



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs



# Animal Health and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Intensity Network



**Timothy Robinson**  
Network Coordinator, ILRI  
**5<sup>TH</sup> Multi-stakeholder Platform Meeting**  
**7-10 October 2014, Cali, Colombia**



GLOBAL AGENDA FOR  
SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK

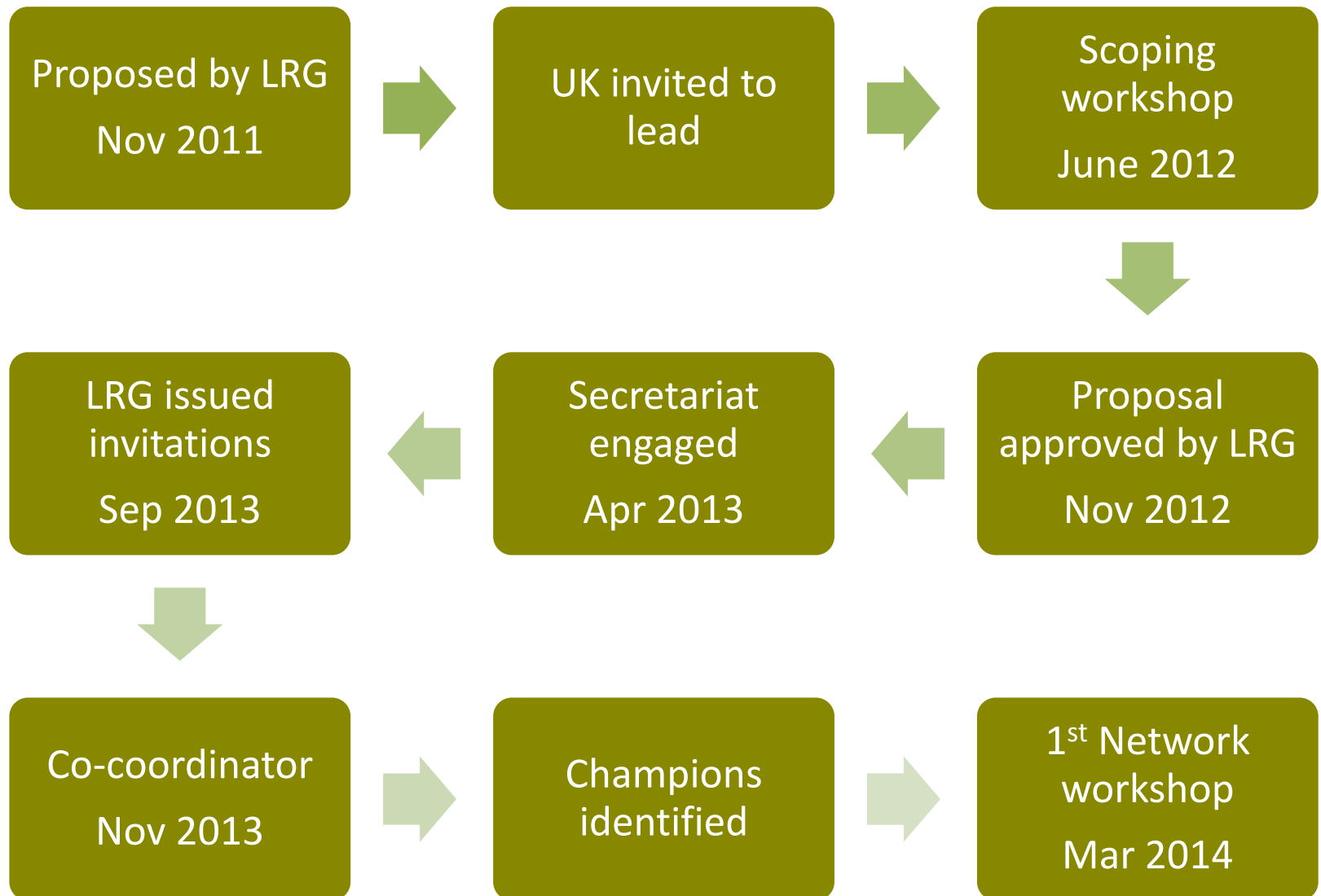
# Overview



- Network history
- Who are we?
- Network secretariat function
- Aims and objectives
- Challenges
- Existing and on-going studies
- Issues and next steps
- Sources of network information



# History



# Who are we?

## Secretariat Coordinators



Adele Hulin  
ADAS



Ilias Kyriazakis  
Newcastle University



Alice Willett  
ADAS

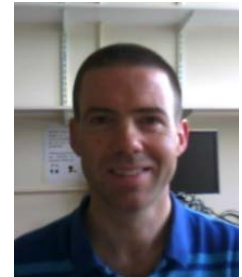


Tim Robinson  
ILRI

## Network Champions



Abdul Chaudhry  
Newcastle University



Michael Macleod  
SRUC



Dr Jos Houdijk  
SRUC



Wim van der Poel  
Wageningen University



# Network Secretariat

- 3 year project lifespan (defra & ADAS)
- Central contact point and primary channel for information
- Promote the network nationally and internationally
- Maintain network web pages
- Organise network meetings and workshops
- Support for UK scientists to attend network events
- Regular updates on network developments (UK and LRG newsletters)
- Funding of some 'seed' projects

[animalhealthnetwork@adas.co.uk](mailto:animalhealthnetwork@adas.co.uk)

## Seed Projects

1. Impact of endemic diseases of UK dairy cattle on GHG emissions intensity
2. Review of GHG abatement from health interventions in the livestock sector



# Network objectives



- Share information on current and planned activities
- Maintain and enhance capacity in this field of cross-disciplinary research
- Encourage and facilitate a coordinated approach to research
- Agree on priority issues
- Explore funding opportunities to address them
- Pursue synergies with stakeholders to further strengthen global cooperation and networks





