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Executive Summary

This report briefly covers the principal actions and joint activities carried out with our strategic partners and allies in 2002. Not only does it describe the nature, purposes and principal areas and topics for joint actions, but it also represents a response to the priorities identified at the United Nations Millennium Summit and the Third Summit of the Americas. It reflects the new results-based managerial style promoted by the new Administration that took office on January 15, 2002.

During the Millennium Summit in September 2000, the Member States of the United Nations made a collective commitment to give priority to sustainable development and the eradication of poverty in the world. The UN called upon the countries and cooperation agencies to focus their actions on achieving the following objectives by 2015:

- Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger;
- Achieve universal primary education;
- Promote gender equality and autonomy for women;
- Reduce infant mortality;
- Improve maternal health;
- Combat AIDS, malaria and other diseases;
- Guarantee the sustainability of the environment; and,
- Foster a world partnership for development.

As we forge ahead into the 21st century, the need to intensify the joint efforts aimed at achieving these common objectives is becoming

increasingly obvious. At IICA we are aware that we must, and can, make an important contribution to many of them, and we are therefore working towards that goal.

At the hemispheric level, the Third Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Americas (Quebec, 2001) underscored the national and collective responsibility for meeting the needs and aspirations of the citizens of the Americas, improving their living standards and security, and advancing towards hemispheric integration. This mandate was set forth in the Joint Plan of Action and our Institute is totally committed to its implementation.

With regard to IICA, the Third Summit recognized the Inter-American Board of Agriculture as the principal forum on agriculture at the ministerial level, and instructed IICA to develop and strengthen mechanisms of cooperation and exchange with other entities within the inter-American system for proposing, coordinating, and executing policies and programs relating to the improvement of agriculture and rural life in the context of the inter-American system and the Summits of the Americas process. Member States asked IICA to facilitate the dialogue and provide technical cooperation on contentious issues such as agricultural trade, rural poverty and food safety standards. The Ministers of Agriculture of the Americas assumed this responsibility in the Declaration of Bavaro (2001), and taken on by IICA's new administration on January 15, 2002



In fact, to respond adequately to the Summits Mandates and the Ministerial Forum, this administration has proposed to convert IICA into a modern, flexible, business-oriented organization driven by the needs of its Member States, one that prioritizes technical excellence, the respect for institutional norms, financial prudence, transparency, accountability and, in particular, the establishment and development of alliances with strategic partners.

It strives to ensure that both the conceptual approach and the joint cooperation activities undertaken with other institutions and international agencies achieve concrete and meaningful results that respond effectively to the demands and expectations of our Member States.

I believe it is unnecessary to point out that the magnitude of the problems and challenges facing agriculture and rural development considerably exceeds the capabilities of any single organization. IICA is fully aware that, if we want to make significant and effective contributions to the agricultural and rural sector of the Americas, we must expand and intensify collaboration with our sister institutions of the Inter-American System, our partners and international allies, and the private sector. At present, IICA has 39 general cooperation agreements and almost 400 cooperation agreements in force, which cover

more than 550 joint cooperation activities with our partners and allies which include, among others:

Organization of American States—OAS
Pan American Health Organization—PAHO
United Nations Organization for Food and Agriculture—FAO
United National Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean—ECLAC
United Nations Development Program—UNDP
International Fund for Agricultural Development—IFAD
Inter-American Development Bank —IDB
The World Bank—WB
State agencies and institutions of cooperation for development

The results we have achieved to date not only more than justify our efforts; they also encourage and oblige us to strive to make a still greater joint contribution to the development of agriculture, food security, and the relief of rural poverty, all within a framework of environmental sustainability.



Chelston W.D. Brathwaite
Director General



Together for the development and rural wellbeing of the Americas

The global market provides unknown opportunities for the trade of agricultural products; it also poses pressing challenges to the community of agriculture and rural life of Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC). The small and less-developed economies of the region face the challenges of reducing the enormous poverty that grips a considerable portion of their populations—in particular, those living in rural areas—and of advancing on the path to sustainable development. Most of the population in LAC depends directly or indirectly on agriculture, agroindustry and agribusiness, and the export of agricultural products is the principal source of foreign exchange for many countries of the region.

At the dawn of the new century, it is imperative that agriculture in LAC be modernized and made competitive for the global market. It must also be environmentally sustainable and more equitable with regard to opportunities and income for the rural population.

These new circumstances and demands require that international organizations adapt their operations. Aware of this, IICA has reoriented its cooperation program and resources to provide the Member States the assistance they need in agricultural and rural matters. With this in mind, and consonant with the new institutional vision, IICA's Offices in its 34 Member States initiated a process to review and renew their cooperative programs, ensuring the participation of national public and private authorities in the definition, implementation and evaluation of IICA's cooperation actions. The consensus between authorities and the IICA Offices were set out in the National Technical Cooperation Agendas, which detail IICA's commitment and that of its counterparts to the execution of cooperation actions.

With Offices in each of its 34 Member States, and equipped now with Technical Cooperation Agendas, IICA is brilliantly positioned to facilitate the transfer of knowledge, technology, innovation and experiences between countries in support of the agricultural and rural sector. Nonetheless, the problems that afflict and hinder agricultural and rural development in LAC are so vast and complex that they surpass the efforts and capabilities not only of national governments, but also of any single development agency or international organization. This makes it necessary for international organizations and agencies to combine their capabilities and experience with those of their allies and partners in an effort to make contributions and bring solutions having real impact to the community of agriculture and rural life of the Americas.

IICA is fully aware of this situation. Decades of experience have shown the need for and the advantages of working with national and international, public and private organizations that work in the fields of agriculture and rural life and whose actions complement those of the Institute. For years, IICA has worked in mutually beneficial collaboration and cooperation with other agencies of the Inter-American and United Nations Systems, international financial bodies, government agencies for international cooperation, as well as other public national and private entities. The synergies created have ensured greater relevance of actions undertaken, improved their effectiveness and expanded the scope of services provided.

This document presents for your consideration the results and possibilities of joint action.



IICA and FAO Working Together to improve living conditions in the rural areas

Continuing on the large path of collaboration and cooperation that started in 1967, IICA and FAO signed an Aide-Mémoire in April 2002, in Havana, Cuba, aimed at increasing cooperation, bolstering the coordination of programs and identifying a new basic program of joint activities.

Under this agreement, the organizations have promoted joint actions in several fields, among which the IICA-FAO collaboration in the context of the CODEX Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean needs to be highlighted, as well as the Executive Leadership Program for Food Safety, the Inter-Agency Group for Rural Development, and the implementation of the program for the eradication of the fruit fly, along with the International Atomic Energy Agency, USDA and the Ministries of Agriculture. These collaborative actions extend to other technical cooperation areas, including the following:

1. Supporting agricultural trade negotiations: the GINA

The Informal Agricultural Negotiators Group (GINA) is a network of agricultural negotiators and their support teams. Its purpose is to foster

cooperation, dialogue and the exchange of technical information on agricultural trade negotiations. It was created on the basis of an initiative proposed at FAO's Twenty-fifth Regional Meeting for Latin America and the Caribbean (Bahamas 1998). During its first meeting, the Group requested IICA and FAO to serve as its Technical Secretariat. The functions of the joint FAO-IICA Technical Secretariat include organizing the group's meetings and preparing their agendas. In addition, it maintains the information and monitoring system on trade negotiations, which can be accessed through www.Infoagro.net/trade.

