

Regional Forum on Developing and Financing Low Emissions Development Strategies for the Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use Sector: Moving from Promise to Practice



Policy and Institutional Needs



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Bangkok, 7 July 2015



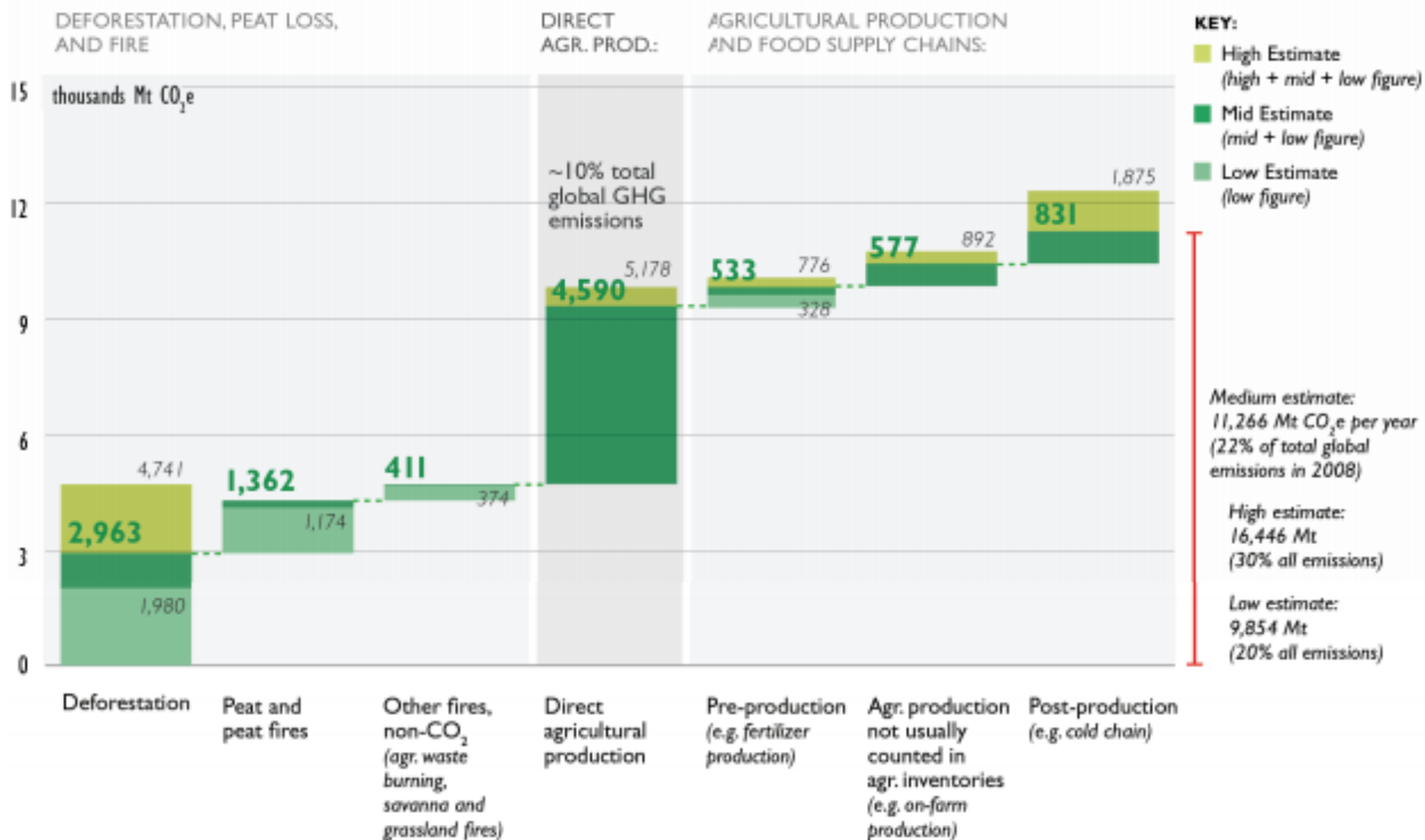
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Why AFOLU Policies Matter

- The AFOLU sector is responsible for about 30% of GHG emissions, are caused by forest destruction and poor agricultural practices;
- In developing countries, the ratio is much higher;
- Entrenched behaviors, such as diet preferences, make change difficult to achieve in this domain;
- Policies dealing with food security, livelihoods, and poverty reduction can be designed to have positive climate change co-benefits; and
- Policy shifts in these areas can avoid the “developed countries must pay” debate.

GHG Emissions from AFOLU Sector





Good Practice in Policy Formulation



- **Policy formulation needs to be embedded in a broad systematic approach – from vision to implementation;**
- **Stand alone policies can be easily negated – coherent, synergistic policy clusters are needed;**
- **Stakeholder involvement is crucial.**

Effective strategic policies in the AFOLU sector

- **Nearly 3 Gt CO₂e per year could be mitigated through changes in diets and reductions in food waste by 2030 – policies promoting a predominantly vegetarian diet, cracking down on food waste, and improving food storage and marketing systems could make a significant difference;**
- **Emissions reduction potential of the agricultural sector through supply-based approaches is nearly 2 Gt CO₂e per year by 2030 – policies on fertilizer replacement, zero-tillage, alley cropping, organic agriculture, agro-forestry, soil remediation can not only increase yields but reduce GHG emissions too;**

Effective strategic policies in the AFOLU sector

- **Pricing policies to encourage more efficient use of irrigation water, especially in rice, would not only reduce methane emissions but also conserve water.**



Institutional Needs

- **Mitigation actions need to be built into entire supply chains from primary producers to end consumers - Emissions associated with the agricultural supply chain account for approximately 1.9 to 3.5 Gt CO₂e per year;**
- **Huge payoffs are possible from major increases in research and development in the AFOLU sector – CGIAR centers need significant increases in funding, earmarked for mitigation and co-benefits, as well as adaptation to changing climate conditions;**
- **Land use planning needs to be significantly strengthened especially in developing countries – land use changes emit between 3.5 and 7.8 Gt CO₂e per year**



Conclusions

- **AFOLU sector is responsible for a significant part of global GHG emissions, yet has not received the same amount of attention as the energy or transport sectors;**
- **Significant low-hanging fruit are available to reduce GHG emissions in the sector, while delivering food security, livelihood, and poverty reduction benefits;**
- **Creating the needed policy environment to ring changes in this sector is difficult as many GHG emitting practices are culturally or socially embedded;**
- **Formulating effective, coherent, synergistic policy clusters for the sector will have major climate change benefits.**