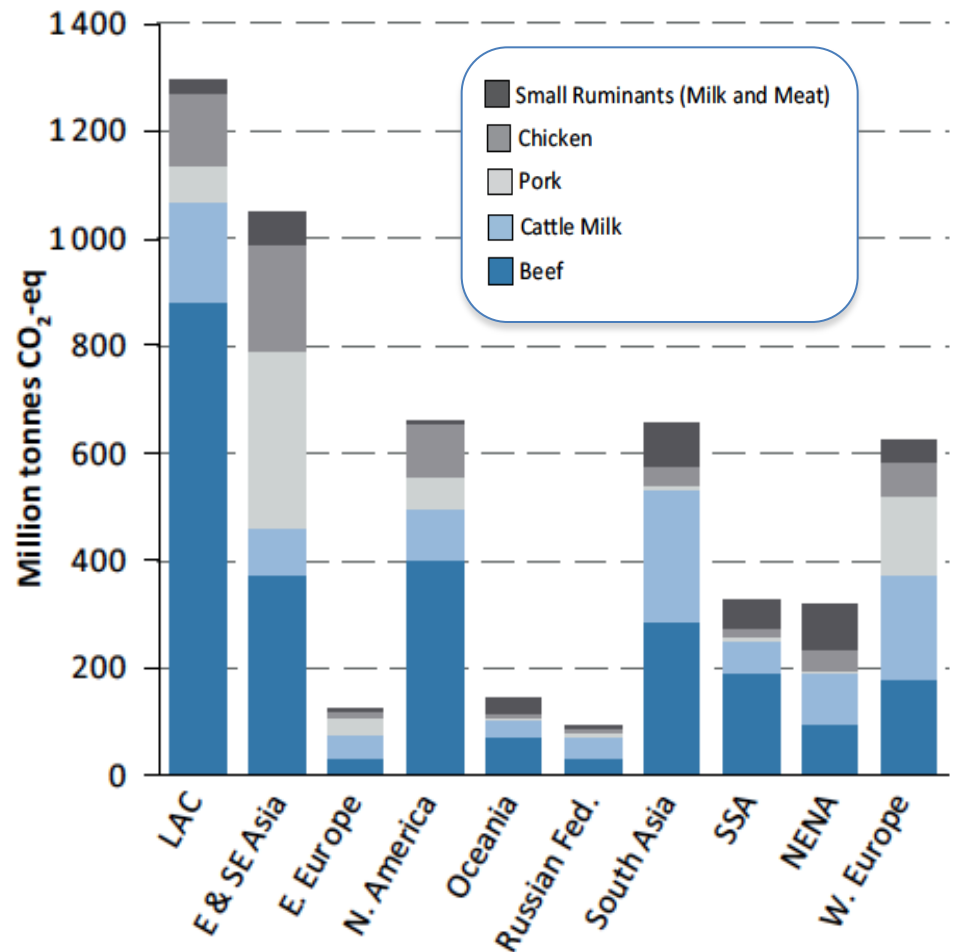
# Some immediate aims

- Integrate with other networks
  - FACCE-JPI
  - Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock
  - STAR-IDAZ (Global network for animal disease research)
- Complement other GRA-LRG networks
- Explore potential for regional subgroups
- Standardise modelling assumptions
- Improve accuracy of data and incorporate measurements from developing countries
- Source funding for research
- Conduct a global scoping study to help prioritise research