To date, GINA has held 15 meetings, concurrently with the meetings of the FTAA Group of Agricultural Negotiators. These meetings provide a relaxed and informal setting for analyzing and openly discussing subjects and aspects of the negotiations that are difficult to address and reach agreement on within the context of formal meetings. This has contributed to building mutual understanding and to narrowing the gap between positions. The agendas of these meetings are based on the concerns of the Group of Negotiators.



Given the current state of negotiations and the free trade initiatives of hemispheric and regional scope in progress (i.e., the FTAA and the free trade agreement between the United States of America and the five Central American countries), FAO and IICA are clear that they need to strengthen the participation of countries in this group.

2. Cooperation in the area of information and knowledge management

One of the areas of ongoing collaboration between IICA and FAO is the management of agro-economic information. In order to respond to the demands and expectations of their member countries and clients, the two organizations analyze and review the joint or complementary efforts of FAO's World Agricultural Information Centre (WAICENT) and IICA's Agricultural Information and Documentation System of the Americas (SIDALC). The objective is to identify possible areas for collaboration in the immediate future. This effort is to be undertaken with FAO's Regional Office for Latin America.

Progress is being made regarding the possibility of establishing IICA as a Regional Center of the International Information System for the Agricultural Sciences and Technology (AGRIS) for Latin America and the Caribbean; it would be operated by SIDALC. The AGRIS regional centers would send their inputs to IICA (Orton Memorial Library) for implementation through the SIDALC database.

IICA and FAO's AGRIS Secretariat will provide the necessary support for making the SIDALC database available through AGRIS. This agreement would strengthen SIDALC's role and would refine the work procedures of the AGRIS network. In addition, thought is being given to the possibility of converting the WebAGRIS into a library management tool. Finally, these joint actions between IICA and FAO would lead to improving and expanding the Spanish version of AGROVOC, a thesaurus on agriculture and food developed by FAO.

3. Other joint activities

IICA and FAO have undertaken other joint actions of various kinds in the countries. In Bolivia, for example, the two organizations created the Gender in Rural Development Network, prepared the document "Markets and Competitiveness: Action in Chains with Rural Women" and continue to support microentrepreneurs and new agroindustrial ventures. In Ecuador, IICA and FAO supported the drafting of a food security and nutrition bill.

In Honduras, IICA, FAO and PAHO have carried out cooperation actions in the areas of animal health, zoonoses, food safety and sanitary and phytosanitary requirements for trade. In October 2002, IICA and FAO organized a Regional Workshop on International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures in Trinidad and Tobago, which representatives of 13 Caribbean countries attended.



IICA and the IDB

A new approach to Rural Development

1. Inter-Agency Group for Rural Development

Numerous public and private international agencies have undertaken huge efforts to reverse the situation of poverty that oppresses more than 50% of the rural population in LAC. To this end, they have cooperated and exchanged information for decades. However, the magnitude of the problem and the experience gained over the years have led to the conviction that the only way to increase the relevance, efficacy and effectiveness of their efforts is to adopt a broad, inclusive, and multi-sectoral vision, one that encompasses economic, social, and environmental aspects and includes non-agricultural activities. In March 2000, the Inter-Agency Group for Rural Development in LAC was created. Its current members are IICA, FAO, ECLAC, IFAD, GTZ, the IDB, the World Bank and USAID. It receives further support from networks of rural development experts in Latin America, Spain and the United States.

The Group's aims include: consolidating public policy reforms; modernizing the agricultural public sector, developing basic services and building a new rural institutional framework; implementing a land-access policy; developing rural markets; promoting the sustainable natural resource management, risk

management and environmental conservation; fostering non-agricultural rural business activities; and improving rural infrastructure. Its strategic objectives include promoting a rural development agenda at the national and regional levels; improving inter-agency coordination; linking technical and financial cooperation; promoting strategies and programs for training, technical assistance and investment; developing investment instruments; and disseminating successful experiences with new approaches.

2. Supporting the development of agricultural markets in the hemisphere

IICA has cooperated with the six Central American and four South American countries to create and develop commodity exchanges. These are vital for developing agricultural markets as they make it possible to begin organizing trade, determine market prices, create private marketing firms, provide trade-facilitating services; they also serve as information and reference points for prices and markets.

The commodity exchanges were created through a joint effort among IICA, the IDB (through its Multilateral Investment Fund—MIF), and the participating countries' ministries of agriculture (MAG) and private sector. Cognizant



that commodity exchanges benefit both the private and public sectors, the MAGs participated actively and provided the political support needed for this type of project. For its part, IDB-MIF provided non-reimbursable funds for equipment and institution building of the commodity exchanges of Central and South America, while IICA provided the model, the regulations, the operating systems, the quality standards and the specialized training required for upgrading the commodity exchanges.

3. Promoting technological research and development: FONTAGRO

The Regional Agricultural Technology Fund (FONTAGRO) is a consortium created to promote strategic agricultural research of region-wide interest. FONTAGRO is administered through an agreement between IICA and the IDB. The following countries and institutions participate directly in setting priorities and financing its research projects: Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela, and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC).

FONTAGRO promotes the development of technologies characterized as transnational public goods, facilitating the exchange of scientific knowledge both within the region and with others regions of the world. Research projects proposed by groups of countries are financed with resources given to the Fund by member countries. To date, 26 multinational research projects have been

launched or are being implemented with Fund monies, selected from among proposals submitted in three calls for projects (1998, 1999 and 2001). In total, these projects involve over US\$30 million.

4. Other joint activities

As well as hemispheric projects, IICA and the IDB coordinate their efforts to provide direct support to the countries. In Argentina, under the aegis of PROSAP, the two organizations are collaborating in the formulation of IDB-funded projects, under the cooperation agreement with the Secretariat of Agriculture and with the involvement of ECLAC. In Brazil, IICA and the IDB have cooperation agreements in place and maintain a close working relationship. In Paraguay, IICA, the IDB and the MAG are working together to provide technical and administrative support for the implementation of the Program to Support the Development of Small Cotton Farms (PRODESAL); and in Venezuela, IICA and the NARI/IDB are cooperating in the field of institution building.

In Central America, IICA and the IDB, in collaboration with the MAG, CATIE, the CRS, and the University of Central America (UCA), are implementing the Environmental Program of El Salvador (PAES), which involves the management of soil, water and agroforestry resources and is also intended to improve rural living conditions. In Honduras, the two organizations are participating in the development of the Agricultural Forum.



