

Non-CO2 emissions from livestock production in URUGUAY



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Workshop on opportunities and challenges for mitigation in the agricultural sector

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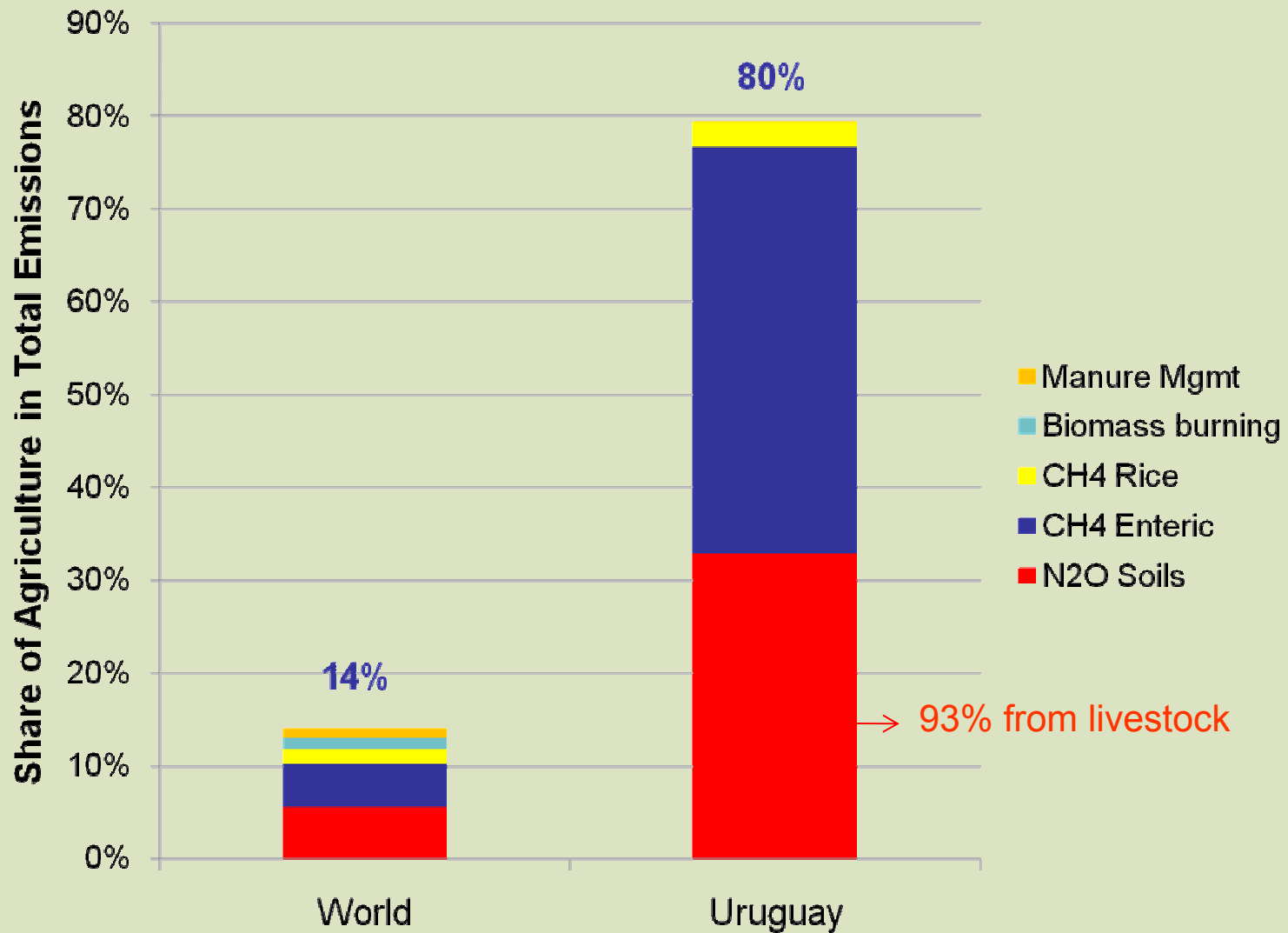
URUGUAY



URUGUAY – Importance of livestock

- 3,4 million inhabitants, 12 million head of beef cattle and 11 million sheep.
- Beef-exporting country, with livestock raising being the principal agricultural activity and the mainstay of the economy, contributing to nearly **40% of annual exports** in the form of meat, wool, dairy products and hides.
- Total area of 18.5 million hectares, 85% are productive and **83% of the total productive area is used for livestock production.**
- Beef production is based almost exclusively on pasture grazing and without any market distorting domestic policies
- Beef production and exports have expanded **and will continue to expand** in response to an increase in global demand facilitated by excellent product quality and sanity (e.g., meat free from foot-and-mouth with vaccination and mad-cow diseases)
- **Over 70% of production is exported.**

Agriculture Emissions



URUGUAY – GHG Trends and Mitigation

- GHG emissions from **beef and sheep cattle** are responsible for **ca. 80% of total national emissions**. These emissions:
 - do not include decreases in carbon stocks, since there is no deforestation in Uruguay;
 - will continue to increase in the future
- **Emissions per unit product are relatively large**, almost 100% of the production occurs in grazing conditions, mostly in extensive systems (with low-quality forage).
- Worldwide, there are few cost-effective practices for reducing livestock GHG emissions per animal head (IPCC AR4, Ch. 8).

URUGUAY – GHG Trends and Mitigation

However, in Uruguay, **emissions per unit product could be reduced**

- with the right financial incentives (e.g. access to carbon markets)
- and through international cooperation for the research, development and transfer of mitigation technologies for this sector.

This would allow Uruguay, and other Parties with similar circumstances, to produce more efficiently in a global food market that is expected to grow and that will need to produce food in the most efficient manner.

WHAT CAN WE DO NOW within this process: continue including **AGRICULTURE** in our negotiation agenda.

URUGUAY

Thank you very much for your attention.



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