

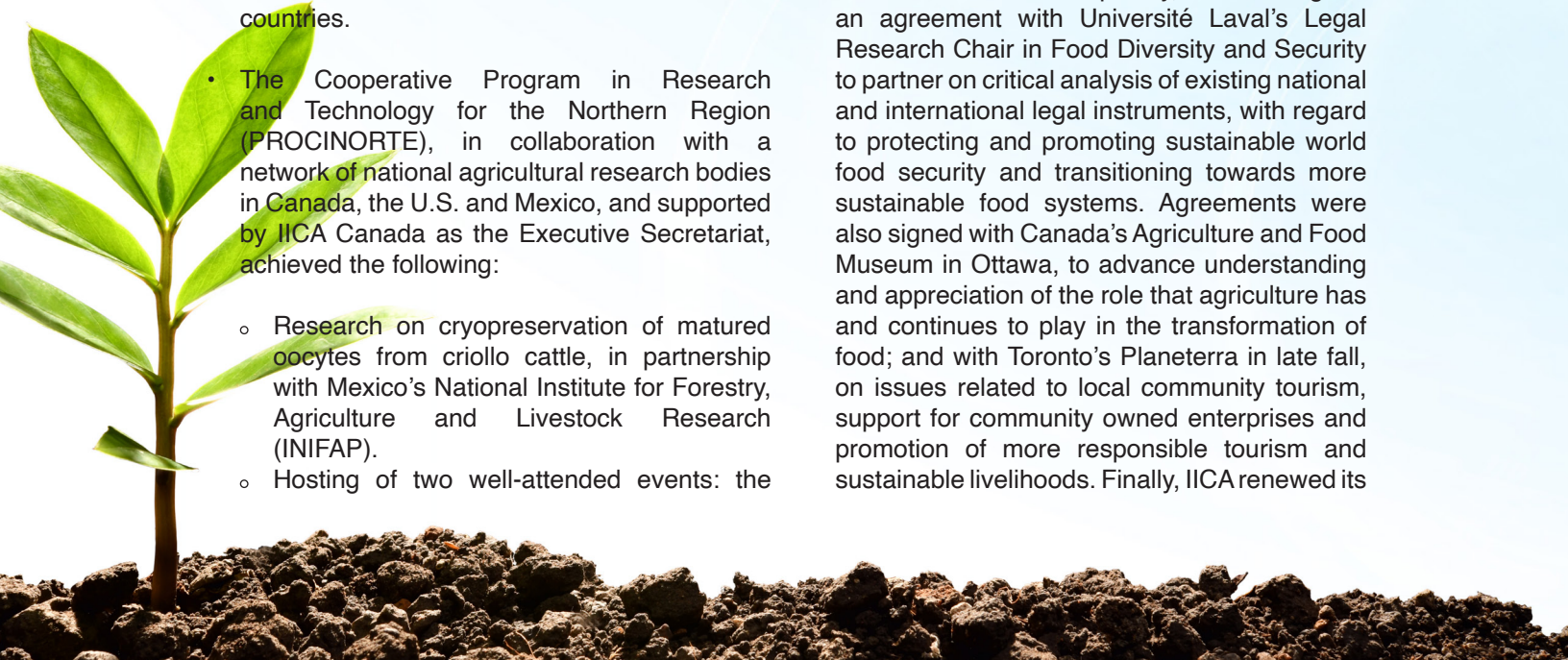


Significant Achievements 2021



Canada

- The Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) in collaboration with Canada's National Agriculture and Food Museum, showcased IICA's photographic exhibition, "The Soul of the Rurality in Latin America and the Caribbean." The exhibition, comprising over 28 images and statistics, offered visitors the opportunity to explore the reality of rural women in Argentina, Brazil, Guatemala and Jamaica. A joint effort between Vogue Brazil and IICA, the travelling exhibition has been shown successfully in San José, São Paulo, Buenos Aires, Madrid, and Washington D.C. In commemoration of International Women's Day, the Museum began hosting the exhibition in its Learning Centre in March 2020, where it remained until June 2021, closing with a celebration of rural women, with eight ambassadors from Central American and SICA countries.
- The Cooperative Program in Research and Technology for the Northern Region (PROCINORTE), in collaboration with a network of national agricultural research bodies in Canada, the U.S. and Mexico, and supported by IICA Canada as the Executive Secretariat, achieved the following:
 - Research on cryopreservation of matured oocytes from criollo cattle, in partnership with Mexico's National Institute for Forestry, Agriculture and Livestock Research (INIFAP).
 - Hosting of two well-attended events: the first on climate change, soils and water; and a second on "Emerging Issues in Pest Management: Herbicides Resistance and Invasive Insect Pests in North America".
 - USDA research support from 2021-26 to tackle animal health issues such as African swine fever (ASF).
- IICA forged several new partnerships, including one with Blockchain Guru's Dimitra in Calgary, Alberta, to explore education platforms, as well as data-driven and digital solutions in LAC. It also collaborated with Canada's largest cooperative financial group, Développement International Desjardins (DID), in Quebec City, to collaborate on innovative finance, climate finance, and microfinance, among other tools suitable for the needs of disadvantaged communities. Subsequently, IICA signed an agreement with Université Laval's Legal Research Chair in Food Diversity and Security to partner on critical analysis of existing national and international legal instruments, with regard to protecting and promoting sustainable world food security and transitioning towards more sustainable food systems. Agreements were also signed with Canada's Agriculture and Food Museum in Ottawa, to advance understanding and appreciation of the role that agriculture has and continues to play in the transformation of food; and with Toronto's Planeterra in late fall, on issues related to local community tourism, support for community owned enterprises and promotion of more responsible tourism and sustainable livelihoods. Finally, IICA renewed its



partnership with the Co-operative Development Foundation of Canada, focusing on sustainable economic and social development through cooperative models.

- Throughout 2021, the Institute co-hosted several virtual regional and hemispheric seminars that included the participation of Canadian speakers, who offered insightful perspectives regarding the challenges and needs they are facing amidst the current pandemic. For instance, it hosted numerous webinars with over 1000 participants, including a very successful hemispheric webinar with Canada's Agriculture and Food Museum on gender equality: "Agriculture Perspectives from Rural Women in the Americas". Later, IICA hosted two separate webinars on exporting agri-food products to Canada, with traders and producers from Guatemala and El Salvador. Two other hemispheric webinars were organized in partnership with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) on Canada's organic regime and on Canada import and food safety requirements.