IICA and PAHO

Strategic alliance for human development and prosperity in rural communities

Aware of the need to complement know-how and abilities to support development in their Member States, IICA and PAHO have agreed to work more closely and systematically together to contribute to human development and prosperity in rural communities.

In June 2002, IICA and PAHO adopted a Joint Plan of Action covering four areas of cooperation: public health and animal health (zoonosis and food safety); significant contributions to the Summits process; exchanges related to planning, monitoring and evaluation; and exchange of information and experiences.

At the hemispheric level, smooth working relations and effective channels of consultation have been established between IICA's Directorate of Agricultural Health and Food Safety and the PAHO authorities. The same is also true in the countries, where IICA's Representatives and their PAHO colleagues are implementing joint actions such as the following:

- Joint FAO/PAHO/IICA work plan for strengthening the AHFS system in Honduras;
- Development of a logical framework for the establishment of a national food safety system in The Bahamas;
- Assistance to the Ministries of Health and Agriculture of Surinam, to revise AHFS legislation;
- Support for the exercises involving the simulation of sanitary and phytosanitary emergencies in Trinidad and Tobago;
- Cooperation with the National Agrifood Health, Safety and Agri-Food Quality Service (SENASICA) of Mexico, related to the implementation of the Food Safety Program.
- IICA and PAHO/INPAZZ are participating in the program to support native communities and in the Healthy Municipal Districts Program in Argentina;
- The two organizations are working together to assist the National Agricultural Health and Food Safety Service (SENASAG) of Bolivia, to consolidate the food safety program;
- IICA and PAHO are working together on a bill for the National Health System of Ecuador;
- IICA and PAHO have signed a cooperation agreement to support the implementation of the work plan of the Intersectoral Food Safety Commission (CIIA) in Costa Rica.



IICA and CATIE

Allies with a common objective

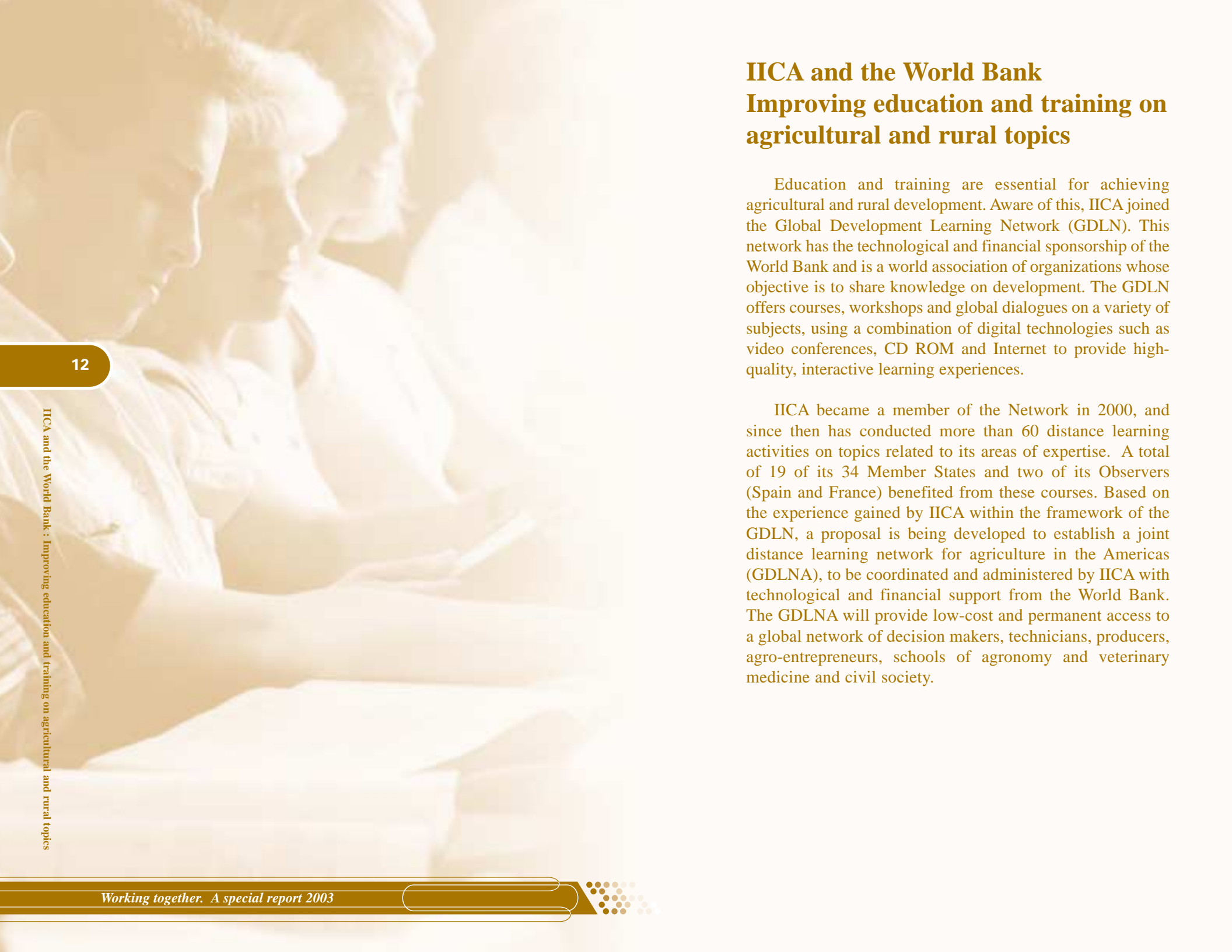
The Tropical Agriculture Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE) is an intergovernmental scientific and educational institution, whose basic purpose is research and graduate training in the agricultural sciences. IICA and CATIE have been linked throughout their history. Because their spheres of activity are complementary in many areas, the strategic partnership between them arose naturally and necessarily.

IICA and CATIE collaborate in research and development activities for several crops, primarily coffee, cocoa, plantain and banana. For example, the two institutions support the implementation of a project to modernize organic cocoa production in the Upper Beni region (Bolivia); they participate in the PROMECAFE program with the coffee-producing countries of Central America. In this regard, they have developed an important project in biotechnology for coffee, in the context of the cooperation agreement signed between the Centre for International Cooperation in Agricultural Research for Development (CIRAD), IICA and CATIE. In addition, they also developed plantain and banana crops resistant to the black Sigatoka and other diseases.

In addition to the actions already mentioned, IICA and CATIE are engaged in other collaborative efforts, including training for cocoa producers in Belize, also in conjunction with the CARD Project and the GTZ; and the implementation of the Environmental Program of El Salvador (PAES), which involves the management of soil, water and agroforestry resources.

