



# Update

October - December 2010



## Season's Greetings from SAIN Secretariat

### Work in Progress

#### UK-China Seminar on Agriculture and Climate Change Held in Beijing

Supported by Chinese Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), and Department for International Development (Dfid), the UK China seminar on Agriculture and Climate Change was held in Beijing Asia Hotel on 8-10 November 2010. The seminar comprised two days of presentation and discussion, and a one-day field trip; over 60 participants attended the seminar. The Seminar was opened by Mme Yao Xiangjun, Deputy Director, Department of International Cooperation, MoA; Adrian Davies, Director, North and East Asia, DFID; Mme Huang Wenhong, Division Director, Department of Climate Change, National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC). Dr Mike Segal, Director of Policy and Evidence Group of Defra delivered a keynote. At the seminar, the Chinese and UK scientists assessed the role of agriculture in tackling climate change, including the prospects for emission reduction and carbon sequestration, while ensuring food security; examined best practice for enhancing agriculture's role in climate change mitigation; exchanged ideas on UK-China contributions to wider international initiatives; agreed on research needs and priorities for future collaboration. SAIN projects members also discussed coordination between projects and identified activities which can be delivered jointly to achieve greater synergies. Follow the link to read seminar summary:

<http://www.sainonline.org/SAIN-website%28English%29/pages/News/SAIN%20Seminar%20meeting%20summary.pdf>



## UK-China Sustainable Agriculture Innovation Network (SAIN)

### MUC Project Conducted Field Survey

The SAIN WG1 project MUC (A Review of Manure Nutrient Use in China) completed field survey in Jiangsu, Shaanxi provinces and Beijing. The purpose of the survey was to explore barriers to utilising livestock manure, composts and digestate nutrients in an integrated approach with inorganic fertilizers, include practical, economic, knowledge and attitudinal barriers.



### Low Carbon Agriculture Project Held Workshop in Beijing

An international workshop on Low Carbon Agriculture was held on 15-16 October 2010 in Beijing. This was the interim workshop of SAIN project "Improved Nutrient Management in Agriculture – a Key Contribution to the Low Carbon Economy". Data analysis to date indicates that a reduction of *at least 2%* of China's total GHG emissions could be made by correcting the over-use of N fertilizer in agriculture. This

can be achieved at low cost and delivers a range of other benefits. These include increased farm incomes and decreased water pollution.

### ADMIT Project Seminar Attracted a Wide Range of Interest

The SAIN WG3 project, ADMIT (Harmonising ADaptation and MITigation for agriculture and water in China), in cooperation with CIWEM (The Chartered Institute of Water and Environmental Management) held a meeting on December 1st 2010 on "Energy use in the water sector; harmonising adaptation and mitigation". The meeting brought together different stakeholders in a discussion of how to integrate energy and water use within water resource management, regulatory frameworks and adaptation planning. Presentations were given from Martin Ross, Southwest Water and Declan Conway (UEA, SAIN WG 3), with responses from a panel consisting of Julian Wright (Environment Agency), Andrew Brown (Anglia Water) and Bruce Lankford (UEA and UKCID). The event had around 35 participants.

### SAIN Research Findings Presented at INI 2010 Conference

Prof David Norse and Dr Zhang Weifeng were in New Delhi attending International Nitrogen Initiative (INI) 2010 conference, 3-7 December. Prof Norse delivered a presentation with title of *N Use in China: Tradeoffs Between Food Security, Farm Household Incomes and the Environment* ; the title of Dr Zhang's presentation was *Policies to Improve Nitrogen Fertilization toward a Lower Carbon Economy in China*. Both presentations were based on the findings of FCO/MOA funded project *Improved Nutrient Management in Agriculture – a Key Contribution to the Low Carbon Economy*.

### SAIN project highlighted in UNEP Sustainable Nutrient Management Report

The UN Environment Programme (UNEP) has released a report in collaboration with the Global Partnership on Nutrient Management (GPNM) titled "Building the Foundations for Sustainable Nutrient Management." The report concludes that growing demands for food can be met through sustainable production and sustainable use of fertilizers, which, if not managed correctly, will have negative impacts on food security as well as water quality and availability, fisheries and biodiversity. SAIN project *Improved Nutrient Management in Agriculture – a Key Contribution to the Low Carbon Economy* is highlighted in the report. SAIN is a partner of GPNM.

Read the whole report at: [http://www.gpa.unep.org/documents/building\\_the\\_foundations\\_for\\_english.pdf](http://www.gpa.unep.org/documents/building_the_foundations_for_english.pdf)

## UK-China Sustainable Agriculture Innovation Network (SAIN)

### NATESC Delegation Visit UK

Invited by Department of Food, Environment and Rural Affairs (Defra) and facilitated by SAIN, a 5-person delegation from the Chinese National Agri-tech Extension and Service Centre (NATESC) visited UK in 23-28 November to investigate plant quarantine. The delegation visited Science and Advice for Scottish Agriculture (SASA), Royal Botanic Garden, and held meeting with Food and Environment Research Agency (FERA) representatives at DEFRA. The delegation was led by Mr Pan Xianzheng, Director of NATESC.



### Other News

#### FAO Launched Website on Climate-Smart Agriculture

4 November 2010: The Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO) launched a new website highlighting agriculture practices that reduce farmers' vulnerability to climate impacts and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, sequester carbon, and improve farm yields and household incomes. More details see: <http://www.fao.org/climatechange/climatesmart/en/>

#### UK Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Inventory Research Platform Launched

26 November 2010: As the UK move towards tackling climate change, increasing the understanding of how agriculture contributes to this area is becoming increasingly important. Current estimates on agricultural GHG emission fails to take into account the differences between farming practices or the effects of innovative approaches and policies. The Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Research Platform seeks to improve the accuracy and resolution of UK reporting system by providing the necessary evidence. Dr Dave Chadwick, co-chair of SAIN working Group 1, is the leader of the nitrous oxide project. For more information, see:

<http://www.rothamsted.ac.uk/Research/Centres/PressReleases.php?PRID=142>

#### Agriculture Must Play Key Role in Climate Solutions

December 9, 2010, Cancun, Mexico, —A group of global leaders and policy makers called for agriculture to play a key role in the architecture of climate finance, announcing at the Cancun climate conference a new initiative to make agriculture part of the solution to climate change and not part of the problem. The Roadmap outlines concrete actions linking agriculture-related investments and policies with the transition to climate-smart growth and highlights a “triple-win” approach. It advocates getting the right policies and programs in place that will increase farm productivity and incomes; make agriculture more resilient to variations in climate (and thus promote stability and security); and make the sector part of the solution to climate change by sequestering more carbon into the soil and biomass. For more details see:

<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/NEWS/0,,contentMDK:22786407~pagePK:34370~piPK:34424~theSitePK:4607,00.html>

For more information about SAIN, please visit: <http://www.sainonline.org/English.html> or contact

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