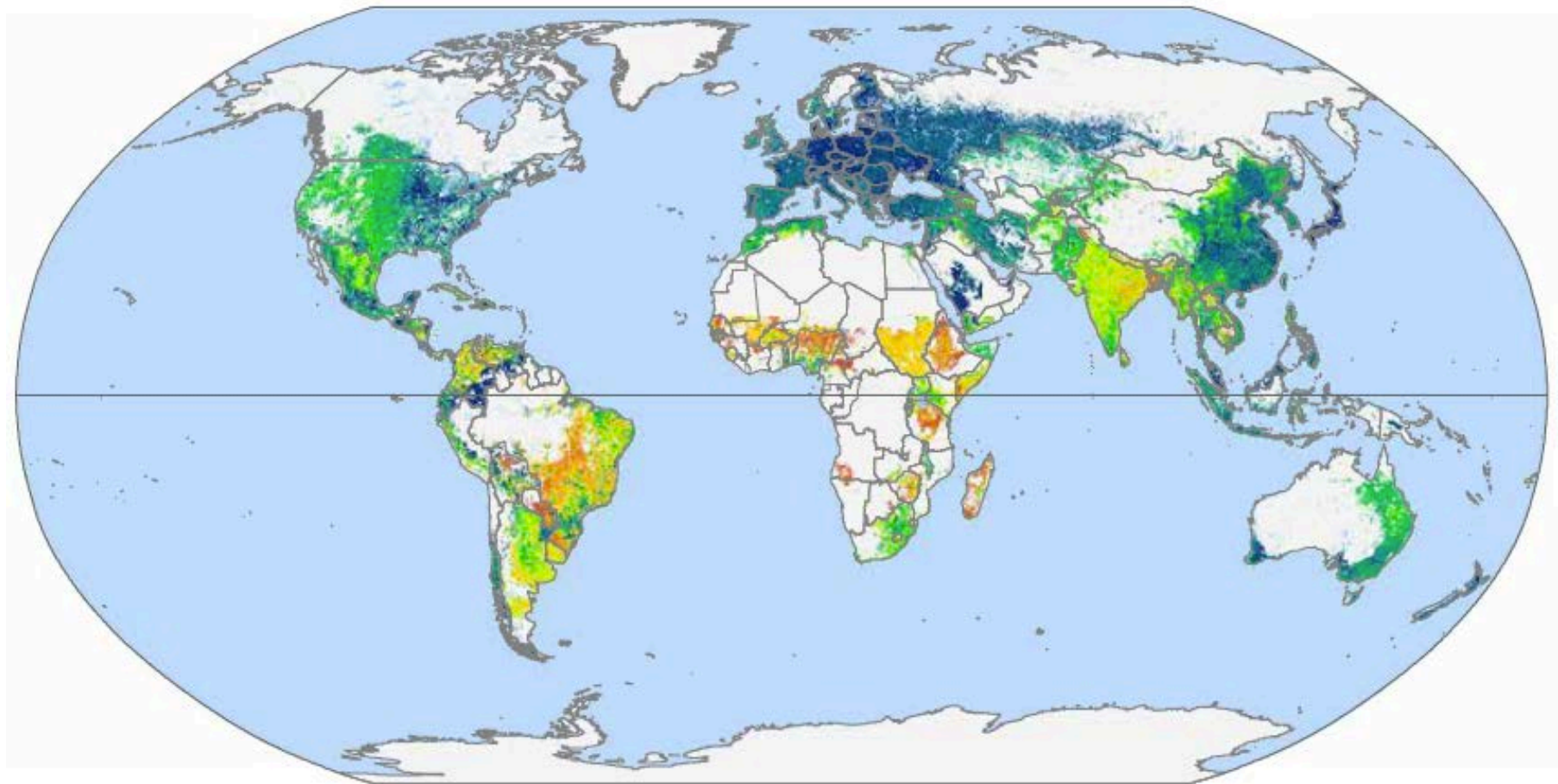
# Some challenges

- Understanding where the problems and opportunities lie
- Understanding people's motives for keeping livestock in different regions and systems
- Participation from developing and emerging economies
- Funding for research, participation and integration





# Emission intensity per unit of edible protein



Kg of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent per kg of edible protein

< 50

50-75

75-100

100-125

125-150

150-200

200-250

250-300

300-350

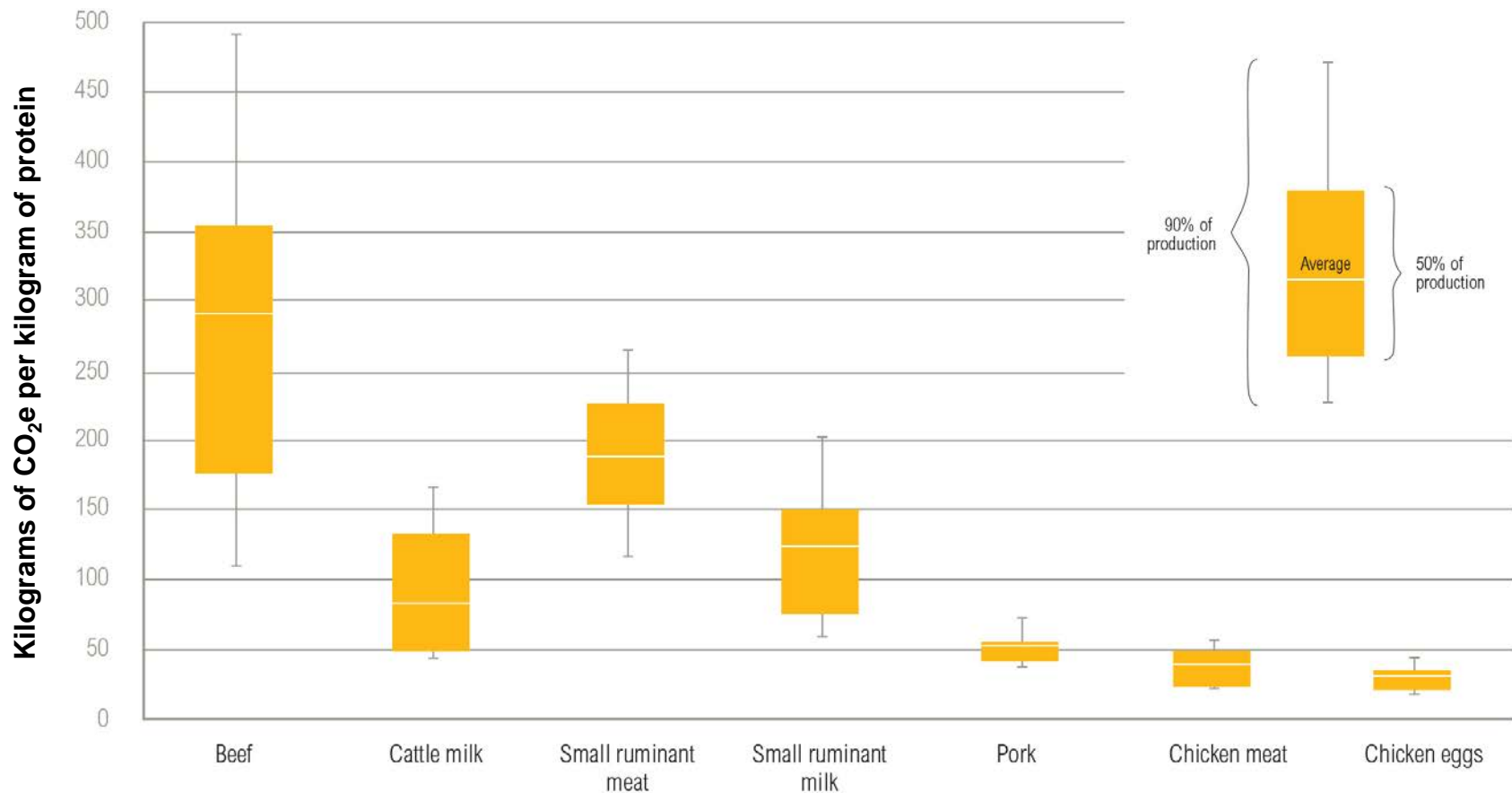
> 350

Protein production < 75 kg per square km



# Emission intensity per unit of edible protein

Beef production generates 6 times more GHG emissions per unit of protein than pork, chicken and eggs



# But there is high regional variation

	North America	Western Europe	Eastern Europe	Sub Saharan Africa	Latin America & Carib.	South Asia	East & S-East Asia
kgCO <sub>2</sub> e per kg beef	29	18	14	60	72	77	47
% from enteric CH <sub>4</sub>	38%	33%	36%	68%	33%	65%	60%

