



2023-2024

IICA in action

What is IICA?

The **Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)** is the specialized international organization of the Inter-American System. With a rich history of 80 years, IICA supports Member States' efforts to foster agricultural development and rural well-being through technical cooperation of excellence.

IICA's Director General is Manuel Otero, who was elected to the position by the Ministers of Agriculture of the Americas for the first time in 2017, and re-elected in 2021 for the 2022-2026 period.

The leadership of Dr. Otero, a veterinarian from Argentina and an expert in development issues, has guided IICA's work in positioning the agricultural sector, agrifood systems and rural territories as strategic assets for adding value to rurality and promoting sustainable development and knowledge-intensive agriculture with a human face and in full harmony with the environment.

Under this concept, IICA has become a bridge organization that acts jointly with governments, the private sector, academia, the international community and civil society. Together with its strategic partners, it seeks to bring about significant transformations and provide responses to the different opportunities, challenges and commitments facing the Americas, with a strong commitment to the 2030 Agenda and to fulfilling the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

PROGRAM

Agricultural Climate Action and Sustainability

This program responds to the priorities of its Member States, with a view to fulfilling the commitments set out in the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) in the agriculture sector. It also seeks to increase the active and informed participation of the agriculture sector in national and international climate processes. In 2022, at COP27 in Egypt, IICA installed the Home of Sustainable Agriculture of the Americas pavilion, which hosted dozens of bilateral meetings and 53 formal events, and presented the Message from the Ministries and Secretariats of Agriculture and Livestock of the Americas Towards COP27.

PROGRAM

International Trade and Regional Integration

This program supports member countries in improving their participation in international and regional agrifood markets. The program focuses on two lines of action: markets, trade policy and promotion actions; and harnessing of opportunities generated by trade agreements and integration processes.

RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS AND ACTIONS

The Paris Agreement and agriculture: a view of the implementation of NDCs in Latin America ([Only spanish](#))

National Data: Implementation of NDCs in the Agriculture Sector (Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Peru, Dominican Republic, Uruguay) ([Only spanish](#))

Message from the Ministries and Secretariats of Agriculture and Livestock of the Americas towards COP27 ([SPA](#))([ENG](#))

COP27 Platform-Sharm El-Sheikh ([SPA](#))([ENG](#))([POR](#))

Towards a more sustainable, climate resilient and low-carbon agriculture sector ([SPA](#))([ENG](#))

PACSA Publications Repository ([SPA](#))([ENG](#))

Agrimán - Secrets of the soil ([Only english](#))

PUBLICATIONS

International trade of agrifood products from Latin America and the Caribbean and the transformation of food systems: IICA contribution to the UNFSS (2021) ([SPA](#))([ENG](#)) ([POR](#))

Guide to the identification and systematization of information on international trade regulations for the poultry sector ([SPA](#))([ENG](#))

The road to the WTO Twelfth Ministerial Conference: A Latin American and Caribbean Perspective ([Only english](#))

Main results 2022 ([SPA](#))([ENG](#))

Impacts of the Conflict in Ukraine on Trade and Food Security in Latin America and the Caribbean ([Only spanish](#))

Trade information:

OPSAa - International Trade and Regional Integration ([SPA](#))([ENG](#)) OPSAa Indicators - Agrifood and Fertilizer Trade ([SPA](#))([ENG](#))

Strengthening Collective Action in Agrifood Trade to Boost the Region's Role in Economic Development, Food Security and Global Sustainability. 2023 ([SPA](#))([ENG](#))

The Outlook for Agriculture and Rural Development in the Americas: A Perspective on Latin America and the Caribbean 2023-2024 ([SPA](#))([ENG](#))



PROGRAM

Territorial Development and Family Farming

IICA fosters associativism and cooperativism, by transferring knowledge, tools and digital skills to strengthen the capacities of cooperatives providing services to family farming.

