NEW ZEALAND

AgriDENZ
An Alliance for the Climate

Intensify the mutual exchange of experiences and cooperation between New Zealand and Germany to develop solutions for the global climate impact of/on agricultural production systems

PROJECT TITLE

An Alliance for the Climate – Dialogue on climate and agriculture between New Zealand and Germany

TIMEFRAME

04/2024 to 12/2026

AS OF

August 2025

Climate Adaptation and Climate Protection

Background

The objectives of the project are deeply rooted in international climate agreements such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Kyoto Protocol, and the Paris Agreement. The project is also in line with several sustainability goals and demonstrates a holistic commitment to sustainable development, climate protection and global cooperation. There is a clear link to six of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): SDG 2, 6, 12, 13, 15 and 17.

The Project

Knowledge exchange within and between the German and New Zealand scientific communities and knowledge exchange at the interface between research, policy and practice is essential for the implementation of climate-friendly solutions. The dynamic contexts, complexities and local specificities of the current climate-related challenges facing agriculture require more inclusive, flexible mechanisms to guide the generation, integration and exchange of knowledge and the development of practical solutions.

This project, which is supported by the German Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Regional Identity and the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries, will contribute to developing these mechanisms.

Project Goals

1. Strengthening the scientific exchange between institutions of practice-oriented research
2. Establishing a policy dialogue on priority sub-topics
3. Coordination of joint supportive action in third party countries with a focus on the Global South

The AgriDENZ project was officially opened by BMLEH Deputy Director General Sebastian Graf von Keyserlingk (first from right), with New Zealand Ambassador to Germany Craig Hawke (second from right), Garrett Hulse, First Secretary at the New Zealand Embassy Berlin (second from left) and Oliver Hendrickson, New Zealand Ag Counsellor to Europe (first from left) also in attendance. Berlin, Oct 2024.

With support from

Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Regional Identity

by decision of the German Bundestag

Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua

NEW ZEALAND CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY AND AGRICULTURE

In 2019 the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Act passed into law. This set the following domestic targets for reducing New Zealand's total greenhouse gas emissions: Net zero emissions of all greenhouse gases other than biogenic methane by 2050, and 24% to 47% reduction below 2017 levels of biogenic methane emissions by 2050, including a 10% reduction by 2030.

New Zealand's first emissions reduction plan was published in May 2022, and the second plan was published in December 2024, coming into effect on 1 Jan 2026. These plans include key actions to support farmers, growers, and whenua Māori owners to lower agricultural emissions, while continuing to produce high-value, high-quality food and fibres. This will require a combination of changes to on-farm practices and land use, as well as advancements in research and technology.

Results and Successes

The eighth annual **Food Loss & Waste (FLW) workshop**, organised as part of the Collaboration Initiative on FLW was held in Brazil, from 22 - 24 October 2024. With funding provided by BMLEH and MPI through the AgriDENZ project, the workshop was planned and coordinated in cooperation with colleagues from the Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation (Embrapa), the Brazilian Ministry of Social Development (MDS), the UN Environmental Program (UNEP), Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), GRA, and National Agricultural Technology Institute Argentina (INTA), with input from experienced local consultants. It was a great success, bringing together 180 participants representing 17 countries and a wide range of stakeholders, and exploring collaborative approaches to mitigate FLW across sectors, and how these efforts contribute to addressing the climate crisis.

At the 2025 Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (GFFA) in Germany, an **expert panel "Cultivating a greener future – toward sustainable use of biomass for carbon sequestration"** was hosted by the AgriDENZ project and its partners – Thünen Institute, BMLEH, MPI and GRA. The event was very successful, with four experts from around the globe (Germany, Ghana, New Zealand, and Uruguay) discussing regional best practices with the potential to contribute to climate change mitigation through carbon accrual in soils and agricultural biomass.

Implementing Organisation

- Ag Emissions Centre (formerly the New Zealand Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Research Centre (NZAGRC))
- The Johann Heinrich von Thünen Institute

AG EMISSIONS CENTRE
New Zealand Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Research Centre

THÜNEN

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AN ALLIANCE FOR THE CLIMATE AgriDENZ
Dialogue on climate and agriculture between New Zealand and Germany

Project Website:
www.agri-denz.com

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