- Other sources include manure, feed production related, land use change, energy, and post-farm
- Major differences come from differences in production systems, feed quality, herd management, and manure management

# So ... what of animal health

- Lost opportunity or a drop in a bucket?
- Tripple win?
  - Environment
  - Productivity
  - Animal Welfare
- A few examples exist
  - Mostly from developed economies
- Analytical framework
  - Economic analysis
  - Lifecycle Assessment (LCA)
  - MACC analyses



# Some existing studies

- Mastitis in UK dairy herd (Stott et al. 2010)
  - Milk yield losses of 3.5%
  - 40% of loss could be recovered by improved health care
  - Control → **8%** reduction in UK dairy emissions (CO<sub>2</sub>e)
- Mastitis in Spanish dairy herd (Hospido & Sonesson 2005)
  - Milk yield losses of 7%
  - Control → **2.5%** reduction in “Global Warming Potential”
- Bovine Viral Diarrhoea Virus (BVDV) in Scottish beef suckler herds (Stott et al. 2010)
  - Strong link between cow fertility and GHG emissions
  - Losses to BVDV estimated at 10 calves/100 cows
  - Control → **8%** decrease in methane emissions per calf sold



# Project AC0120

## Lifecycle analysis of endemic diseases of UK dairy cattle on GHG emissions intensity

- Modelling the impact and cost-effectiveness of controlling endemic cattle diseases and conditions on GHG emissions
- Interdisciplinary research project
- Lead by John Elliott, ADAS
- £168,000 UK government investment providing evidence in a novel area of interest
- Feeds in to UK contribution to Global Research Alliance activity



# Project AC0120

## Diseases and treatments considered

### 10 endemic cattle diseases

- BVD
- Calf pneumonia
- Calf scour
- IBR
- Infertility
- Lameness
- Liver fluke
- Mastitis
- Paratuberculosis
- Salmonella

### 30 treatments, based around

- Veterinary visits
- Medicines
- Limestone cow track
- Building maintenance
- Milking machine maintenance
- Bedding (straw, sand etc.)
- Grazing management