The program works together with the Network of Agricultural Cooperatives of the Americas (REDACCOOP) to systematize information in each country on agricultural cooperatives; and organize business roundtables, connecting the supply and demand of food from family farming and facilitating access to inputs, funding and technologies.

PUBLICATIONS

Cooperatives in the transformation of food systems ([Only spanish](#))

Digital management of cooperative services for family farming production and marketing in the Americas ([Only spanish](#))



PROGRAM

Digitalization of Agrifood Systems

Agrifood systems face major challenges that require digital solutions. We work alongside Member States and multiple public and private partners to foster the dynamic, inclusive digitalization of agrifood systems in the Americas, understanding this process as essential for the positive transformation of these systems.

MAIN ACTIONS:

Digital Agriculture Week (DAW):

This event brings together key stakeholders in the agrifood digitalization process to propose ideas and coordinate actions to promote it.

Mapping of public digitalization policies:

Within the framework of the IICA Public Policy Observatory for Agrifood Systems (OPSAa), data was gathered and a forum held to discuss actions aimed at promoting agricultural digitalization in different countries.

RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS

Digital rural gender divide in Latin America and the Caribbean (2020) [\(SPA\)](#)[\(ENG\)](#)[\(POR\)](#)

Digital literacy in rural areas. An indispensable condition to bridge the divide in Latin America and the Caribbean [\(SPA\)](#)[\(ENG\)](#)

Rural connectivity in Latin America and the Caribbean. A bridge to sustainable development in a time of pandemic (2020) [\(SPA\)](#)[\(ENG\)](#)[\(POR\)](#)

Priorities for reducing digital gaps (2021) [\(Only spanish\)](#)

The Outlook for Agriculture and Rural Development in the Americas: A Perspective on Latin America and the Caribbean (2021-2022) [\(SPA\)](#)[\(ENG\)](#)

Rural connectivity in Latin America and the Caribbean. State of play, challenges and actions for digitalization and sustainable development (2022) [\(SPA\)](#)[\(ENG\)](#)[\(POR\)](#)

Technical assistance and digital extension - IICA-PxD Project [\(Only spanish\)](#)

PROGRAM

Gender Equality and Youth

Gender and Youth are issues of the utmost importance for agricultural and rural development. IICA promotes the participation of women and young people to counteract situations of inequality. The inclusion of women and youth improves the conditions of sustainable agriculture and the quality of life in communities.

RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS AND ACTIONS

Warriors: rural women around the world: 28 authorized voices [\(SPA\)](#)[\(ENG\)](#)

Priorities to give visibility to women's contribution to the transformation of agrifood systems [\(Only spanish\)](#)

Rural Women Exhibition - Vogue [\(SPA\)](#)[\(ENG\)](#)

Rural Youth Platform [\(SPA\)](#)[\(ENG\)](#)

Photographic Exhibition "Rural Women in the Americas: Cultivating Tomorrow's Agriculture Today" [\(Only spanish\)](#)

Online Course in Entrepreneurship for Women [\(SPA\)](#)[\(ENG\)](#)[\(POR\)](#)

Women, youth and the transformation of the agrifood [\(SPA\)](#)[\(ENG\)](#)[\(POR\)](#)



PROGRAM

Innovation and the Bioeconomy

IICA seeks to raise awareness, strengthen capacities, build policy and drive projects and investments to help harness the bioeconomy in rural territories of the Americas.

RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS

Bioeconomy potential to transform food systems in the Americas ([SPA](#))([ENG](#))([POR](#))

“The Bioeconomy and Food System Transformation” included in the book of the Scientific Committee of the UN Food Systems Summit ([Only english](#))

Bioeconomy: challenges and opportunities for harnessing it in LAC ([Only spanish](#))

Liquid biofuels atlas 2020-2021 ([SPA](#))([ENG](#))([POR](#))

Leveraging coffee subproducts with bioeconomy concepts from the book launched at the COP “Hitos de una agricultura sustentable en las Américas” (“Milestones of sustainable agriculture in the Americas”) ([Only spanish](#))

The ABCs of policies to develop and strengthen the bioeconomy: Training manual ([Only spanish](#))

The bioeconomy as strategy to strengthen MERCOSUR integration, written at the request of and together with public and academic institutions of the bioeconomy of the South ([Only spanish](#))



PROGRAM

Agricultural Health, Safety and Food Quality

This program supports the development, improvement and application of policies in agricultural health, safety and quality of agrifoods, focusing on providing safe foods through local, regional and global markets.

