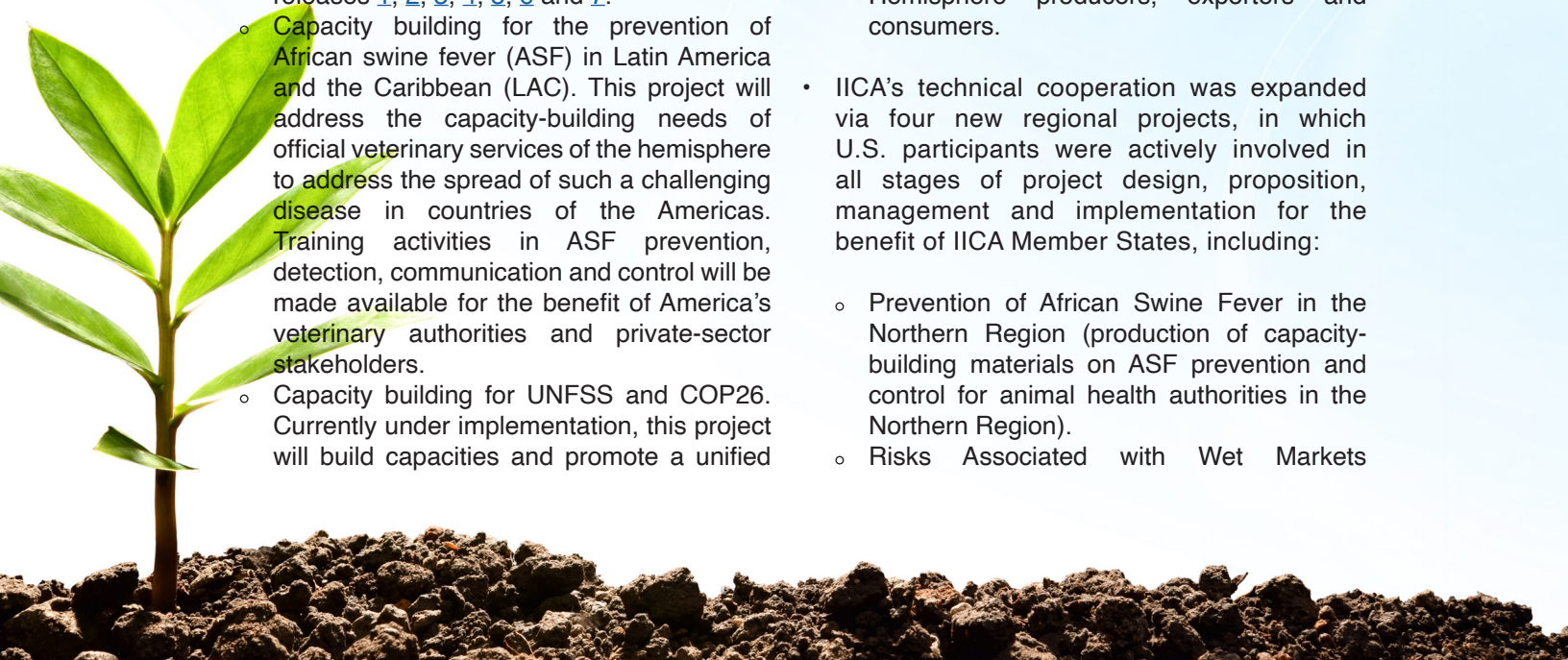


# Significant Achievements 2021



## United States

- Four new projects funded with external resources from the U.S. Government and non-governmental institutions were implemented or are currently underway:
  - Independent dialogues in preparation for the United Nations Food Systems Summit (UNFSS). The events fostered hemispheric coordination ahead of the 2021 UNFSS and resulted in the preparation of a document containing [16 key messages](#) indicating the position of the Americas on the road to the UNFSS. No other region in the world managed to present a unified position such as the one promoted and presented by the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), discussed in press releases [1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), [6](#) and [7](#).
  - Capacity building for the prevention of African swine fever (ASF) in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC). This project will address the capacity-building needs of official veterinary services of the hemisphere to address the spread of such a challenging disease in countries of the Americas. Training activities in ASF prevention, detection, communication and control will be made available for the benefit of America's veterinary authorities and private-sector stakeholders.
  - Capacity building for UNFSS and COP26. Currently under implementation, this project will build capacities and promote a unified approach of the Western Hemisphere on matters related to sustainable agricultural production discussed at the UNFSS and the COP.
  - Online training to strengthening capacities in *Codex Alimentarius* as well as build consensus, which was carried out in partnership with the U.S. Dairy Export Council (USDEC) and the United Nations University for Peace (UPEACE). This innovative online training session was offered in Spanish and English to 46 participants from 24 countries in LAC. Improved consensus-building capacities will assist Americas' food safety authorities in strengthening their positions regarding the *Codex Alimentarius* standard-setting process for the benefit of Western Hemisphere producers, exporters and consumers.
- IICA's technical cooperation was expanded via four new regional projects, in which U.S. participants were actively involved in all stages of project design, proposition, management and implementation for the benefit of IICA Member States, including:
  - Prevention of African Swine Fever in the Northern Region (production of capacity-building materials on ASF prevention and control for animal health authorities in the Northern Region).
  - Risks Associated with Wet Markets



- (preparation of risk assessments and good practice guidelines for food safety authorities and wet market operators in Mexico and Brazil).
- Promoting Agritourism Linkages and Capacity Building in the Northern and Caribbean Regions (production of capacity-building materials for the development of agribusiness chains in the Northern and Caribbean Regions – tequila, mescal, rum).
  - Capacity-building efforts on UNFSS/COP26 matters.
- The IICA Delegation in the U.S. implemented four new hemispheric, high-impact activities with 10 new private-sector strategic partners: Argentine Association of Direct Sowing Producers (AAPRESID), Bunge, National Banana Corporation (CORBANA) of Costa Rica, Global Dairy Partnership (GDP), Group of Producing Countries from the Southern Cone (GPS), International Maize Alliance (MAIZALL), North American Export Grain Association (NAEGA), National Agriculture Society (SNA) of Chile, U.S. Soybean Export Council (USSEC), and U.S. Grains Council (USGC).
    - Together with the abovementioned partners, two new e-books, [Dairy's Role in a Responsible and Sustainable Food System](#) and [The Importance of Livestock Production and Animal Protein: The Western Hemisphere Perspective](#) were published, and two hemispheric webinars, [The Role of Grains and Oil Seeds in Sustainable Food Systems](#) and [The Importance of Fruits and Vegetables in the Transformation of Agri-Food Systems](#) were carried out.
  - IICA and USDA officials revised the current agenda and new avenues of opportunity were identified, including:
    - USDA overall financial support to IICA.
    - 2021 United Nations Food Systems Summit.
    - African Swine Fever in Dominican Republic.
    - IICA's Living Soils Initiative.
    - Central American Northern Triangle.
    - IICA's Digital Agriculture Initiative with Dr. Michael Kremer.
  - Since February 2022, the IICA Delegation in the U.S. has been hosting the Regional Fund for Agricultural Technology (FONTAGRO) in its facilities and has integrated the Fund into its administrative procedures. IICA has been providing infrastructure, logistic and administrative support to FONTAGRO. This level of integration between IICA and FONTAGRO may foster the identification of additional synergies and cooperation opportunities between both institutions for the benefit of member countries. FONTAGRO is a unique and sustainable co-financing mechanism for the development of agricultural technology in Latin America, the Caribbean and Spain. It serves as a forum for the discussion of priority issues related to technological innovation. Since 1998, 167 institutional agreements have been signed with 452 partners in 33 countries.