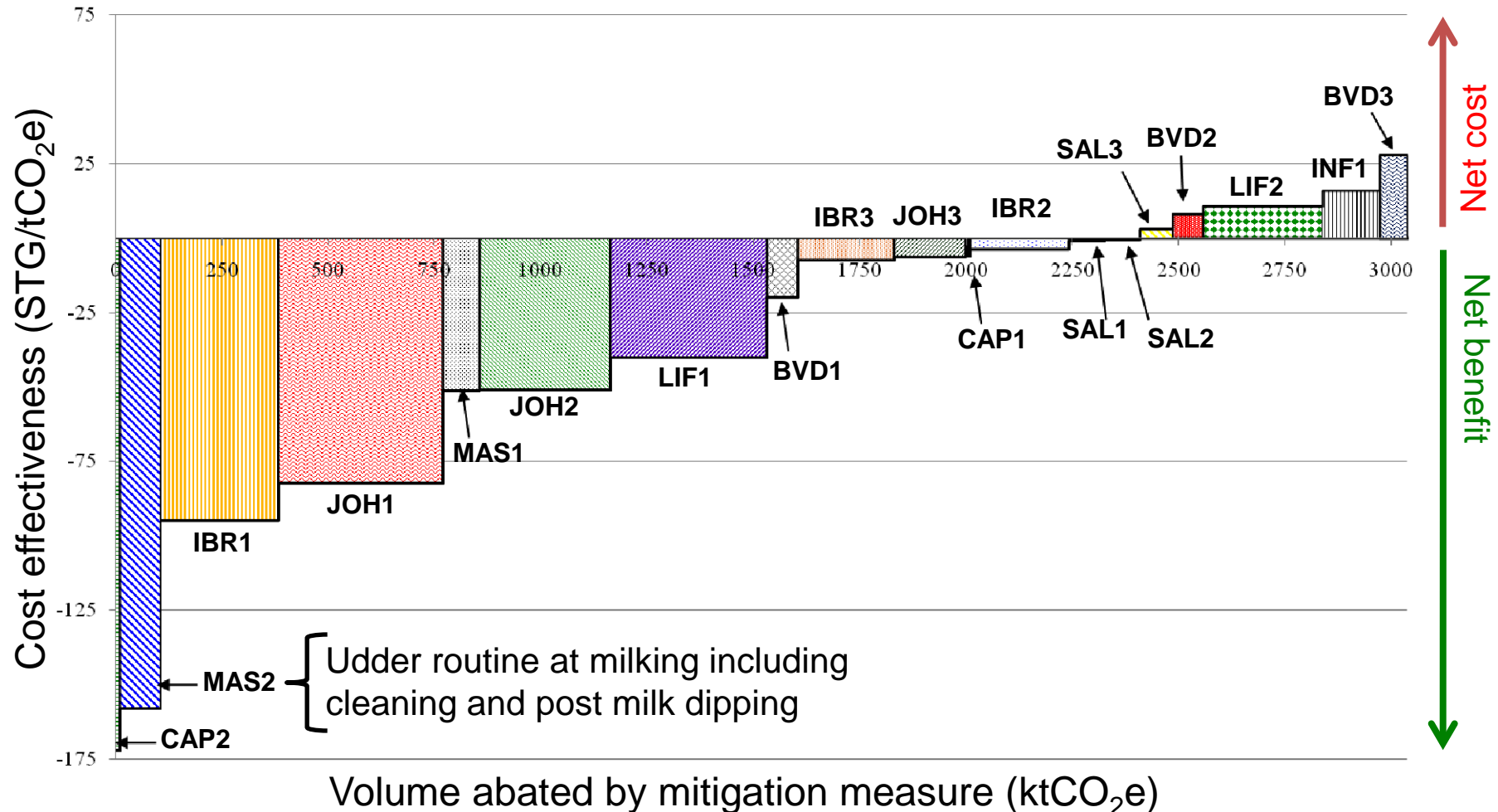
# Project AC0120

Code	Mitigation Measure
BVD1 (MMCF04)	Vaccination for BVD
BVD2 (MMCF05)	Identifying persistently infected animals through laboratory testing programme
BVD3 (MMCF06)	Double fencing and buying policy
CAP1 (MMCF08)	Colostrum intake under nutrient management
CAP2 (MMCF09)	Vaccination for calf pneumonia
LIF1 (MMCF13)	Strategic treatment using medicines
LIF2 (MMCF14)	Grazing management - ducks, drainage and fencing
IBR1 (MMCF15)	Vaccination for IBR
IBR2 (MMCF16)	Identifying latently infected carrier animals
IBR3 (MMCF17)	Double fencing and buying policy
INF1 (MMCF19)	Fixed time artificial insemination
JOH1 (MMCF21)	Colostrum management and calving/farm hygiene
JOH2 (MMCF22)	Buying policy, test and cull
JOH3 (MMCF23)	Vaccination for Johne's disease
MAS1 (MMCF24)	DCT/teat sealant with potential for vaccination
MAS2 (MMCF27)	Udder routine at milking including cleaning and post milk dipping
SAL1 (MMCF28)	Hygiene
SAL2 (MMCF29)	Vaccination for Salmonella
SAL3 (MMCF30)	Vector control



# Project AC0120

## Marginal Abatement Cost Curve (MACC)



# Trypanosomosis in East Africa

- Funded by the International Livestock Research Institute under CCAFS, the CGIAR Research Program “Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security”.
- Acknowledge the use of the FAO GLEAM model
- Additional model development has been undertaken with funding from the Scottish Government Rural and Environmental Science and Analytical Services division (RESAS).

- Michael MacLeod
- Tim Robinson
- William Wint
- Alex Shaw
- Vera Eory



RESEARCH PROGRAM ON  
**Climate Change,  
Agriculture and  
Food Security**



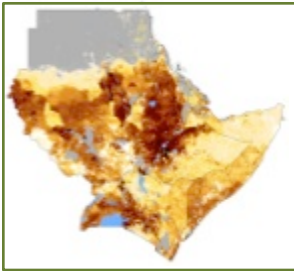
# Two complementary approaches

- Mapping the Benefits (MTB) of disease interventions
  - Shaw et al. (2006) *Mapping the benefits: a new decision tool for tsetse and trypanosomiasis interventions*. DFID/FAO-PAAT
  - Shaw et al. (2014) *Mapping the economic benefits to livestock keepers from intervening against bovine trypanosomosis in Eastern Africa*. Preventive Veterinary Medicine 113, 197-210.
- GLEAM - Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) of GHG emissions from livestock
  - Gerber et al. (2010) *Greenhouse Gas Emissions from the Dairy Sector: A life cycle assessment*. Rome: FAO
  - Opio et al. (2013) *Greenhouse Gas Emissions from the Beef and Small Ruminant Sectors: A life cycle assessment*. Rome: FAO
  - MacLeod et al. (2013) *Greenhouse Gas Emissions from the Pig and Poultry Sectors: A life cycle assessment*. Rome: FAO
  - Gerber et al. (2013) *Tackling climate change through livestock*. Rome: FAO