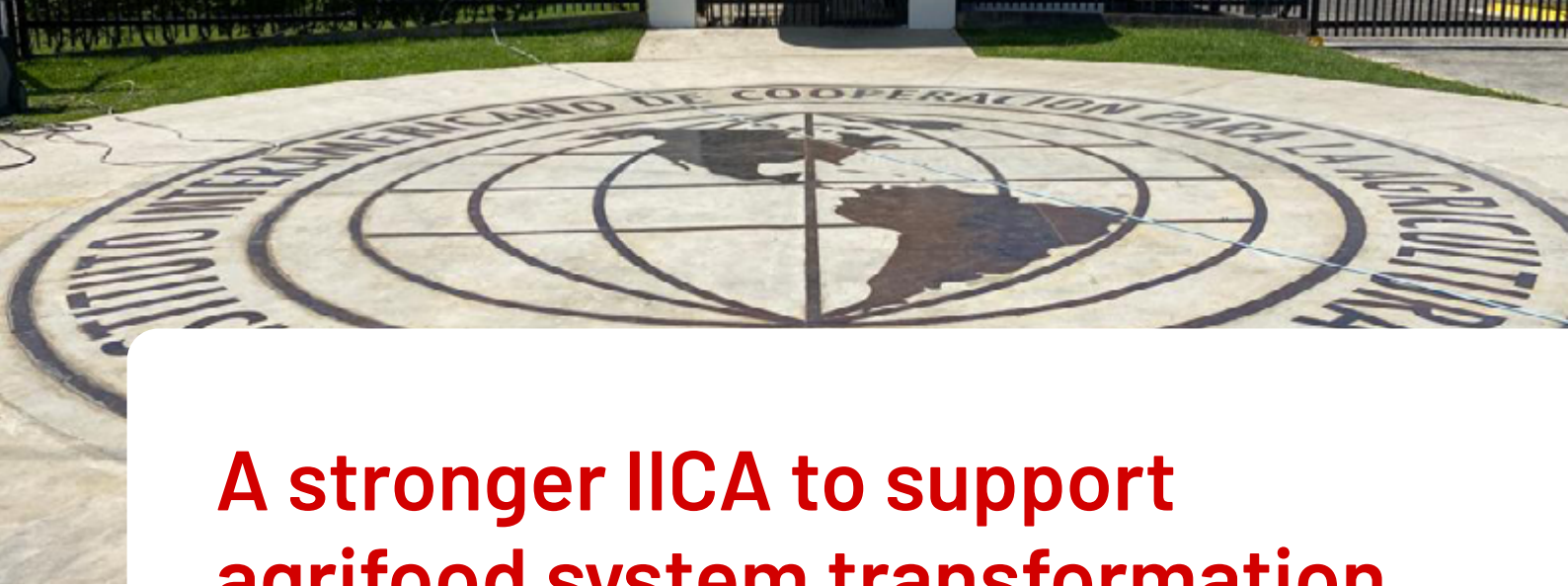
RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS

Handbook of good practices for participation in Codex Alimentarius meetings ([SPA](#))([ENG](#))

