

Week of Knowledge

Innovating to grow:
Towards sustainable
agri-food systems in
the region

July 8-9, 2026
San José, Costa Rica



Wednesday, July 8
UTN, Atenas, Alajuela

All day **Technical tour** – UTN, Atenas, Alajuela.
Agricultural field trip to observe Costa Rican agricultural research and sustainable farming practices firsthand. Suitable footwear required for farm walks. Transport arranged from venue.

Thursday, July 9
Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), San José

8:00 – 8:30 Opening Remarks. Authorities.

8:30 **Welcome Panel.** Eugenia Saini, Executive Secretary of FONTAGRO.
Panel 1. Flagship Program #1. Moderator: Eugenia Saini

8:30 – 8:40 Nanotechnology in agricultural soil moisture management

8:40 – 8:50 Leveraging biological products to build climate resilience

8:50 – 9:00 Nitrogen optimization: Strategies to address the climate crisis in food production

9:00 – 9:10 Strengthening the management of the potato purple top complex in the Andean Region

9:10 – 9:20 Development and use of biologicals for sustainable agriculture in Latin America

9:20 – 9:30 Integration of sorghum cultivation into the production systems of Latin America

9:30 – 9:40 Sustainable management of irrigation and fertilization in quinoa

9:40 – 9:50 Q&A, panel close

Panel 2. Flagship Program #2. Moderator: TBD

10:00 – 10:10 Sustainable livestock farming in the Amazon of Peru and Ecuador

10:10 – 10:20 Innovations for reducing methane emissions in ruminants

10:20 – 10:30 Network of resilient farms with sustainable forest management

10:30 – 10:40 One Welfare for resilience of livestock production systems

10:40 – 10:50 Sustainable tropical dairy systems to contribute to food security in Colombia and Ecuador

10:50 – 11:00 Sustainable livestock for the development of the Gran Chaco

11:00 – 11:10 Q&A, panel close

Panel 3. Flagship Program #3. Moderator: TBD

11:20 – 11:30 Geographical indications for Mesoamerican cacao

11:30 – 11:40 Integration of production systems as a strategy for climate change mitigation and adaptation

11:40 – 11:50 Climate-smart research and indigenous communities

11:50 – 12:00 Climate change-resilient potatoes for the Andean region

12:00 – 12:10 Q&A, panel close

12:20 – 12:30 **Group Photo**

12:30 – 13:30 **Lunch**

Panel 4. Flagship Program #4. Moderator: TBD

14:00 – 14:10 Satellite monitoring of quantity and quality of available biomass in pastoral livestock systems



- 14:10 – 14:20 Tropical Agriculture 4.0: efficient water management
- 14:20 – 14:30 New Horizons in AgTech: Scaling innovation in pastoral systems in Latin America and the Caribbean
- 14:30 – 14:40 Satellite tool to strengthen capacities for monitoring, reporting and verification of methane emissions in Latin American ecosystems
- 14:40 – 14:50 Online crop management support platform
- 14:50 – 15:00 Q&A, panel close

Panel 5. Flagship Program #5. Moderator: TBD

- 15:10 – 15:20 Feasibility of vertical farming technologies in LAC
- 15:20 – 15:30 Platform for the transfer and efficient use of biologicals on Latin American farms
- 15:30 – 15:40 Multifunctional bio-protectors for postharvest fruits
- 15:40 – 15:50 Strengthening the competitiveness of mango producers in Colombia and Peru through the comprehensive use of the fruit and development of new products
- 15:50 – 16:00 Regional network for genetic improvement in LAC to promote resilient and nutritious agriculture
- 16:00 – 16:10 Q&A, panel close

16:10 – 16:20 Coffee

Panel 6: Finalist Projects. Moderator: Martín Oesterheld

- 16:20 – 16:35 Gene editing for improvement in plant and animal species
- 16:35 – 16:50 Multipurpose silvopastoral systems and family farming in Peru and Colombia
- 16:50 – 17:15 Regional alliances for iron-rich beans in Latin American countries
- 17:15 – 17:30 Strengthening capacities for the prevention and management of Fusarium wilt in Latin America and the Caribbean
- 17:30 – 17:45 Soil-based carbon sequestration opportunities in Latin America and the Caribbean
- 17:45 – 17:50 Greater agricultural production with lower nitrous oxide emission
- 17:50 – 18:00 Q&A, panel close

Closing of the XXI Annual Technical Follow-up Workshop

18:30 – 20:00 Welcome Cocktail

Announcement of the FONTAGRO Excellence Award