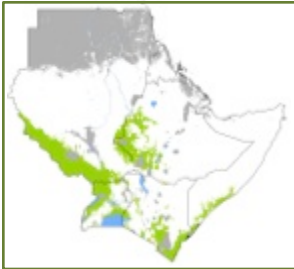


# Mapping The Benefits (MTB)

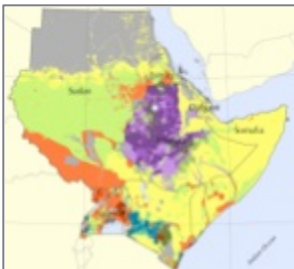
Cattle density



Tsetse distribution



Production systems



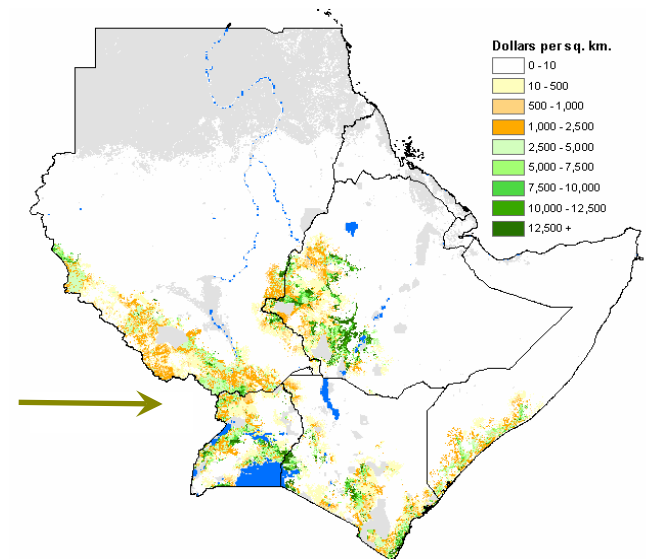
## Herd model

- Burden of disease
- Herd growth and spread
- Value of production

## Economic benefits per animal (US\$)

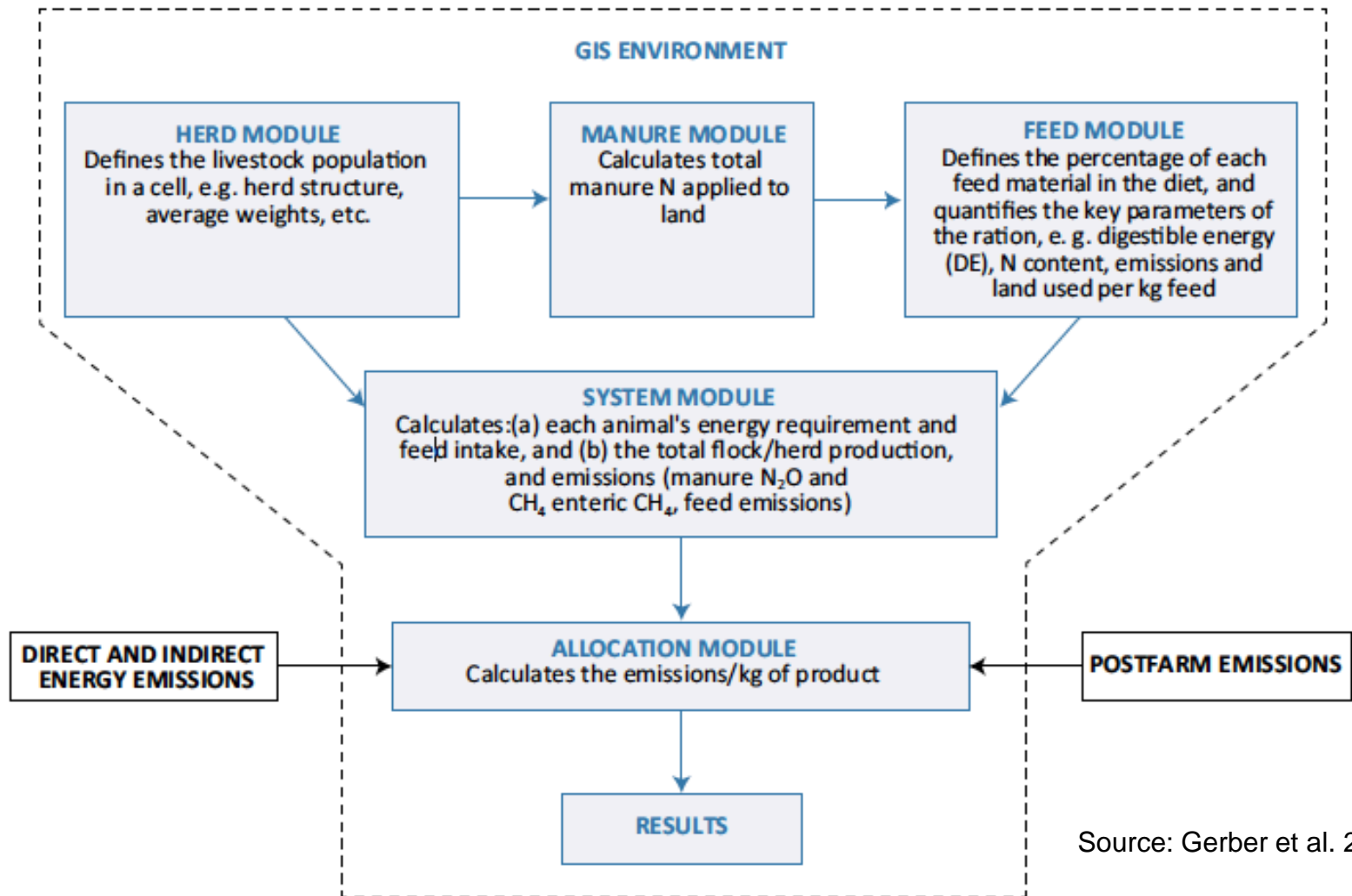
Cattle production system	Pastoral	Agro-pastoral	Mixed farming (general)	Mixed farming (Ethiopia)
Low oxen	63	82	90	102
Medium oxen	–	98	122	135
High oxen	–	118	152	161
High dairy	–	142	148	–

