



## ***EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE***

*Thirty-second Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee  
8 -10 October 2012*

*IICA/CE/Doc.591(12)  
Original: Spanish  
8-10 October 2012*

### **REPORT ON THE EVALUATION OF THE PROGRESS MADE IN IMPLEMENTING THE "IICA-CATIE JOINT ACTION PROGRAM" AUGUST 2012**

**San Jose, Costa Rica  
October 2012**



**Report on the progress made in implementing the “IICA-CATIE 2011-2014 Program for Joint Action”  
August 2012**

**Introduction**

At its Thirty-first Regular Meeting (July 12-14, 2011), the IICA Executive Committee adopted Resolution No. 550, in which it approved the IICA-CATIE Program for Joint Action, including the strategic areas of collaboration between the two institutions, and the operating mechanisms required for the articulation and management of the joint technical cooperation activities involved, to ensure they are coordinated properly.

The program focuses on five areas of collaboration: the preparation of Member States to address climate change and mitigate its effects; the strengthening of innovation processes in production; efforts to build institutional frameworks and capabilities for the sustainable management of rural territories; cooperation designed to increase food security among small and medium-scale producers and family farmers; and knowledge management.

The present report provides information on the commitments assumed in the Program for Joint Action, and the progress made with the work so far.

Areas agreed upon for joint work	Progress achieved
Rules and principles of the joint work undertaken	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• August 1, 2011: final version prepared of the rules and principles of the joint work, which was accepted by the parties.</li> </ul>
<b>1. Preparation of Member States to address climate change and mitigate its effects</b>	
1.1. Formulation and implementation of a cross-thematic “joint integrating project” on “Agriculture and Climate Change”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two meetings held to identify proposed projects and secure pre-investment funds</li> </ul>
1.2 Joint participation in the Climate Smart Agriculture initiative, financed by the World Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No results</li> </ul>
<b>2. Strengthening innovation processes in production</b>	
2.1 Use of the germplasm bank administered by CATIE, making it available to the countries that require it	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are no results to report</li> <li>• The morphological characterization of tomato, sweet pepper, and acorn squash materials is being carried out to determine their diversity, availability, and adaptation to different</li> </ul>

Areas agreed upon for joint work	Progress achieved
	environments. The results of the analysis will be used as strategic inputs for the design of a Plan of Action for the dissemination of the genetic materials and their introduction into different territories.
2.2 Joint support for the Regional Cooperative Program for the Technological Development of Coffee Production in Central America, Panama, the Dominican Republic and Jamaica (PROMECAFE), which includes the implementation of a scholarship program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IICA/PROMECAFE-CATIE-CIRAD are working on the proposal, “Promotion of the seed industry and the competitiveness of the coffee sector in the Central American and Caribbean region,” as a strategic mechanism for the development of the coffee sector.</li> <li>• The base document was produced for the development of a strategic platform for the implementation of the proposal, and mechanisms are being sought to permit its implementation and development.</li> <li>• Within the strategic area “Strengthening innovation processes in production,” which includes two topics: a) Use of the germplasm bank administered by CATIE; and, b) Support for PROMECAFE (which includes the development of a scholarship program, but no information was received on the progress of this activity).</li> <li>• Financial support for two projects is presently being negotiated with World Coffee Research: a) Support for CATIE’s collection of coffee varieties; b) Program for the evaluation of coffee varieties.</li> </ul>
2.3 Integration of CATIE into the networks and cooperative mechanisms for technological innovation (PROCI, Innovation Network, FORAGRO and FONTAGRO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No progress to report</li> </ul>
<b>3. Building institutional frameworks and capabilities for the sustainable management of rural territories</b>	
3.1 Complementing strengths in the area of building institutional frameworks for territorial management (IICA) and in eco-systemic approaches and specific methodologies (CATIE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As part of the program designed to provide training in the planning and management of territories, the International Diploma Course in Territorial Management was developed to meet SAGARPA’s demand for training. The IICA Office in Mexico collaborated in this effort, and arrangements for the implementation of the diploma course are now being made.</li> </ul>
3.2 Cooperation to promote sustainable agricultural production and sustainable management of natural resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation of an international workshop on strategies for technological innovation in agro-forestry and agro-silvo-pastoral systems for the sustainable development of the Bolivian,</li> </ul>

