is anticipated that it will be a moving data set.

What if you are unable to find a tool using the IDF methodology?

As time progresses more tools incorporating the methodology are being developed for the sector. Please make contact with the DSF Secretariat if you do not have access to a tool to undertake your calculation and we will endeavor to find you a suitable tool to do this.