Economic benefits over 20 years of trypanosomosis removal



# GLEAM Lifecycle Assessment

## Global Livestock Environmental Assessment Model



Source: Gerber et al. 2013



# Analytical framework

Combined model to  
estimate livestock disease  
impacts on GHG  
emissions

Livestock densities

Production systems

Disease risk

## Upstream GHG

Feed production  
Non-feed

## Burden of Disease

Impact on  
production

## Herd model

With  
disease

Without  
disease

## Downstream GHG

Post-farm

## Value of production

Meat, milk, eggs,  
work, hides, feathers

## Outputs

Production  
amount

Value of  
production

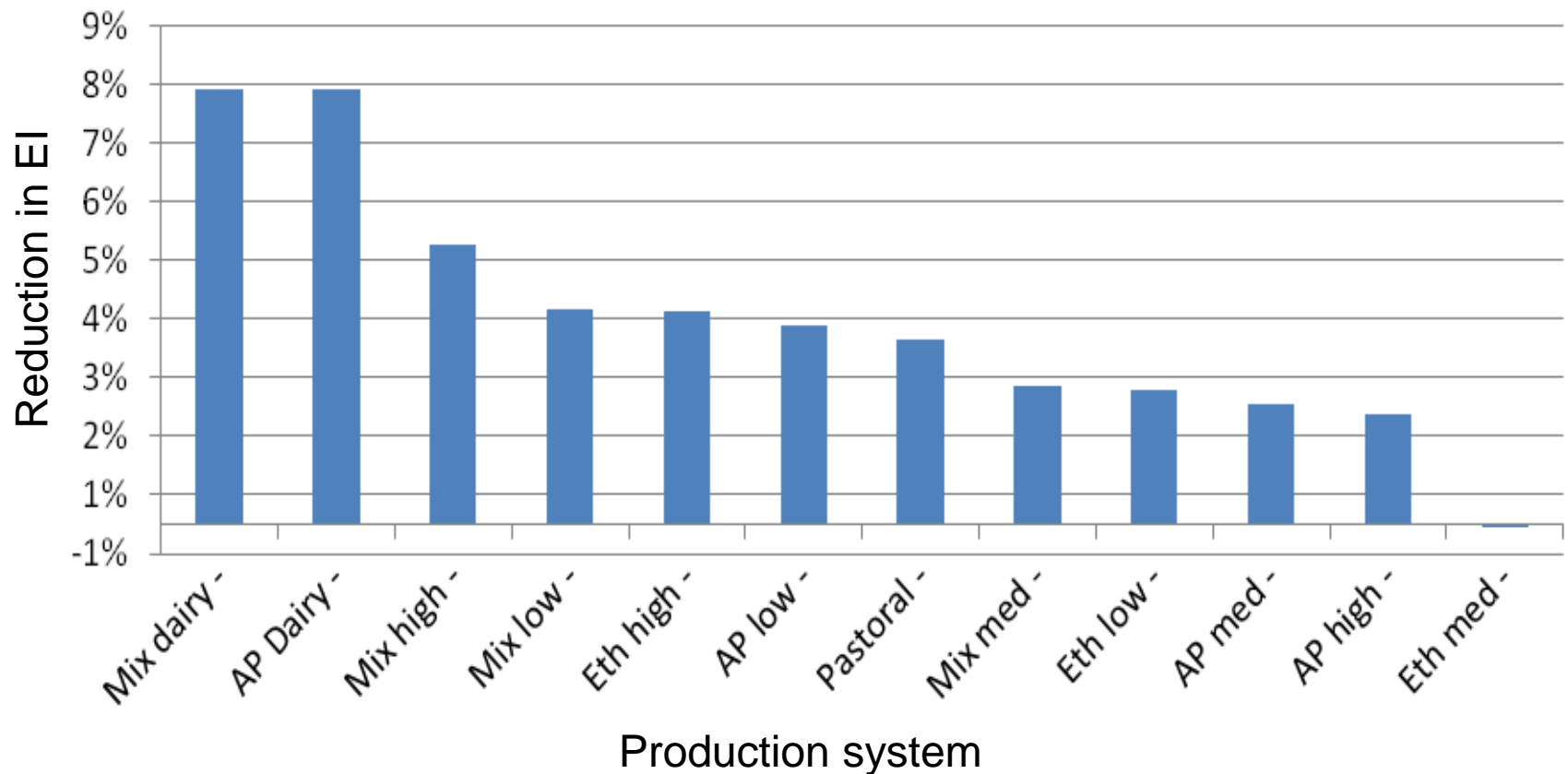
Herd  
growth

GHG  
emissions



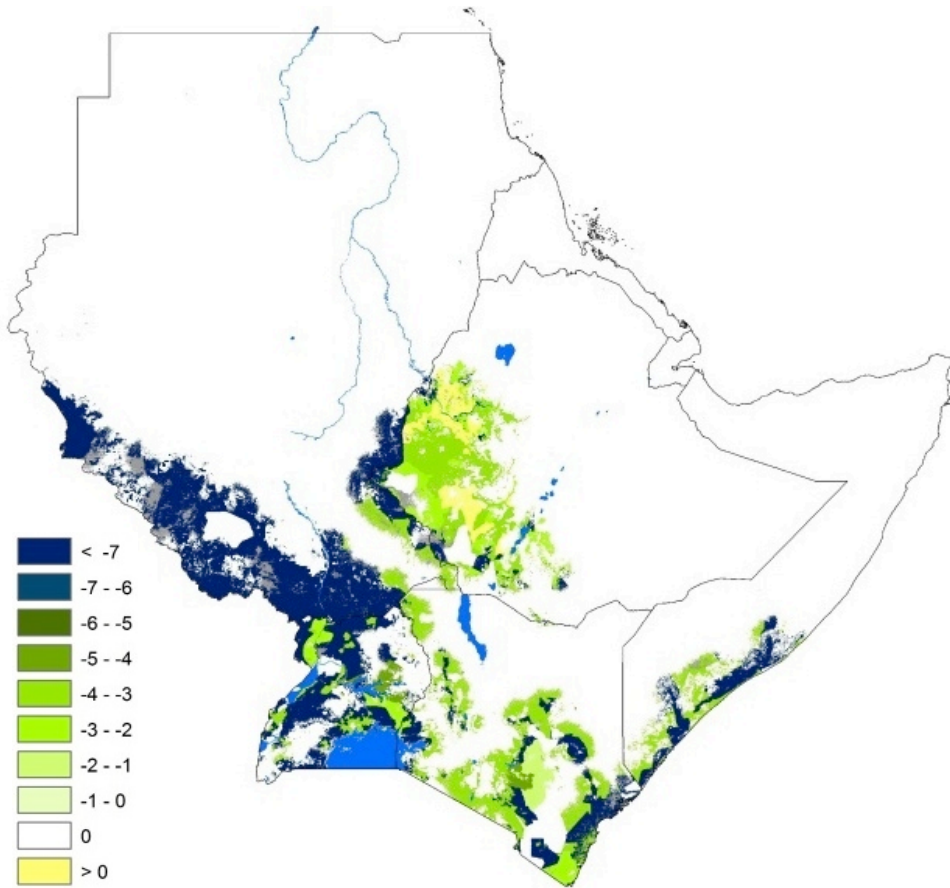
# Results

Decrease in emissions intensity arising from trypanosomosis removal



# Results

## % change in emissions intensity



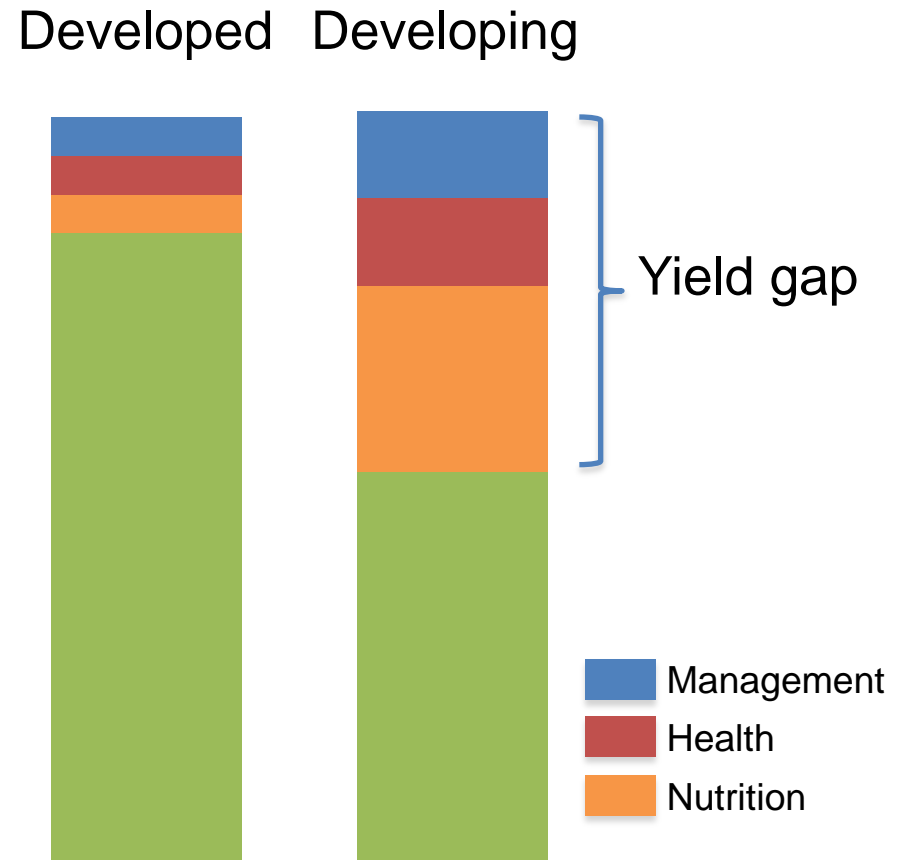
- Removal of trypanosomosis leads to significant increases in production and emissions across all the systems
- Production increases by more than emissions so EI decreases
- The biggest decrease in EI is in the high yield dairy systems
- Demonstrates a clear link between improving productivity and decreasing EI





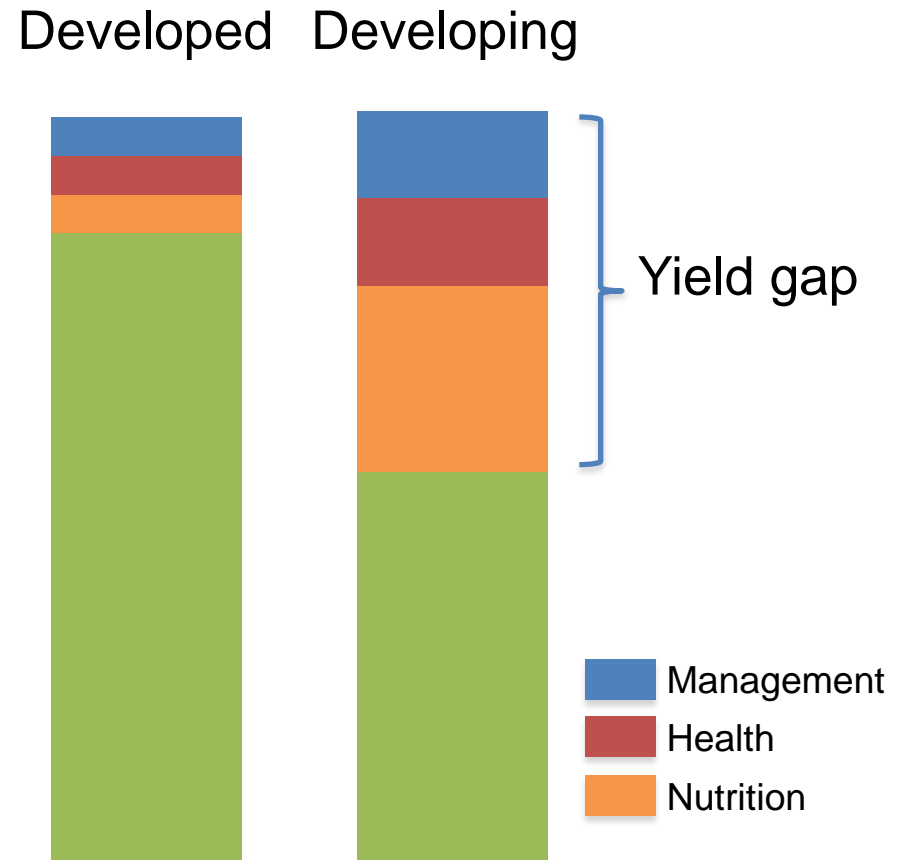
# Some issues

- Compare the direct against the indirect effects of disease
- Dealing with uncertainty in models (error propagation)
- Cost and feasibility of AH-related interventions against costs of other types of interventions
- Barriers to uptake of interventions