IICA and CATIE maintain the Orton Memorial Library, which is enriched with their contributions. The library specializes in the agricultural, forestry and livestock sciences, and related topics, and is an invaluable store of scientific knowledge <http://www.catie.ac.cr/informacion/biblioteca.htm>





IICA and the World Bank

Improving education and training on agricultural and rural topics

Education and training are essential for achieving agricultural and rural development. Aware of this, IICA joined the Global Development Learning Network (GDLN). This network has the technological and financial sponsorship of the World Bank and is a world association of organizations whose objective is to share knowledge on development. The GDLN offers courses, workshops and global dialogues on a variety of subjects, using a combination of digital technologies such as video conferences, CD ROM and Internet to provide high-quality, interactive learning experiences.

IICA became a member of the Network in 2000, and since then has conducted more than 60 distance learning activities on topics related to its areas of expertise. A total of 19 of its 34 Member States and two of its Observers (Spain and France) benefited from these courses. Based on the experience gained by IICA within the framework of the GDLN, a proposal is being developed to establish a joint distance learning network for agriculture in the Americas (GDLNA), to be coordinated and administered by IICA with technological and financial support from the World Bank. The GDLNA will provide low-cost and permanent access to a global network of decision makers, technicians, producers, agro-entrepreneurs, schools of agronomy and veterinary medicine and civil society.



IICA and the Kellogg Foundation Cooperating in agriculture and rural development

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation seeks to help people help themselves through the practical application of knowledge and resources for improving the quality of their lives and that of future generations. Almost since IICA was founded, the Kellogg Foundation and the Institute have carried out many programs and projects together in LAC. Recently, the Kellogg Foundation made an important contribution to “PROTOKOL,” a technology development project for agriculture in Haiti that was implemented by the IICA Office in Haiti with support from Institute specialists. In cooperation with the Agri-Future Foundation and the UN, the KREDIFANM program is implemented to support Haitian women in income-generating activities.

Cooperation between IICA and the Kellogg Foundation focuses primarily on information management. Together with the private sector and the countries, they created the Agricultural Information and Documentation System of the Americas

(SIDALC), an information system on agriculture, rural development and related fields that provides service to the scientific community, agro-entrepreneurs, development institutions and students. The Kellogg Foundation donated US\$1 million for the implementation of the four-year SIDALC project and the countries are to contribute an equal amount among them. IICA will contribute another US\$1 million and serves as the Executing Agency.

SIDALC “<http://www.sidalc.net>” has three mirror servers that function in the United States, in Costa Rica and in Peru. After three years in operation, project achievements include 30 active national information networks; an electronic library on agriculture operating with more than 200 linked sites; an electronic network functioning with more than 325 libraries; a strengthened and expanded Agri2000 megabase; thousands of CD ROMs containing LAC agricultural databases produced and distributed in LAC; and various training programs in full operation.



IICA and PRODAR

An example of inter-agency cooperation in support of rural agroindustry

The Rural Agroindustry Development Program for Latin America and the Caribbean (PRODAR) was created in 1989 in response to the concerns of international cooperation agencies, governmental entities and NGOs regarding the need to articulate efforts under way to strengthen and promote the rural agroindustry throughout the hemisphere.

PRODAR is a cooperative program promoted by IICA that receives financial support from the IDRC of Canada. CIRAD of France and CIAT provide scientific cooperation to the program, which also receives technical and financial support from institutions involved in agroindustry development in Latin America, such as FAO and Prociandino.

PRODAR promotes, supports and helps strengthen rural agroindustries in the region, as well as the institutional and political environment in which they operate. PRODAR operates through national rural agroindustry networks (REDARs), IICA projects in the countries addressing this subject, and the initiatives of the entities associated with the program.

In Costa Rica, the relations and joint actions between IICA-Costa Rica and PRODAR have been reactivated; the MAG, the CNP, the IDRC and CIRAD are also involved. In El Salvador, indigo production is benefiting from joint technical cooperation that is being provided by IICA, PRODAR, the European Union, the GTZ, CABEI, the MAG and the CONCULTURA and JICA organizations.



IICA and IFAD Supporting rural enterprises

The program for the improvement of rural enterprises (PROMER) is an IFAD contribution to LAC aimed at alleviating rural poverty through the provision of grants and credits to the countries. To date, it has generated more than 40 projects in support of rural enterprises. Its objective is to provide rural micro-enterprises with management tools and production techniques that will increase their competitiveness. PROMER grants funds for small undertakings and for the training of producers in new production, business and trade management methods. With its support, the portal “la gallina” (the hen) “<http://www.abcagro.com/promer>” was created to promote the rural agroindustry inputs and products market.

IICA, which administered the first phase of the program (1999-2002), played a key role in establishing and implementing the program. Now, the program has entered a second, two-year phase (PROMER II). The headquarters of PROMER are in IICA’s Office in Chile. PROMER is one of the so-called TAGs (Technical Assistance Grant),

which are cross-sectional programs created by IFAD to provide technical support to its projects. IICA is currently negotiating with IFAD the possibility of using PROMER’s results in projects implemented by IICA Offices in line with their National Agendas.

IICA and IFAD work together on other joint actions, including the Regional Program for Camelid Development (Andean Region) and the Program of Institutional and Normative Support for the Reduction of Rural Poverty in the MERCOSUR Area. In the Caribbean Region, IICA, IFAD, the Royal Government of the Netherlands and the USDA are involved in the implementation of the Project to Control the Fruit Fly. Other collaborative actions are under way in Ecuador, where IICA and IFAD are participating in the agribusiness development project in the areas of Saraguro and Yacuambi. In Uruguay, IICA and IFAD have a cooperation agreement and are supporting the dialogue and discussions on the impact of macroeconomic and sectoral policies on the implementation of rural development projects.



IICA and GTZ

Decades of fruitful collaboration

IICA and the Government-owned Organization for International Cooperation of Germany (known as GTZ) have worked together for decades, providing technical assistance to the rural communities of LAC, especially with regard to the sustainable use of natural resources and the development of small-scale agricultural undertakings. The two organizations (both members of the Inter-Agency Group for Rural Development) have made important conceptual contributions in both subject areas.

IICA-GTZ collaboration extends throughout LAC. For example, the IICA-GTZ technical cooperation agreement in El Salvador aims to promote and strengthen rural agro-industry, generate jobs, boost incomes and reduce poverty in the countryside. In this country, IICA, the GTZ, the European Union and other organizations are focusing their efforts on indigo producers. In Ecuador, IICA and GTZ support the Fund for Development of Appropriate Technologies in Natural Resource Conservation and Sustainable Management (FONRENA); they also collaborate on a project to implement the Ecuadorian Rural Information System (ECUARURAL).

In the Dominican Republic, the two organizations collaborate with state and private organizations on the Milk Bank Program, which serves the poorer rural sectors of the area bordering with Haiti. In Uruguay, IICA and GTZ provide administrative cooperation to the Ministry of Livestock and Agriculture (MGAYP) for project management, within the framework of that country's National Livestock Development Program (PRONADEGA). In Belize, IICA and the GTZ are helping the national authorities draft a bill that will regulate organic agriculture; and with CATIE and the CARD Project they are training cocoa producers in Toledo.



