



# Annual Council Meeting of the Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases

San Jose, Costa Rica, 6th - 8th July 2026

## Agenda and Practical Information

# Welcome

Costa Rica is honored to take up the role of Chair of the Global Research Alliance (GRA) on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases for 2026–2027, following the handover from Ireland.

We look forward to building on the excellent work achieved under Ireland's Chairmanship and continuing to advance global efforts to reduce agricultural greenhouse gas emissions while ensuring food security.

Costa Rica, through INTA (Instituto Nacional de Innovación y Transferencia en Tecnología Agropecuaria), is delighted to host the 14th Annual GRA Council Meeting from 6th to 8th July 2026 in San José.

The meeting will focus on the development of the GRA's Strategic Research Agenda, finalizing the structure of the Research Groups, and the development of a new GRA Communication Note. We will also have the opportunity to hear from GRA Partners including FONTAGRO and IICA, two key partners in the region.

We look forward to welcoming you to Costa Rica in July 2026.





## Overview and Registration

### Registration

All GRA Member Country representatives and Partner representatives are invited to register their attendance of the 2026 Global Research Alliance Council Meeting no later than 29 May 2026. Registration is available via the online form ([here](#)). If you would like a personalized invitation letter, please indicate so via the registration form.

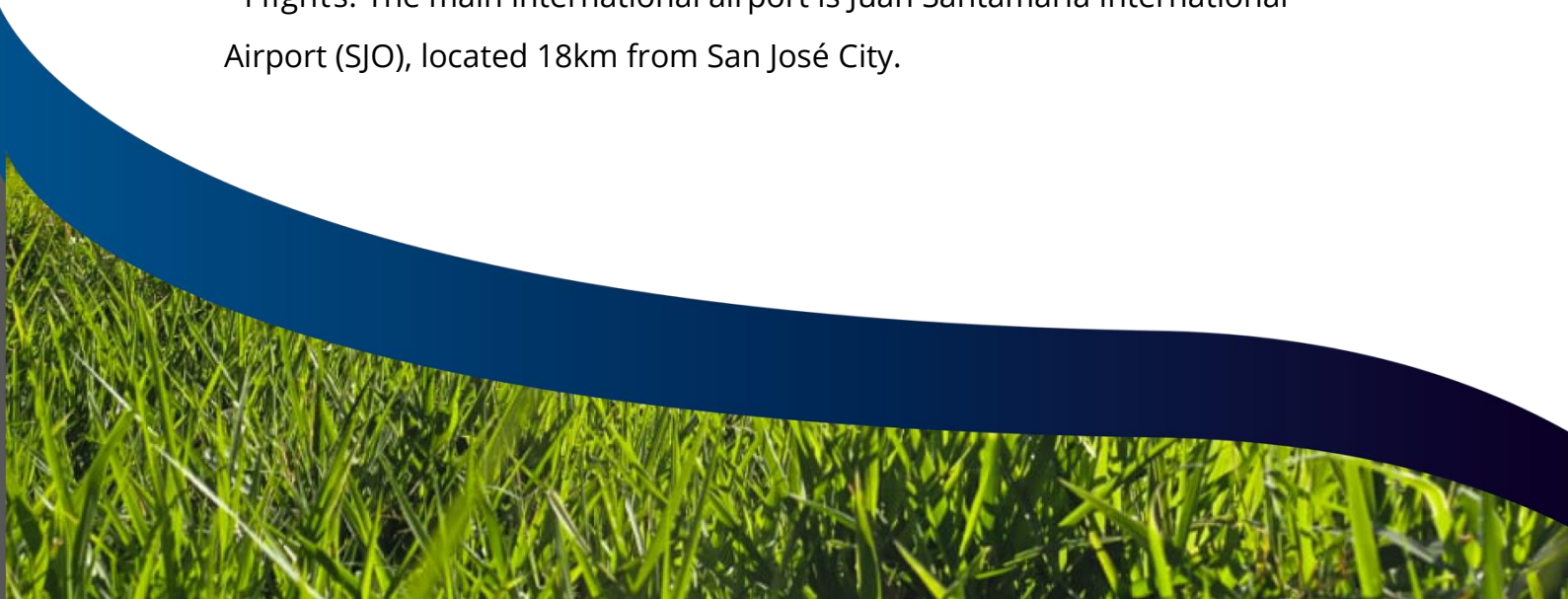
Contact: [secretariat@globalresearchalliance.org](mailto:secretariat@globalresearchalliance.org)

## Overview

Host	INTA – Instituto Nacional de Innovación y Transferencia en Tecnología Agropecuaria, Costa Rica
Venue	IICA, San José, Costa Rica
Purpose	14th Annual Global Research Alliance Council Meeting and associated events
Dates	6–8 July 2026
Registration deadline	29 May 2026
Contact	<a href="mailto:secretariat@globalresearchalliance.org">secretariat@globalresearchalliance.org</a>

## Important Actions

- Registration: Please register your attendance no later than 29 May 2026.
- Visa: If you require a visa to enter Costa Rica, please apply as soon as possible. The information about which countries need a visa can be found [here](#).
- Accommodation: Early registrants may be eligible for discounted rates (first come, first served). Attendees are responsible for booking and paying for their own travel and accommodation.
- Flights: The main international airport is Juan Santamaría International Airport (SJO), located 18km from San José City.