- What might be the tradeoffs of changing the mode of production (social, resilience)



# Some issues

- What are the objectives of the 800 million small livestock keepers in poor countries?
- Are the market incentives available to make productivity their primary objective?
- What proportion of the yield gap is attributable to animal health issues?
- How inter-related are all of the factors contributing to the yield gap?



# Next steps for the Network

- Engage more with epidemiology community with the aim to hold the next Annual Workshop in the margins of an epidemiological conference (conference not yet confirmed but ideally it would be spring time next year)
- Regular communication with FACCE-JPI to avoid duplication of effort and pursue funding opportunities
- The Network will be represented at LiveM event this month to improve engagement with MACSUR
- Network participants will soon have access to an online login to share information and discuss topics relevant to the Network (linked with STAR-IDAZ)
- Regional network meeting in Addis Ababa on 5 November 2014 (Hilton)
  - Linked to STAR-IDAZ regional meeting (4 November)
  - Linked to ILRI@40 celebrations (6-7 November)



# More information

- Network Secretariat:  
[animalhealthnetwork@adas.co.uk](mailto:animalhealthnetwork@adas.co.uk)
- GRA-LRG Newsletter:  
<http://www.globalresearchalliance.org/research/livestock/>
- UK Agri-Science & Innovation Newsletter  
<http://www.globalresearchalliance.org/updates/2013/uk-agri-science-innovation-newsletter/>