IICA and USDA

An extensive and diversified alliance

IICA and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA, including the Foreign Agricultural Service -FAS- and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service -APHIS) carry out extensive cooperation actions in LAC. Noteworthy is their support for the countries and regional organizations in the area of technology and research, especially vis-à-vis the identification of common areas for agricultural research between the U.S. and LAC within the framework of FONTAGRO. This includes inter-institutional and inter-regional actions.

The subject of agricultural health and food safety is of enormous importance, both for IICA and for the USDA. For this reason, the two organizations work continuously to promote the adoption of policies and regulations in these areas, among which are support for the participation of representatives to the meetings of the Sanitary and Phytosanitary Committee of the WTO. Among several joint initiatives in the Caribbean, IICA and the USDA-FAS work together on training professionals on Good Agricultural Practices, qualitative analysis of

food health risks, measures to eradicate classic swine fever and programs and actions to substantially reduce the risk of salmonella in eggs destined for human consumption.

IICA and USDA-FAS have developed joint programs of comprehensive assistance to countries that have experienced extreme climatic events. For example, in Honduras they have provided technical, financial and administrative cooperation to projects including the Agricultural Technology Procurement Fund, the Dairy Product Export Project (PROEXLAC), and the Agricultural Business Development Project. They also cooperate in the project to strengthen the Planning and Management Evaluation Unit (UPEG) of the Secretariat of Agriculture and Livestock (SAG).

In the Caribbean Region, IICA, the USDA, IFAD and the Royal Government of the Netherlands are collaborating in the implementation of the Project to Control the Fruit Fly; and in Venezuela, IICA is collaborating with APHIS/USDA in actions to control foot-and-mouth disease in border areas.



IICA and USAID Cooperating with LAC to reduce poverty

The efforts of the United States principal international assistance agency aim to eradicate poverty, foster democratic reforms, and provide assistance in emergencies. IICA and USAID are motivated by similar concerns in the areas of agriculture and rural life, which has enabled them to develop a wide spectrum of joint activities in all regions of LAC. Following are a few examples:

In Colombia, IICA and USAID collaborate in implementing and supporting the Center for Plant Health Excellence, Risk Analysis and Geographic Information Systems; in Guatemala, they jointly support the plan of action to modernize and promote irrigation and drainage in agriculture (PLAMAR). In Honduras, the Secretariat of Agriculture and Livestock receives joint IICA-USAID support for strengthening the coordination and execution of its agricultural policy system. In the same country, IICA and USAID expanded their working relations and joint action in the area of agribusiness.

IICA and USAID are two founding and supporting members of the Regional Cooperative Program for the Protection and Modernization of Coffee Cultivation in Central America, Mexico,

Panama, and the Dominican Republic (PROMECAFE), which is described below in more detail. The IICA-USAID partnership in the areas of coffee production and sustainable development has extended to the Andean region, where the two organizations collaborate with Peru's coffee program.

In El Salvador, in tandem with USAID-CAMAGROS, IICA implemented the SEGEM Program to improve the income of small producers, through the development of management and marketing capabilities. In Nicaragua, with direct technical cooperation from IICA and financial and technical support from USAID and the PROVIA Foundation, a proposed agricultural and forestry development strategy was prepared. In a combined effort involving IICA, USAID, RDI, DANIDA, Latin American Financial Services Corp. (LAFISE) and the JICA of Japan, the main dairies are being modernized.

In Jamaica, collaboration between IICA, USAID and the local authorities contributed to the success of the project "Enhancing the business skills of rural women through business and computer training."



IICA and UNDP

Working together to develop rural communities in LAC

The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) is a decentralized organization that facilitates the implementation of development projects funded by other multilateral and bilateral sources. This makes IICA and UNDP natural partners, who are called upon to expand their ties and joint cooperation activities.

IICA-UNDP collaboration has been particularly extensive in the area of natural resource conservation and management in a number of LAC countries. In partnership with GTZ, they have worked to provide environmental education to mid-level students on the conservation and sustainable management of native forests. Their emphasis on conceptual aspects and the vital importance of this subject seeks to ensure that future generations are committed to conservation and sustainability.

IICA and UNDP are principal partners in executing the RUTA project for technical and financial assistance to the governments and civil society of Central America. In the Dominican Republic, IICA, UNDP, UNCTAD, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Dominican Agricultural Board (JAD) have been developing a joint effort to support Dominican groups involved in trade negotiations. IICA and UNDP are collaborating with the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States in implementing community projects aimed at developing sustainable means of subsistence.



IICA and the private sector Expanding trade possibilities through export platforms

With the countries' public and private sectors, IICA promotes the program "Export Platforms", the objective of which is to diversify and increase agri-food and agricultural exports to specific markets. The program has three stages: training in international business; validation of products on the selected market; and participation in trade events (fair or mission). The "AgFitt" texts, developed by the Forum for International Trade Training (FITT) and translated into Spanish and adapted by IICA, are used in the training component.

Coordinating committees are created in each participating country. These committees select the target market, attract resources to develop the program, select participating firms, and supervise the training program and the participation of the agro-entrepreneurs. Each export platform involves between 10 to 15 small- and medium-scale agri-food enterprises. To date, three platforms have been developed in Costa Rica and two in El Salvador, benefiting 68 small- and medium-scale agro-export companies. New platforms are to be created in Costa Rica, Honduras, and Nicaragua.



IICA and the regional and national agricultural research systems: FORAGRO

The Regional Forum on Agricultural Research and Technology Development (FORAGRO) is a mechanism that promotes dialogue and cooperation among the countries of the region with the purpose of fostering integration in the area of agricultural research and development (R&D). Its members include the national agricultural research systems (NARIs), and its Executive Committee comprises representatives of national research institutes, NGOs, universities, producers' organizations and the private sector. The Area of Technology and Innovation of IICA serves as the Forum's technical secretariat, contributing in this way to its consolidation.

The Forum's function is to channel, articulate and add value to regional R&D efforts. It facilitates the identification and periodic updating of subjects of priority to the Americas, fosters the programming of actions, and promotes their execution by regional and national members in partnership with international organizations. FORAGRO complements its actions with FONTAGRO and seeks to strengthen and develop actions with the PROCI sub-regional mechanisms and similar networks.





IICA and RUTA

An inter-agency project for Central America

RUTA is a project of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) executed by the World Bank, the ministries of agriculture of Central America, IDB, IFAD, FAO, the Department for International Development of the United Kingdom (DFID) and IICA. Its objective is to respond to demands for technical and financial assistance from governments and civil society. It taps synergies of the partner agencies to produce greater impact for sustainable rural development and the reduction of rural poverty in Central America.

IICA became a founding partner of RUTA when it was established in 1980 and has participated in all its stages since then, following evaluation by the partners and participating countries. Throughout its existence, RUTA has emphasized training in project identification, design and implementation; institutional development; agricultural production; and sustainable natural resource management, land management, the gender issue and indigenous peoples. The fourth stage extends to 2004 and will concentrate on rural poverty relief, food security, agribusiness, and three cross-cutting subjects: gender, indigenous populations, and climatic instability and vulnerability.



