



# United States of America

## Significant Achievements 2020

- The Office of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) in the United States organized and held three events aimed at highlighting the importance of the livestock and dairy sectors for the future of sustainable agrifood systems. The events also provided an opportunity to present the scientific foundation for and recent progress towards making the production and consumption of livestock products more sustainable. A total of 30 international experts participated in the discussions and presentations, which were broadcast online in three languages, to a total of 1,400 viewers. The main topics discussed during the events included animal protein, consumption trends, increases in demand, use of marginal lands for production, GHG emissions from livestock farming, international trade as an opportunity for communities, and the importance of the availability of products of animal origin during the pandemic. The minutes of the meeting will be made available in due course. The events were sponsored by IICA, the U.S. Dairy Export Council, and the Global Dairy Platform.
- These events led to an invitation to present the conclusions of the three sessions to the World Economic Forum, Wageningen University and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), within the framework of their joint sessions in preparation for the United Nations Food Systems Summit in 2021.
- IICA further strengthened high-level relations with relevant U.S. government agencies, including the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the U.S. Department of State, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the U.S. Mission to the Organization of American States (OAS) and the U.S. Mission in Rome. Four bilateral meetings were held, during which the Director General of IICA engaged in discussions with the USDA Undersecretary, the USDA Secretary, the U.S. Ambassador to UN Agencies in Rome, and the USDA Administrator for Foreign Agricultural Services.
- As part of the outreach efforts with USDA senior officials, the Director General also contacted stakeholders of the U.S. agriculture industry to discuss hemispheric agricultural matters and seek their support and participation in IICA activities. This led to the preparation of a letter of support for IICA's work and policies, signed by over 30 U.S. agricultural associations and delivered to the U.S. Secretary of State.
- IICA delivered a briefing to congressional staff of the House of Agriculture Committee, including a senior member of Congress, the Undersecretary of USDA and private sector representatives. As a result, U.S. congressional members and staff expressed their interest in visiting IICA in 2021.
- The Institute strengthened its partnership with the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) to promote agritourism in the United States.