Areas agreed upon for joint work	Progress achieved
	<p>Brazilian and Peruvian Amazon regions (June 2012).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A conceptual framework and joint work plan were drawn up to promote sustainable agricultural production and the sustainable management of natural resources.</li> <li>• The profile was prepared for the Mexico-Guatemala Cross-border Watersheds Project, aimed at the use and sustainable development of natural resources linked to agricultural activities in territories close to the border between the two countries, adopting an integrated watershed management approach. The project was promoted and SAGARPA-SEMARNAT and CONAFOR, the Government of Chiapas, and the Ministry of Agriculture of Guatemala all expressed interest in participating. Guatemala will now be formalizing the arrangements with all the parties to get the project under way.</li> <li>• In Haiti, the profiles were completed for the projects related to forestation for production, reforestation for the modernization of production, and ecosystem restoration. The next step is to secure pre-investment resources. Professionals who studied forestry at CATIE have been identified to strengthen local capabilities for coordinating and implementing the project. Mexico's contribution to the initiative has already been finalized, and Brazil and Canada have both expressed interest in providing horizontal cooperation.</li> </ul>
<p>3.3 Joint support for the CAC in implementing the ECADERT and the ERAS, in the areas of competence of each institution</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint technical assistance to the Regional Commission and the national commissions for the implementation of the ECADERT.</li> <li>• The Integrated Planning, Monitoring, and Evaluation System (SIPSE) was developed, and the first five-year plan was drawn up.</li> <li>• The cross-border and related territories were selected for the activity aimed at enhancing the expertise of the technical personnel involved in the cross-border territory (Trifinio). Coordination of rural area-based development actions in the Trifinio Territory.</li> <li>• Baselines were defined in the focal, cross-border, and related territories that were selected and prioritized.</li> <li>• Mobilization of experts and cross-thematic technical cooperation to support the planning, monitoring and evaluation of the Development Practice Program.</li> </ul>

Areas agreed upon for joint work	Progress achieved
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consolidation of the Territorial Action Groups (TAGs) and TAG Network of Central America and the Dominican Republic.</li> <li>• During Rural Area-based Development week in Honduras (June 2012), CATIE presented and disseminated the experiences generated by the Mesoamerican Agro-environmental Program.</li> <li>• Facilitation of regional processes related to the components and cross-cutting themes of the ECADERT (a proposal exists but we need funds to continue).</li> </ul>
3.4 Strengthening NARIs and NIIs with regard to sustainable management of natural resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No results</li> </ul>
<b>4. Cooperation in the area of promoting food security among small and medium-scale producers and family farmers</b>	
4.1 Joint efforts to increase availability of food produced by small and medium-scale producers and create conditions for more stable access to food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Book: “Capitales de vida. Las familias productoras de quinua, sus capitales y la seguridad alimentaria en la provincia centro de Boyacá. Colombia.” AGROSOLIDARIA-PBA-IICA.CATIE</li> </ul>
4.2 Cooperation in developing and identifying appropriate technologies for small and medium-scale agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workshop organized by CATIE: “Development of low carbon emissions in the Costa Rican livestock sector,” in August 2012, in which IICA participated. Different strategies and opportunities were discussed with a view to reducing emissions in the livestock sector and increasing productivity. The participants then focused on priority actions, specific issues, and technical cooperation needs that could be addressed through the USDA-managed EC-LEDS project in Costa Rica, in cooperation with national institutions, the private sector, research centers, other donors, and other stakeholders involved in the issue at the national level.</li> </ul>
<b>5. Knowledge management</b>	
5.1. Strengthening the Orton Memorial Library (OML)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IICA and CATIE invested US\$456,145 in the OML in 2011.</li> <li>• A SWOT analysis of the OML was concluded, and inputs were obtained for the drafting of a strategic plan</li> <li>• IICA and CATIE coordinated visits by experts in renewable technologies that produced ideas for projects aimed at the renewal of the OML’s energy infrastructure and that could be presented to international donors.</li> </ul>

Areas agreed upon for joint work	Progress achieved
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A new server was purchased for the library's services.</li> <li>• Book: "Capitales de la comunidad, medios de vida y vulnerabilidad social ante huracanes en la costa yucateca." IMTA-IICA-CATIE</li> </ul>
5.2. Implementing joint online training courses in the areas of joint cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the first semester of 2012, an induction course on virtual environments was held for CATIE staff: 27 signed up for the course and 7 completed it.</li> <li>• No training course on areas of joint interest has been held so far.</li> </ul>
5.3 Development of the Capacity Development Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No results</li> </ul>