IICA and the Netherlands

The experience of the Laderas (Hillsides) Project

The magnitude, complexity and urgency of problems affecting hillsides in Central America threaten the livelihood of rural and urban populations. This situation moved IICA and the Royal Embassy of the Netherlands to join efforts to support the countries of the region in developing hillside regions.

The institutional development project for sustainable agricultural production on the Central American hillsides (IICA-Netherlands/Laderas Project) has contributed to improving the institutional framework and the sustainability of the livelihood of inhabitants of the Central American hillsides, involving community leaders and developing human and social capital. The experience gained through the project shows that a participatory, territorial and multi-sectoral approach that involve groups historically excluded from decision-making can yield solutions that substantially improve the management of natural resources and reduce poverty.





IICA and PROMECAFE In support of Central American coffee production

The need to modernize coffee production and to join forces to address sanitary threats, such as the coffee berry borer (*Hypothenemus hampei*) and coffee rust (*Hemileia vastatrix*), led to the creation, in 1978, of the Regional Cooperative Program for the Technological Development and Modernization of Coffee Cultivation (PROMECAFE) in Central America, with the participation of the Central American countries, Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Panama, IICA and CATIE.

Almost from the outset, PROMECAFE received cooperation from a number of different agencies, in particular: CIRAD (France), the European Union, USAID-ROCAP, more recently the Common Fund for Commodities, and IDB/FONTAGRO. USAID financial support has been key and the strategic partnership with CIRAD led to the development of new rust-resistant and higher-yielding varieties of Arabica coffee. In the case of the berry borer, the program introduced and established biological control with African parasitoids. Together with specially designed traps, these have become mandatory technologies for the production of organic and environmentally-friendly coffee.

Program results over time have included increases in productivity and a greater availability of resources to cope with the aforementioned sanitary threats. In addition to human resources training, cooperation has included applied technology, such as non-polluting processing, quality control, sampling, and the application of new technologies that require lower dosages or different methods for applying fertilizers.



IICA and strategic partners

The Executive Leadership Program in Food Safety

Food safety policies affect public health, food quality, production, tourism, competitiveness and the environment. For developing countries, the trade of vegetables, fruits, meat and fresh seafood accounts for almost half of agri-food exports, and access to profitable markets depends to a great extent on the adoption of appropriate food safety policies and standards. This situation led IICA and other agencies to develop and implement the Executive Leadership Program in Food Safety (ELFS), which is sponsored by IICA, the CERES Forum, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, the University of Maryland, DuPont-Pioneer, the Foreign Agricultural Service of the US Department of Agriculture and the US Food and Drug Administration.

The ELFS provides executive orientation on significant aspects of food safety, strengthens personal leadership skills and abilities, and creates community networks for ongoing support and collaboration. Program participants from the public and private sectors and have a common interest in improving general food safety levels. In two years, 30 leaders from 18 LAC countries participated in the first ELFS Program, which consists of four, one-week modules. After completing the modules, each student designed and executed an individual project that integrates leadership with food safety.





Appendix

Joint efforts involving IICA and its strategic partners in the Americas

Andean Region

Bolivia

IICA and FAO are providing support to micro-entrepreneurs and new agro-industrial endeavors.

IICA and FAO created the Gender in Rural Development Network, and prepared the document “Markets and Competitiveness: Action in Production Chains with Rural Women.”

IICA and PAHO collaborated with the National Agricultural Health and Food Safety Service (SENASAG) in the consolidation of the food safety program.

IICA and the Association of Institutions for the Promotion of Education (AIPE) have agreed to work together on topics related to local development and competitiveness.

The Bolivia Development Center (CEPROBOL) and IICA have strengthened their strategic alliance with a view to promoting Bolivian agricultural products on foreign markets.

Colombia

IICA and USAID are collaborating in the implementation of, and providing support to, the

Center for Phytosanitary Excellence, Risk Analysis and Geographic Information Systems.

The Agricultural Technology Transfer Program (PRONATTA), for the allocation and use of public funds.

The Rural Micro-Enterprise Development Program (PADEMUR), which is benefiting 3942 micro-enterprises.

Support for the national authorities in drafting Law 731 on Rural Women and in implementing the Agrarian Reform Act of Colombia for the Conservation of Campesino Reserves, to protect humid tropical forest ecosystems.

Ecuador

The National Financial Corporation (CAF) and IICA drew up a project aimed at fostering dialogue between universities and the private sector.

The National Council on Women (CONAMU) and IICA prepared the PADEMUR project.

The National Association of Coffee Growers (ANECAFE) and IICA developed a strategic plan for the coffee chain.



The National Association of Banana Exporters of Ecuador (AEBE) and IICA prepared and implemented the program for the phytosanitary inspection of bananas ñ SANIBANANO.

The Agricultural Health Service of Ecuador and IICA are working together to modernize the service.

The National Agricultural Research Institute (INIAP) and IICA are working together on the national technological innovation system.

The Municipality of Quito and IICA are conducting market studies in the Metropolitan District of Quito.

The Maquita Cusunchic Foundation and IICA are working together on the marketing consortium.

The Federation of Exporters (FEDEXPORT) and IICA agreed on a plan for improving the competitiveness of the pork chain.

The Corporation for the Development of Exports and Imports (CORPEI) and IICA prepared an agreement on the management of biodiversity, and on bio-trade.

IICA and FAO supported the preparation of a draft version of a law on food safety and nutrition.

IICA and IFAD are working on a project to develop agribusinesses in the Saraguro Yacuambi area.

PAHO and IICA are working on the draft of a law for the national health system.

Peru

Support for the “IICA/Chile-Peru Binational Program to Eradicate the Fruit Fly.” Evaluation of the Program, in tandem with the FAO and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Technical cooperation for rural tourism initiatives, in tandem with Fondos Fiar and FOODLINKS.

Support for the formulation of an agricultural development program, as part of the Peru-Ecuador Binational Development Plan.

IICA, the MAG and the Poverty Alleviation Forum are collaborating in a review of regional agricultural plans and in the formulation of the Rural Development Policy.

Venezuela

IICA is collaborating with APHIS/USDA to control foot-and-mouth disease in its border areas.

FUNDACITE Aragua and IICA are working together in the area of information systems.

IICA and INIA/IDB are working together in the area of institutional strengthening.

Caribbean Region

CARDI and IICA renewed their inter-institutional collaboration agreement.

IICA continues to play an important role in the work of the CARICOM Committee of Lead Agencies.



Cooperation continues between IICA and the Caribbean Alliance (comprising CABA, CACHE, CNRWP and the Forum for Youth in Agriculture).

IICA continues to support the Secretariat of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS).

The Caribbean Development Bank and IICA continue to work together.

IICA provides support to the institutions of the Technical Center for Agriculture, which received funding from the European Union.

IICA, IFAD, the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the USDA are participating in the implementation of the fruit fly control project.

Antigua and Barbuda

IICA is working with the Gilberts Agriculture and Rural Development Center.

