



## Achievements 2022

# Canada



- With the arrival of African Swine Fever (ASF) in Dominican Republic and Haiti, the Cooperative Program in Research and Technology for the Northern Region (PROCINORTE), headed by the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture (IICA) in Canada as the Executive Secretariat, collaborated with a network of national agricultural research bodies in Canada, the United States, Mexico and the Caribbean, to support ASF diagnostic training and research collaborations across the region with funding from the USDA Agriculture Research Service (ARS). In May, PROCINORTE launched an initial call for proposals, which a first project will fund research between the University of West Indies and UC Davis in California, to evaluate the risk of introduction and enhancement of surveillance and control strategies for ASF in Trinidad and Tobago. Further PROCINORTE accomplishments include participation at the 2022 Global African Swine Fever Research Alliance (GARA) Conference in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic; the mitigation of effects of climate change on wheat, grapes, and gene bank operations via three webinars; and the training of two OIRSA Guatemalan laboratory experts, at the CFIA National Centre for Foreign Animal Disease laboratory in Winnipeg, Manitoba.
- On technical cooperation, the Institute pursued multiple project bids, and submitted for consideration, numerous concept notes to donor organizations – whether on indigenous peoples and nature-based solutions in Guyana, Honduras and Peru, with CUSO International; on waste stream analysis in the Bahamas; proposals to Canada's Local Fund Initiative; and on sustainable coffee transformation in the Plan Trifinio Central American region; in addition to supporting member country delegations at the 2022 United Nations Biodiversity Conference in Montreal (CBD COP15).
- Additional technical cooperation services were provided to Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada as a business innovation jury member for Canada's food waste reduction challenge; as an advisor to Statistics Canada's Agri-Food Committee; an agricultural advisor to GRULA's diplomatic corps in Canada; providing guidance to Global Affairs Canada's Chief Economist, UAE's COP28 food system transformation working group; on food system resilience metrics to the global Food Systems Countdown Initiative (FSCI 2030); in addition to economic, social and environmental benefits on genomic solution research projects to Genome Canada's initiative on Climate-Smart Agriculture and Food Systems.
- IICA developed partnerships and secured support from:
  - Développement International Desjardins (DID), in Quebec City, towards the U.N. COP27 Sustainable Agriculture in the Americas Pavilion;
  - Université Laval's Legal Research Chair in Food Diversity and Security, to host a half-day commemorative workshop and reception for IICA's 80th anniversary and 50th in Canada, on campus in Quebec City;



- The Quebec Government's Ministère des Relations Internationales et de la Francophonie who provided financial support toward a six-month internship for a Quebec graduate student to work at headquarters on environmental issues and international relations in the Americas;
- And through the institute's internship programme, a second intern from McGill University, a PhD candidate specialized in sustainable livestock, to support PROCINORTE, scientific hemispheric webinars, and technical support toward IICA's Caribbean Agrotourism Network and sustainable beef series.
- The Institute co-hosted several hybrid and virtual regional and hemispheric seminars that included the participation of speakers from across Canada and the Americas, who offered insightful perspectives regarding the challenges and needs they are facing amidst current development challenges, including:
  - A 2-day post-COVID coffee fair at Canada's Agriculture and Food Museum in Ottawa, jointly hosted with the Central American SICA region, to advance understanding and appreciation of the role that coffee has and continues to play in the transformation of food systems;
  - A webinar co-hosted with GRULA countries in Ottawa on exporting wine and spirits to Canada;
  - Three training workshops on environmental standards hosted by the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD);
  - Five webinars on sustainable beef production in the Americas, funded by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD);
  - Two international webinars with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) on Anti-fraud policies to preserve organic integrity, hosted in March by IICA's Inter-American Commission for Organic Agriculture (CIAO); and on Enforcement and Application of the Canadian Food Allergen Labelling Regulations, hosted in September;
  - And a webinar in August on animal welfare science in the North America, in collaboration with IICA Mexico.
- IICA launched an updated virtual course in 2022 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 also took part in multiple Canadian and international conferences, including speaking and moderating opportunities, providing guidance, thought leadership and development solutions at:
  - The Compost Council of Canada's 32nd online Organics Recycling Conference;
  - The Toronto Global Forum: on both climate change, and on agricultural technologies with venture capitalists, hosted by the International Economic Forum of the Americas;
  - Le Conférence de Montréal: with the participation of IICA'S Deputy Director General, on Impacts on food insecurity post-COVID, from the war in Ukraine to climate change;
  - Agricultural and Agri-Food Canada's consultation on a national adaptation strategy;
  - The Walrus Talks: The current global hunger crisis;
  - Jamaica: Food system transformation and resilience, hosted by Carleton University and Jamaica's Ministry of Tourism;
  - Rural Ontario Institute and Cornell University's LEAD NY: 2 advanced leadership talks to 100 Canadian and America leaders in agriculture; and
  - The Arrell Food Summit, Grow Canada Conference, Global Affairs Canada's International Cooperation Futures Festival, SIAL Canada Food Innovation Trade Show, the AIC Spring Innovation Session, Organic Summit, and the annual Canadian Food Law & Policy Conference.