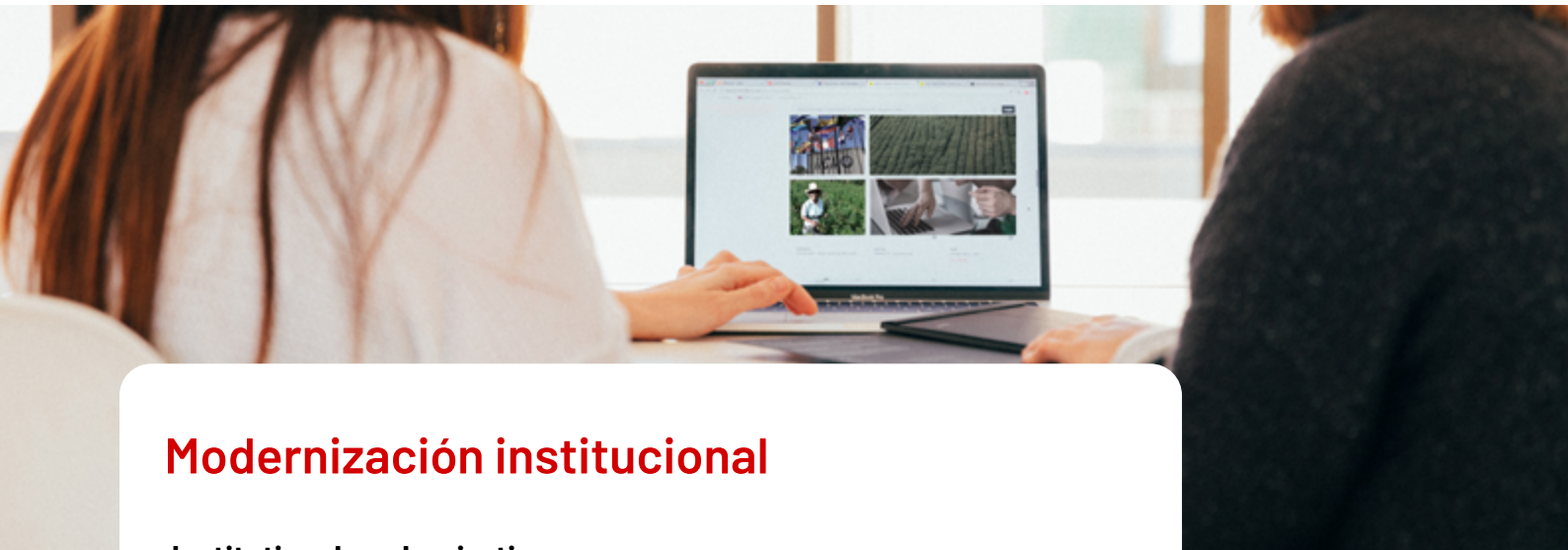
Guide of good practices in cattle milk production ([Only spanish](#))

Decision-making in the final stage of eliminating foot and mouth disease in PVC countries. A public-private vision from the animal health economy ([Only spanish](#))

Inter-Agency training group to combat ASF in Latin America and the Caribbean ([SPA](#))([ENG](#))



A stronger IICA to support agrifood system transformation



Modernización institucional

Institutional modernization:

There have been three corporate priorities since the beginning of this administration:

- Institutional transformation by shifting towards a process culture to promote efficiency, alignment, coordination and collaborative work.
- More efficient and effective institutional management, seeking solid financial architecture through better investments of resources, reduction of service costs and new potential funding sources.
- Strengthening and valuing human capital, training our personnel and recognizing institutional performance.



Communication for technical cooperation

We communicate strategically the results of IICA's technical cooperation and actions with our partners, to be accountable for our work and position the Institute and its partners as leaders in agriculture, rural development and sustainability. We have had excellent receptivity in the media in the Americas.