CARDI and IICA are working together to re-establish the Fruit Crops Committee, and participating in follow-up work on pineapple validation trials and the integrated management of sweet potato pests.

IICA is working with the Bureau of Standards, the National Development Foundation and the Development Bank of Antigua and Barbuda, in the training of micro-enterprise entrepreneurs.

IICA works with the Ministries of Agriculture and Trade, the Pesticides Control Board, agro-processors and producers and importers of fresh produce.

Bahamas

Collaboration with the Florida Association of Voluntary Agencies (FAVA/CA) and the Department of Cooperatives, to conduct a strategic analysis of producers' cooperatives and consumption.

IICA and PAHO are collaborating in the development of a logical framework for the establishment of a national food safety system.

Barbados

IICA and the OAS are implementing a project called "Improving the capacity of Caribbean professionals and micro-entrepreneurs by means of the use of modern information and communication technology."

Eastern Caribbean States

IICA and CIDA are collaborating in the establishment of an inspection and quality control service for fresh produce and in the adoption of Good Agricultural Practices.

Collaboration with the UNDP Program and the OECS for the implementation of community projects aimed at developing sustainable means of subsistence.

Grenada

IICA is cooperating with the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Forestry and Fisheries in creating the National Advisory Council for the Sustainable Development of Agriculture and the Rural Milieu, and the National Youth in Agriculture Forum.



IICA and the Grenada Marketing and National Importing Board (GMNIB) are working together to set up a national AHFS agency and the Agribusiness Distance Learning Center (ADLC).

IICA is working with the Grenada Cocoa Association (GCA) to promote the production of organic cacao at the local level, for export.

IICA and the Small Enterprise Development Unit (SEDU) of the Grenada Development Bank are working together to enhance the management capabilities of small-scale agri-entrepreneurs.

IICA and CARDI are working together to improve food security and increase the production and competitiveness of hot peppers, sweet potatoes and cassava.

IICA and the Florida FAVA/CA have joined forces in capacity building with rural groups.

Haiti

IICA, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Agri-Future and Kellogg foundations are implementing the KREDIFANM rural development program, to help Haitian women generate income.

Jamaica

IICA contributed, working with USAID and the local authorities, to the success of the project “Enhancing the business skills of rural women through business and computer training.”

Suriname

Establishment and entry into the SIDALC System of the Suriname Chapter, which includes IICA, the University of Surinam, the Ministry of Agriculture and other users.

In collaboration with PAHO, IICA assisted in a review of current legislation on agricultural health and food safety.

In collaboration with ECO 2000 and the Ministry of Agriculture, 72 producers were trained in the production and use of compost.

Trinidad and Tobago

IICA is the executing agency of the joint European Union / CARICOM project “Strengthening Agricultural Quarantine Services in the Caribbean (SAQS).”

Together, IICA and FAO organized a regional workshop on International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures, which was attended by 13 Caribbean countries, in October 2002.

Central Region

Belize

IICA worked with the Citrus Research and Extension Institute (CREI), of the Citrus Growers Association.

As a member of the Belize Organic Producers Association, IICA chaired a task force comprising technical personnel from the CREI, BAHA and the Janus Foundation.



IICA, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Cooperatives (MAFC) and the Audubon Society teamed up to provide technical, financial and management services to cashew producers cooperatives.

GTZ and IICA are preparing the draft of a law on organic agriculture.

IICA, CATIE and the CARD project and GTZ are working together to provide training for cocoa producers in Toledo.

IICA is collaborating with authorities and the private sector to establish internal control systems and procedures for organic farming certification.

Costa Rica

IICA support for the implementation of the PROCOMER-private sector joint program “Creating Exporters to Canada.”

Reactivation of relations between, and the joint actions of, IICA-Costa Rica and the Rural Agroindustry Program (PRODAR), which involves the MAG, the CNP, the IDRC and CIRAD.

Cooperation agreement between IICA and PAHO to support the implementation of the work program of the Intersectoral Food Safety Commission (CIIA).

El Salvador

IICA, the EU, GTZ, CABEI, MAG, the CONCULTURA and JICA organizations and PRODAR are providing technical cooperation to indigo producers.

IICA and the USAID-COMAGROS implemented the SEGAM program, intended to improve the incomes of small farmers through the development of management and marketing skills.

IICA, MAG, IDB, CATIE, CRS and the University of Central America (UCA) developed the Environmental Program of El Salvador (PAES) on soil and water management and agroforestry, including the improvement of living conditions in rural areas.

IICA is working with the Royal Embassy of Holland to execute the local chapter of the Hillside project, aimed at ensuring the livelihoods of rural inhabitants and the sustainability of natural resources.

Guatemala

Coffee-growing in Guatemala continues to benefit from the generation, validation and transfer of technology by PROMECAFE.

Support for the project “Sustainable Rural Development in Ecologically Fragile Zones in the Trifinio region (PRODERT).”

The Guatemalan Network of Agricultural Information Units (REDGUIA) is being consolidated with support from the SIDALC.

Honduras

IICA continued to work with CIAT.

IICA, FAO and PAHO carried out actions in the areas of animal health, zoonoses, food safety, and trade-related plant and animal health requirements.



IICA and USAID strengthened their relations and joint actions in the area of agribusiness.

Financial support from the USDA to UPEG-SAG for studies of the milk, corn and coffee chains, in which IICA is participating.

The IDB and IICA are participating in the development of the Agricultural Forum.

Under the IICA-CABEI cooperation agreement, guidelines have been prepared for joint efforts in 2003.

Nicaragua

With direct technical cooperation from IICA and financial and technical assistance from USAID and the PROVIA Foundation, a proposed agricultural and forestry development strategy was prepared.

In a joint effort involving IICA, USAID, RDI, DANIDA, Latin American Financial Services (LAFISE) and the JICA of Japan, the modernization of the main dairies is being promoted.

Panama

Agreement with the Ministry of Agricultural Development (MIDA) and the National Environmental Agency (ANAM), to administer resources negotiated with international funding agencies by the Government of Panama, with support from the IICA Office in Panama.

Relations with the City of Knowledge Foundation.

Northern Region

Canada

IICA is working closely with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and Health Canada, on food safety issues.

A seminar was organized entitled “HACCP” from the farm to the consumer, with the participation of the CFIA and Canadian and Mexican organizations (March 2003).

Ties were strengthened with the Association of Deans of Schools of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine, to permit its participation in programs of the World Bank’s distance learning network for the Americas.

United States of America

Relations with Iowa State University were renewed and a new Memorandum of Understanding was signed last October.

A new institutional relationship has been established with the US Department of Agriculture.

Policies and possible alliances were identified to expand the ties among international public organizations and civil society, on agricultural and environmental issues.

Cooperation was provided in the financing and implementation of the Federal Aid Program: “Participation in the meetings of the WTO/SPS Committee.”



Initial meetings of the Trilateral Council were held to consider topics related to food security and to review the proposed Trilateral Action Plan (Agenda) for 2003.