- Technological advances in agriculture led by blockchain, artificial intelligence (AI), the Internet of Things (IoT) and data science are transforming and improving our ability to capture, apply and create value in the agriculture sector. In the area of training, IICA partnered with Dimitra to offer two courses on Digital Transformation in Agriculture to 27 IICA staff and partners. It also presented a series of eight live virtual sessions, specifically designed to equip participants to use digital solutions to transform agricultural practices and performance, as well as to gain a competitive advantage through their use.
- IICA launched an updated virtual course in 2021 on "Preparing to Export Agri-food Products", in partnership with the Forum for International Trade Training (FITT) in Ottawa. The course's six modules aim to strengthen participants' capacity to export agri-food products and to raise awareness about export readiness to successfully capitalize on opportunities afforded by trade agreements and regional integration processes.
- The Institute successfully renewed two new internship agreements. In the first, the Quebec Government's Ministère des Relations internationales et de la Francophonie provided financial support toward a six-month internship for a Quebec graduate student to work on environmental issues and international relations in Central America and the Andes. In the second, Trinity Western University's Laurentian Leadership Centre in British Columbia funded a three-month internship at the Canadian Delegation's head office, in support of PROCINORTE, hemispheric webinars and social media communications.
- IICA took part in multiple international conferences. This included speaking opportunities at the Compost Council of Canada's 31st online Organics Recycling Conference; at McGill University's Margaret A. Gilliam Institute for Global Food Security, in Montreal, delivering the keynote address; and moderating the Toronto Global Forum session on The Three Pillars of Sustainability in Agriculture, hosted by the International Economic Forum of the Americas.
- On the technical cooperation side, the Institute pursued multiple project bids and submitted for consideration numerous concept notes to partner with donor organizations – whether on markets in the Caribbean, with Cannexion; on zoonotic risks in the Andes, with the IDRC; on waste stream analysis in the Bahamas; nutrition education in Belize, with funding from Canada's Local Fund Initiative; or on sustainable livestock, with funding from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). Moreover, it supported regional work in North America on agritourism, on wet markets in Mexico and Brazil, as well as the development of ASF training materials.
- Also in the area of technical cooperation, IICA worked closely with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) to assist with ASF diagnostic training in Canada for Haitian specialists, in addition to serving as a food waste and business innovation jury member for Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's CAD \$20M food waste reduction challenge. Finally, it served as an advisor to Statistics Canada's Agri-Food Committee, and as an advisor on agriculture in the Americas to the diplomatic GRULA group in Canada.