

Promoting Opportunities in Manure Management

Implementation Details

Area: Members of the Central American Integration System (SICA): Belize, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, and the Dominican Republic.

Period: April 2015 to April 2016

Goal: Awareness raising & Policy development



Farmer applying dried manure to vegetables.

Situation Analysis

The Central American Integration System (SICA) includes all Central American countries plus the Dominican Republic. SICA promotes actions aimed at improving the use of natural resources within a framework of respect to the natural endowment of the region. Current trends appear to provide special attention to the energy generation potential of manure, the cost/benefits of such technology, and the climate change benefits. Although the value of manure as a soil improver is relevant for many situations in the region (degraded lands, poor soil fertility, and poor drought resilience), the complementary uses of manure for fertilizer or soil amendments are not explicitly addressed in current SICA strategies and policies. This gap is recognized by SICA and steps are being taken to revisit the current strategy that guides the management of livestock manure.

Opportunity

The current proposal to revise the regional SICA strategy that guides agro-environmental and health issues provides a unique opportunity to ensure that integrated manure management (IMM) is included in regional policy. The revised strategy will also provide an additional basis for building regional partnerships and capacity in IMM, and to inform national policy-making.

These policies could affect all livestock kept in confinement, which accounts for more than 6.2 million tropical livestock units (cattle, pigs and poultry), resulting in significant SLCP emission reductions, improved soil fertility, higher crop yields, and higher incomes.

Objectives

- i) To set up a task-force within the SICA platform to identify and address policy and practical issues related to IMM (lessons learned and best practices). This task force will be part of the revision of the regional SICA strategy that guides agro-environment and health issues;
- ii) To provide policy-related advice on IMM to SICA.

Implemented Activities

1. Introduce the OPC to the council of ministers of agriculture through CAC/SICA. This activity was carried out in August 20, 2015 in El Salvador.
2. Identify a technical group (task force) within SICA.

Upcoming Activities

1. Hold a workshop with the task force to address the issue of IMM and to define a work plan.
2. Draft a report on systematizing the process of forming the task force and its operations.
3. Complete a mapping of key actors and institutions.
4. Draft a review of secondary literature on policies, policy instruments, and barriers to IMM.
5. Draft a document on potential amendments to policies and policy instruments for IMM.
6. Develop a synthesis of relevant policies and recommendations for the Executive Secretariat of CAC.

Impact assessment	Indicator	Value
Geographical Impact (effect of scale)	Affected farm enterprises	▶ Regional
		▶ National
		Sub-national
Socioeconomic Impact (effectiveness of activities)	Improved food security (by more income or production)	High
		▶ Medium
		Small
Impact on Climate Change (effectiveness of activities)	Reduced SLCP (methane) emission	▶ High
		Medium
		Small
Environmental Impact (effectiveness of activities)	Reduced environmental pollution	▶ High
		Medium
		Small
Stakeholder awareness (effect of activities)	No. of addressed stakeholder entities	> 5
		▶ 3-4
		1-2
Capacity building (effect of activities)	No. of people addressed in the enabling environment	▶ > 150
		50-150
		< 50
Policy development (effect of activities)	No. of new or changed laws, rules etc.	> 2
		▶ 1-2
		0
Levering Finance (effect of activities)	Size of leveraged external investments	Large
		Medium
		▶ Not applicable