Relations were developed with the Grocery Manufacturers Association.

An alliance was formed with the Biotechnology Industry Organization, which is sponsoring a conference on biotechnology as part of the activities of FONTAGRO.

IICA collaborated with USAID in PROMECAFE, the regional coffee-growing initiative.

IICA was designated the joint executing agency of the "Sustainable Tree Crop Program of the Americas," along with PROCITROPICOS and the World Cocoa Foundation.

Mexico

IICA collaborated with international organizations and agencies of the Inter-American System with regard to technical cooperation.

Joint work was undertaken with the North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO).

Support was provided to the Office of the President of Mexico for the Puebla - Panama Plan Summit Meeting: Expo-Inversion 2002.

IICA collaborated with the National Bioethics Commission and participated in the Standing

Seminar on Bioethics and Sustainable Development.

Joint efforts were undertaken with the Global Water Management Center to prepare a proposed cooperation agreement.

Relations were forged with the Federation of Veterinarians and Animal Breeders of Mexico.

A Technical Cooperation Agreement was signed for agribusiness projects within the framework of the Economic Development Trust Fund of Quintana Roo.

Joint activities were implemented with ECLAC with regard to technical cooperation (policies, trade, rural development).

Cooperation and technical support was reactivated with the MidAmerica International Agricultural Consortium (MIAC).

IICA and CIMMYT engaged in reciprocal support and cooperation.

Technical cooperation and support was drawn up with the Secretariat for the Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT) in the field of natural resources and the environment.

Relations were renewed with the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) and the Economic Research Institute.

IICA participated in plant health training events of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).



Training workshops were implemented with the Mexico-United States Foundation for Science.

Relations continued with Texas A&M and Iowa State universities.

Southern Region

Argentina

Projects were formulated within the framework of PROSAP, financed by the IDB, under the cooperation agreement with the SAGPyA and IICA participated in a project with ECLAC.

IICA collaborated with IDRC to prepare a book and hold a seminar on GMOs and Argentine agriculture.

IICA and ECLAC are participating in studies, within the framework of the project financed by the IDB.

IICA is supporting the Italian Chamber of Commerce of Rosario, Santa Fe, in the promotion of Argentine food and the search for models for supporting food-related SMEs.

IICA is participating with PAHO/INPAZZ in the program to support indigenous communities and the Healthy Municipalities Program.

IICA is helping SMEs to export their products.


Advisory services and information were provided to the agricultural or commercial attachés of member and observer countries.

Brazil

The IICA Office in Brazil has cooperation agreements and working relationships with the following national and international, public and private entities in Brazil:

- Brazilian Association of Cheese Industrie
- Bank of Northeastern Brazil (BNB)
- Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)
- World Bank (IBRD)
- Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)
- San Francisco Valley Development Company
- National Confederation of Agricultural Workers
- National Department of Works to Combat Drought
- Brazilian Agricultural Research Institute
- Iyndolpho Silva Foundation
- Luis Eduardo Magalhães Foundation
- Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development of the State of Maranhão
- State Office for the Environment and Natural Resources of Maranhão
- Brazilian Institute of the Environment and Renewable Natural Resources
- National Institute of Colonization and Agrarian Reform
- Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Supply — MAPA
- Ministry of National Integration
- Ministry of Agricultural Development.
- Ministry of the Environment
- Agrarian and Rural Development Unit of the Ministry of Agrarian Development
- Secretariat of Civil Defense of the Ministry of National Integration
- Secretariat of Agriculture and Supply of Rio Grande do Sul
- Secretariat of Water Infrastructure of the Ministry of National Integration
- Secretariat of Industry, Trade and Mining of Bahia
- Secretariat of Planning of the State of Ceará
- Secretariat of Rural Development of the State of Ceará



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- Planning and Social Development Secretariat of the State of Pernambuco
 - Secretariat of Social Action of Rio Grande do Norte
 - Secretariat of Planning of the State of Piauí
 - Superintendency of Water Resources of the State of Bahia
 - Secretariat of Water Resources of the State of Maranhão
 - Secretariat of Water Resources of the State of Ceará
 - Secretariat of Family Agriculture of the Ministry Agrarian Development.
 - Secretariat of Irrigated Agriculture of the State of Ceará
 - Secretariat of Water Resources of the Ministry of the Environment

Chile

Relations were strengthened with the main institutions of the agricultural public sector, including the Truth and Historical Treatment Commission and the National Service for Minors.

Cooperation was expanded to include new universities and the implementation of inter-agency coordination mechanisms.

Paraguay

IICA, the IDB and the MAG are working together to provide technical and administrative support to the implementation of the Program to Support the Development of Small Cotton Farms (PRODESAL).

Uruguay

A regional postgraduate course was offered on policies and trade at the School of Agronomy of the University of the Republic of Uruguay.

The agreement with IFAD is in effect and support is being provided to a national workshop on the impact of macroeconomic and sectoral policies on the implementation of rural development projects.

Ties were strengthened with the IDB Office, and support was provided for conducting technical events.

Support was given to the OAS in organizing a workshop on rural families (late 2002).



Principal acronyms used

AGRIS	International Information System for the Agricultural Sciences and Technology/ FAO
AGROVOC	Thesaurus of Agriculture and Food/ FAO
AHFS	Agricultural Health and Food Safety
BMZ	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Germany)
CABEI	Central American Bank for Economic Integration
CAF	Andean Development Corporation
CARDI	Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute
ECLAC	UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
CDB	Caribbean Development Bank
CIAT	International Center for Tropical Agriculture
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
CIRAD	Centre for International Cooperation in Agricultural Research for Development (France)
DFID	Department for International Development (United Kingdom)
ELFS	Executive Leadership Program in Food Safety
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FITT	Forum for International Trade Training
FONTAGRO	Regional Fund for Agricultural Technology
FORAGRO	Regional Forum on Agricultural Research and Technology Development
FTAA	Free Trade Area of the Americas
GDLN	Global Development Learning Network / WB
GINA	Informal Agricultural Negotiators Group
GTZ	Organization for International Cooperation of Germany



HILLSIDES	Project “Institutional Development for Sustainable Agricultural Production on Hillsides in Central America” /IICA-the Netherlands
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
IDRC	International Development Research Center
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IICA	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture
JICA	Japanese Agency for International Cooperation
LAC	Latin America and the Caribbean
MIF	Multilateral Investment Fund/IDB
NARS	National agricultural research systems
NGO	Non-governmental organization
OAS	Organization of American States
OECS	Organization of Eastern Caribbean States
OGM	Genetically modified organisms
PAHO	Pan American Health Organization
PROCI	Regional cooperative agricultural research and technology transfer programs
PROMECAFE	Regional Cooperative Program for the Technological Development and Modernization of Coffee Cultivation (Central America)
SIDA	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
SIDALC	Agricultural Information and Documentation System for the Americas
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WAICENT	World Agricultural Information Centre/ FAO
WB	World Bank