PRESS CLIPPINGS WITH RELEVANT INFORMATION 2021-2023

Home of Sustainable Agriculture of the Americas at COP27 ([SPA](#))([ENG](#))([POR](#))

IICA at the Summit of the Americas ([SPA](#))([ENG](#))([POR](#))

Presentation of the document "Rural connectivity in Latin America and the Caribbean: state of play, challenges and actions for digitalization and sustainable development" ([SPA](#))([ENG](#))([POR](#))

Digital Agriculture Week 2023 ([SPA](#))([ENG](#))([POR](#))

Conference of Ministers of Agriculture of the Americas 2021 ([SPA](#))([ENG](#))([POR](#))

Africa-Americas Ministerial Summit on Agrifood Systems ([SPA](#))([ENG](#))([POR](#))



Public Policy Observatory for Agrifood Systems

The Public Policy Observatory for Agrifood Systems (OPSAA) is a digital platform serving countries of the Americas to foster a new generation of public policies to transform agrifood systems in the hemisphere.

www.opsaa.iica.int

WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO:

BE PART of the OPSAA Network

BECOME FAMILIARIZED WITH the regulatory frameworks of national, regional and international policies

VISIT the Dialogue Rooms on current and long-term issues

DISCOVER investment and public spending initiatives in agrifood systems

EXPLORE trend indicators and public policy results

EXPLORE much more in the 10 dimensions of the OPSAA policy

REVIEW cases and good practices in public policy management

COP27 results: www.cop27.iica.int

Biotechnology and Biosafety

Since 2006, IICA has been working actively in biotechnology and biosafety (B&B) in three action areas: institutional support, training and communication. Some of the areas developed include risk analysis, effective biotechnology communication, preparing for UN biodiversity meetings (CBD-COP/PCB-COP/NP-COP) and on-site laboratory courses in genome editing. Furthermore, we have collaborated in the generation of B&B regulations in the countries of the hemisphere..

<https://sites.google.com/iica.int/biotechnologia-y-bioseguridad/actividades-tecnicas>



IICA achievements in genome editing

Since 2018, IICA has been a leader in policymaking and organization of training activities related to genome editing technologies (GnEd) in plants and animals.

Participatory work resulted in the International Statement on Agricultural Applications of Precision Biotechnology, which drove the development of regulations in GnEd in Latin America, and, as a result, biotechnology and GnEd policies have been proposed and implemented in Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Guatemala, Honduras and Paraguay, while other policies are awaiting approval in Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador and Panama.





Living Soils of the Americas

This is an initiative led by IICA and Rattan Lal, 2020 World Food Prize winner. It includes the participation of public and private sectors, which are working together to foster soil health.

<https://www.livingsoils.iica.int>



Prof. Rattan Lal

The Living Soils of the Americas initiative is implemented with technical guidance from Prof. Rattan Lal, an IICA Goodwill Ambassador who was also conferred the title of IICA Chair in Soil Sciences. Dr. Lal is the 2020 World Food Prize winner and co-laureate of the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize, which was awarded to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), of which he was a member.