## Outline Schedule

Date	Programmed Item	Location
6 July 2026	Day 1 – GRA Council Meeting	IICA, Coronado, San José
6 July 2026 (evening)	Welcome Cocktail Reception	TBC
7 July 2026	Day 2 – GRA Council Meeting	IICA, Coronado, San José
8 July 2026	Field Trip	UTN, Atenas, Alajuela

# GRA Council Agenda

## Day 1 – Monday 6th July 2026

Time	Session
08:30–09:00	Registration
09:00–09:45	Opening of meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Welcome by Costa Rica</li><li>• Reflections from Ireland on achievements since 2025 Council Meeting</li><li>• Handover of GRA Chair from Ireland to Costa Rica</li><li>• Priorities for Costa Rica as GRA Chair</li><li>• Identification/Approval of Vice-Chair</li></ul>
09:45–10:00	Report from the Special Representative
10:00–10:30	Coffee break
10:30–12:30	Overview of the new GRA Structure Research Group Presentations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rice Research Group</li><li>• Livestock Research Group</li><li>• Crop and Land Use Research Group</li></ul>
12:30–13:30	Lunch
13:30–15:00	Strategic Research Agenda: Update and Discussion
15:00–15:30	Coffee break
15:30–16:15	GRA Communication Note <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Metrics paper</li></ul>

16:15–17:00	Capability Building Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MRV &amp; agricultural GHG inventory improvement</li> </ul>
17:00-17:15	Summary of decisions and actions from Day 1
17:15	End of Day One
19:00	Welcome Cocktail Reception

## Day 2 – Tuesday 7th July 2026

Time	Session
08:30–10:00	Host Country Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sergio Abarca Monge (INTA) – NAMAS experience in Costa Rica</li> <li>• Fernando Vargas Pérez (Ministry of Agriculture) – Sustainable Agricultural Landscapes</li> <li>• Arturo Ureña Sánchez (FAO) – Central American Dry Corridor</li> </ul>
10:00–10:30	Coffee break
10:30–11:30	Regional Activities or Research Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Announcements and Discussion</li> </ul>
11:30–12:30	Meeting decisions and expectations for 2027-2028 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review all actions arising</li> </ul>
12:30	Official Meeting Close
12:30–13:30	Lunch

13:30–15:00	GRA Side-event: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Strategic Research Agenda: Scientific Workshop</li></ul>
15:00–15:30	Coffee break
15:30–17:00	GRA Side-event: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Regional Initiatives of Strengthen MRV and AgGHG Inventories: Future Opportunities</li></ul>
17:00	End of Day Two

## Field Trip

### Wednesday 8th July 2026

An agricultural field trip will take place on 8th July 2026. Further details on the program and locations will be provided closer to the event. The field trip will offer delegates the opportunity to observe Costa Rican agricultural research and sustainable farming practices firsthand.

Delegates should bring suitable footwear for farm walks. Transport will be arranged from the meeting venue.





## **Accommodation and Travel Information**

### **Accommodation**

There are a range of accommodation options available in San José, close to the meeting venue.

One recommended option is the [Radisson Hotel](#), which has an agreement with IICA. Early registrants may be eligible for a discounted rate on a first come, first served basis. To enquire about reservations and the discounted rate, please contact:

[Yorleny Cano](#)

Tel: +506 8828 4329

Email: [ycano@radisson.co.cr](mailto:ycano@radisson.co.cr)

Please note that attendees are responsible for booking and paying for their own travel and accommodation. We recommend booking as early as possible, as availability in San José may be limited during the conference period.

## **Airport Information**

San José is served by Juan Santamaría International Airport (SJO), located approximately 18km northwest of San José City. The airport is accessible by taxi, bus, and car rental services.

The Radisson Hotel also offers a shuttle service to and from Juan Santamaría International Airport. Delegates staying at the hotel can arrange this service at the time of booking.

Other transport options from the airport to the City include:

- Official taxis (orange color) available at the terminal
- Private transfer services (bookable in advance)
- Public bus services to central San José
- Car rental companies available at the airport

## **Climate**

July falls in Costa Rica's green season, with warm temperatures typically ranging from 22°C to 27°C in San José. Light rain showers are common in the afternoon. We recommend bringing a light rain jacket.



# Visa Information

Entry requirements for Costa Rica vary depending on your country of origin. We strongly recommend checking your visa requirements well in advance of the meeting.

If you require a visa or an official invitation letter to support your application, please indicate this when registering. Invitation letters will be provided upon request.

Early application is strongly encouraged, as processing times can vary. Please ensure all required documentation is complete to avoid delays.

For the most up-to-date information on Costa Rica entry requirements, please consult your country's embassy or the Costa Rican immigration authority.



## Contact Information

For any queries regarding the 14th GRA Council Meeting, please contact:

### **GRA Secretariat**

Email: [secretariat@globalresearchalliance.org](mailto:secretariat@globalresearchalliance.org)

### **INTA Costa Rica (Local Organizer)**

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