

Argentina Livestock Protocol Workgroup Meeting Notes and Takeaways

Workgroup Meeting #2 Notes – 5/7/2024 | 4:00 - 6:00 pm (ARG time)

Reserve Attendees: Amy Kessler, Rachel Mooney, Claudia Jurado

[Link to review recording](#)

Workgroup Members in attendance:

Organization (alphabetically)	Name	Present (P) or Absent (A)
Bret Consultores	Rene Ibarra	A
Displaced Carbon Committee - Government of Córdoba	Marine Iriart	P
Ecosecurities	Federico Fritz	A
Génesis	Laura Garzón	A
HINS Energía	Javier Slythe	A
MEXICO2	Yulissa Camacho	P
Ministry of Infrastructure and Public Services of Córdoba	Pablo Gabutti	P
Ministry of Bioagroindustry of Córdoba	Catalina Boetto	A
Ministry of Production- Corrientes Province	Raúl Eduardo Ortiz	P
National Technological University	Ariel Clebañer	A
National University of La Plata	Guillermo Piovano	P
Secretariat for Energy Transition - Ministry of Infrastructure and Public Services of Córdoba	Juan Martin Lemos	A
Secretary of Energy Planning	Pamela Zanel	P
Secretary of Livestock of Córdoba	Martina Solanot	P
SEGAM – Responsabilidad Ambiental	Marcos Cena	P
Subsecretary of the Nation's Environment	Agustina Cundari	A

Agenda:

- Introduction
- Process overview
- Protocol Considerations and WG Comments
 - Key Takeaways and pending items
 - Project Definition – Eligible livestock categories
 - Assessment Boundary & Quantification

- Site-specific B0 value
- Overview of Livestock Calc Tool
- MRV
- Next steps

Main Points of Discussion and Decisions Made:

1. Project ownership. Comments received

- The Reserve shared the link to the National Registry to verify property ownership for livestock operations. A WG member explained that each province has its property own registry for property ownership.
- A WG member suggested that Project Developers (PDs) should notify all parties involved in the project, including the owners of cattle that are distinct from the livestock operation owner, i.e. in the *hotelerias* structure where cattle owners have their cattle raised on third-party livestock operations.
- A WG member proposed to require that the livestock operators include a clause in their contracts with any third-party livestock owners to clarify the carbon rights. The Reserve suggested the contracts could be included in annual MRV to ensure carbon ownership is clear for any associated parties (i.e. owners of cattle housed on the livestock operation).

2. Anaerobic Baseline and Greenfields. Comments received

- The Reserve requested studies that could demonstrate uncontrolled anaerobic digestion as common practice in Greenfields. The WG confirmed that it is not a common practice, although there is no knowledge of published studies.
- The Reserve explained that a requirement for project developers to demonstrate that uncontrolled anaerobic storage/treatment is not a common practice will be included in the Protocol. A WG member commented that it might be difficult for PDs to demonstrate it.
 - The WG suggested to consider the Province of Córdoba since the majority of Argentina's livestock facilities are located there. The WG provided various different options to demonstrate that it is not a common practice and offered to provide relevant data and studies.
 - A WG member from the Province of Corrientes explained that there are only two biogas control system facilities in Corrientes, but they are not used for livestock waste. They will provide further information.

3. Eligible Livestock Categories. Comments received

- The Reserve explained the current eligible livestock categories.
- A WG member suggested to include two more livestock categories: steer (bred in corral) and bull. The Reserve requested to share further information regarding these categories to confirm that quantification values are available for each category (typical animal mass, volatile solids, and maximum B0 methane potential).
- A WG member from the Province of Córdoba explained that they have data for the categories of steer and bull (adult male).

- The Reserve explained the swine categories shared by the Livestock Secretariat of the Province of Córdoba and asked if there is a difference between commercial and production livestock.
- A WG member explained that the values for production and commercial pigs are the same and suggested to unify the categories.
- The WG clarified that the correct term in Spanish for *lechones chupadores* is *lechones lactantes*.

4. Social safeguards. Comments received

- The Reserve explained social safeguards and presented pending issues on free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC), and labor and security. Additionally, it was explained that to comply with FPIC livestock operators must be informed and consent to the project; livestock operators refer to the entity that owns/operates the livestock facility.
- The WG clarified that Decree 617/97-Regulation of Hygiene and Safety for Agricultural Activity is at the national decree, not a provincial decree. It was also explained that the Decree operates under National Law 19587- Safety and Hygiene at Work.

5. Environmental safeguards. Comments received

- The Reserve explained environmental safeguards. The Protocol will require verifiers to contact the corresponding provincial agency to confirm regulatory compliance with environmental regulations.
- The WG explained that this requirement could be an obstacle and cause delays in requesting an official document. The Reserve will take this under consideration.

6. Site Specific Determination of B₀Value. Comments received

- The Reserve explained the methodology of Site-Specific Determination of B₀ Value for milk production sampling and requested information on monthly milk production and the contact information for laboratories that perform the biochemical methane potential testing.
- The WG commented that studies are available on monthly milk production. A study was shared through the chat. The Reserve will review and follow up as needed.

7. Overview of Livestock Calc Tool

- The Reserve reviewed the evaluation of GHG limits and the equations used to quantify the GHG emissions reduction.
- The Reserve showed a sample of the livestock quantification tool.

8. Monitoring, Report, and Verification (MRV)

- The Reserve explained Monitoring, Report, and Verification (MRV) requirements, including QA/QC requirements and safeguards monitoring.
- The WG had several questions about the reporting and verification periods, which were clarified by the Reserve.

9. Additional comments

- A WG member asked if the protocol only applies to intensive operations or if extensive systems are included. He further explained that the Province of Corrientes primarily has extensive operations. The Reserve explained that to meet the additionality requirements,



the baseline scenario for a project must also include manure management in open lagoons, which is why it typically applies to intensive operations.

- A WG member explained that manure management is not as problematic in Corrientes as waste management. The Reserve explained that they plan to start the development of a Landfill Protocol for waste management for Argentina in the coming months, which could be more applicable for Corrientes.

Pending Questions for the Workgroup:

- Share studies or data sets that demonstrate that uncontrolled aerobic digestion is common practice for Greenfield projects (new livestock facilities that do not have previous manure management systems).
- Share information about the two biogas control systems that operate in the Province of Corrientes.
- Share information on the proposed livestock categories: steer (bred in corral) and bull. Confirm that the values of typical animal mass, volatile solids, and maximum B0 methane potential are available for these categories.
- Studies or data sets on monthly milk production trends.
- Information on accreditation bodies or laboratories available in Argentina to perform BMP assays.