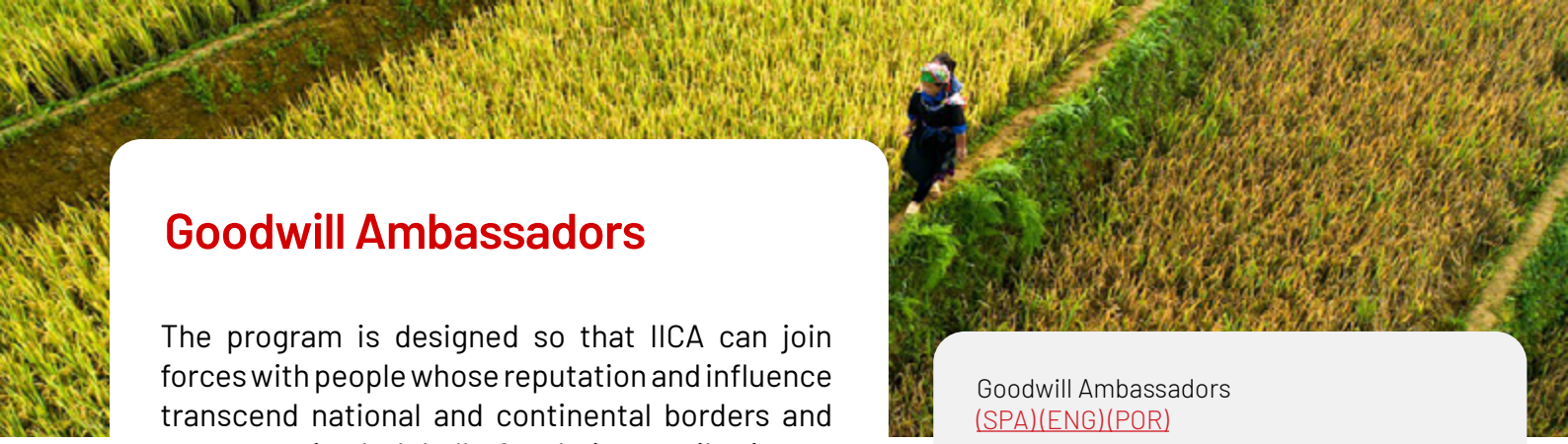
Leaders of Rurality of the Americas

This is recognition for those who play an irreplaceable dual role: guarantors of food and nutrition security, and guardians of the planet's biodiversity through farming in any circumstance. The award recognizes their capacity to foster positive examples for rural areas in the region.

PUBLICATIONS

Leaders of Rurality of the Americas [\(SPA\)](#)
[\(ENG\)](#)[\(POR\)](#)

IICA 80th Anniversary Commemorative Book: The Soul of Rurality [\(SPA\)](#)[\(ENG\)](#)



Goodwill Ambassadors

The program is designed so that IICA can join forces with people whose reputation and influence transcend national and continental borders and are recognized globally for their contribution to agricultural development in the Americas.

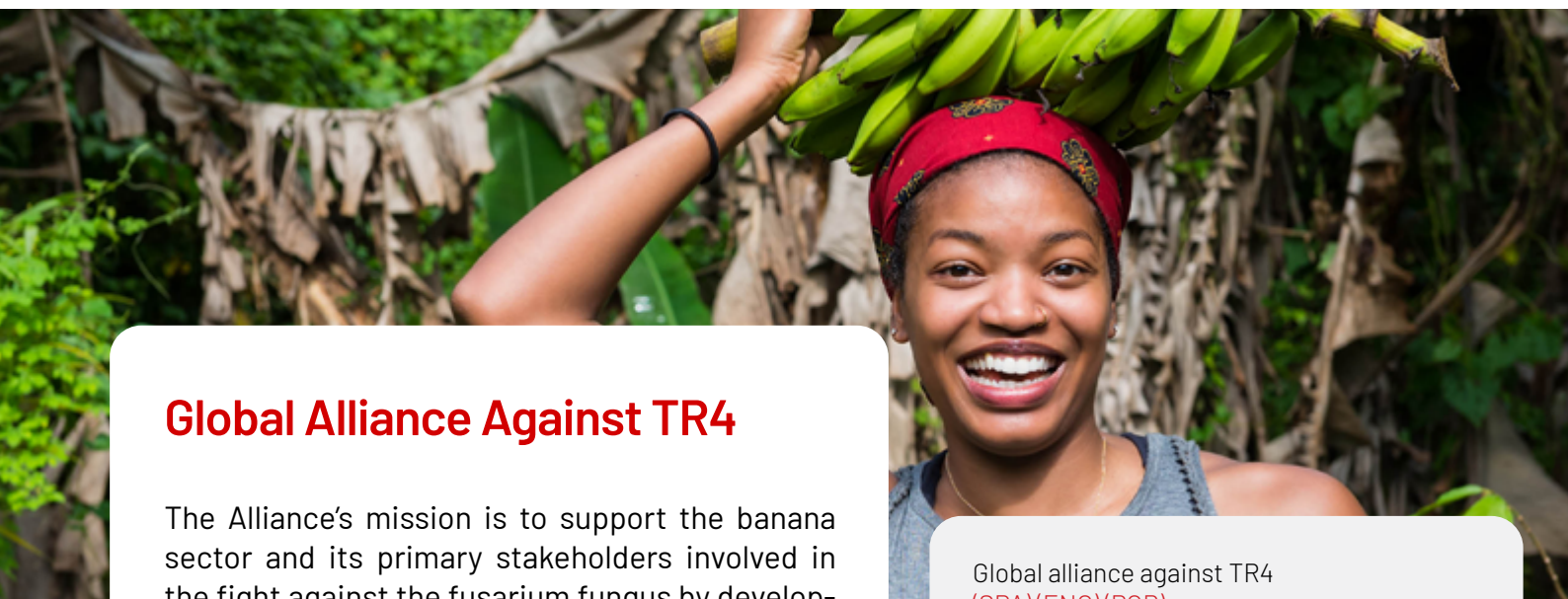
Goodwill Ambassadors
[\(SPA\)](#)[\(ENG\)](#)[\(POR\)](#)



