Sustainable land use in New Zealand: Climate benefits of agriculture development

Dr Victoria Hatton

International Operations Manager
New Zealand Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Research Centre

SBSTA 40. Bonn, June 11th 2014. Technical Experts Meeting on Land Use
**Context:** Agriculture ~56% of export earnings
About 90% of production is exported

**Changes:** Increased efficiency and productivity of land-use, with 60% increase in dairy production

**Benefits:** Agriculture ~46% of gross GHG emissions:
- emissions intensity (emissions per unit of product) decreased -20% since 1990
- absolute emissions increased 15% since 1990

**Key Messages:**
1. Increased productivity/efficiency = decreased emissions intensity
2. Economic and local environmental drivers for efficiency gains
3. Economic benefits (farm/national level) and reduced global food footprint ...
4. ... *but* implementation takes time (information, social, risk aversion, markets)
5. National and international research/collaboration to up-scale emissions intensity reduction