Advisory Councils to the Director General

Advisory Council for Food Security
[\(SPA\)](#)[\(ENG\)](#)[\(POR\)](#)

Advisory Committee on Communication
[\(SPA\)](#)[\(ENG\)](#)[\(POR\)](#)



Global Alliance Against TR4

The Alliance's mission is to support the banana sector and its primary stakeholders involved in the fight against the fusarium fungus by developing scientific knowledge and technology.

Global alliance against TR4
[\(SPA\)](#)[\(ENG\)](#)[\(POR\)](#)

IICA Chair

With the IICA Chair Program, the Institute seeks to give visibility to expert knowledge, develop and strengthen skills in the public and private sectors, and facilitate the exchange and production of knowledge and experiences.



IICA Chairs [\(SPA\)](#)[\(ENG\)](#)[\(POR\)](#)



Mobilizing collective action among countries

A united hemisphere to strengthen agrifood systems

At the UN Food Systems Summit, the countries of the Americas presented a consensus-based position on the commitments required to strengthen the world's food systems, particularly in the region. The proposal, led and facilitated by IICA, was approved by the Institute's Executive Committee, with 31 countries of the Americas endorsing the resolution.

The 16 messages from the Americas at the Food Systems Summit

[\(Only spanish\)](#)



A united hemisphere to fight food insecurity

The combined work of the countries of the Americas can prevent a food, nutritional and humanitarian crisis in the region and the world. With this premise, IICA presented specific proposals at the Summit of the Americas in Los Angeles for collective action among the region's countries, with the focus on strengthening and transforming agrifood systems, considered a fundamental tool for food security, environmental sustainability, and to bring about peace and political stability.

Proposals to reinforce collective action in the Americas with the goal of fighting food insecurity and ensuring sustainable development. [\(Only spanish\)](#)

South-South Cooperation: An IICA that looks outward to the world from the Americas

With the understanding that cooperation is more necessary than ever before, due to the overlapping climate, socioeconomic, health and war crises, IICA is an organization of the Inter-American System that looks outward to the world and fosters South-South Cooperation, building bridges with Africa and Asia. To that end, it works with organizations like the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD), Grow Asia and Food Action Alliance.

[Africa-Americas Ministerial Summit](#)

[Cooperation between the Americas, Asia and Africa](#)

Positioning the agricultural sector in climate talks

Farmers, livestock producers and public sector representatives of the Americas praised the sector's good environmental practices that guarantee the world's food security and reaffirmed the key role of science in formulating pro-nature policies in the region. This took place during a meeting at the Home of Sustainable Agriculture of the Americas pavilion, placing the importance of sustainable agriculture at the center of the COP27 agenda. IICA installed the pavilion in the Egyptian city of Sharm El-Sheikh, where the 27th Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP27) was held.



www.iica.int

Sede Central. 600 m. noreste del Cruce Ipís-Coronado
Vázquez de Coronado, San Isidro 11101 - Costa Rica. San José, Costa Rica
Tel (+506) 2216 0222 • Fax (+506) 2216 0233
iicahq@iica.int

