

Fifth Ministerial Meeting Agriculture and Rural Life in the Americas
“Building Capacity for Enhancing Food Security and Rural Life in the Americas”

2009 National Report

**Progress made and challenges encountered in implementing the
Hemispheric Ministerial Agreement Guatemala 2007
for Agriculture and Rural Life in the Americas**

Country:_____

**Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture
Secretariat of the Ministerial Meeting**

INTRODUCTION

The Ministers and Secretaries of Agriculture of the hemisphere, within the framework of the Ministerial Meetings “*Agriculture and rural Life in the Americas*”, have adopted important far-reaching decisions aim at the sustainable development of agriculture and the rural milieu. The Agro 2003-2015¹ Plan is the main hemispheric ministerial agreement (HMA) that has been updated through the Guayaquil 2005 and Guatemala 2007 HMAs.

On the road towards the Fifth Ministerial Meeting to be held in Montego Bay, Jamaica on October 2009, the Secretariat, in support of the Ministerial Delegate of Jamaica as Chair of GRICA 2009, is distributing the following template to help the Ministerial Delegates prepare the National Report on the Implementation of the **AGRO 2003-2015 Plan. Hemispheric Ministerial Agreement Guatemala 2007 for Agriculture and Rural Life in the Americas.**

The HMA Guatemala 2007 consists of two sections:

1. **The 2008-2009 Hemispheric Agenda**, (strategic actions of the AGRO Plan), and
2. **The Implementation and Follow-up** section (measures to ensure the effective execution of the AGRO Plan through 2015).

MANDATES

Regarding the second section of the HMA Guatemala 2007, the Ministers and Secretaries of Agriculture adopted three measures related to the updating process of the Hemispheric Agenda for the 2010- 2011 period. Specifically, the Ministers and Secretaries of agriculture stated that:

“National governments will deliver reports on progress in implementing each biennial agenda and identify challenges faced. These reports will serve as input for updating the Agenda for the following period. We therefore entrust:

1. *The Ministerial Delegates will prepare, with the support of the Secretariat of the Ministerial Process, the national report on progress and challenges in implementing this Ministerial Agreement.*
2. *The Hemispheric Forum of Ministerial Delegates (GRICA) will update this Ministerial Agreement for the 2010-2011 biennium”*
3. *The Technical Secretariat will report, in the Fifth Ministerial, on progress with the Ministerial Process “Agriculture and Rural Life in the Americas”*

Hemispheric Ministerial Agreement Guatemala 2007

These mandates are being taken into account in the preparation of the Fifth Ministerial Meeting and its **Hemispheric Ministerial Agreement Jamaica 2009.**

Thus, together, the National Reports of the 34 Member States will serve as input for updating the Hemispheric Agenda for the 2010-2011 period.

¹ Annex 1: What is the AGRO 2003-2015 Plan?

STRUCTURE

The template of the National Report is divided in two parts:

- Part I. Progress made in implementing the HMA Guatemala 2007; and
- Part II. Challenges encountered in implementing it.

The preparation of these National Reports is based on the AGRO-Matrix².

The AGRO-Matrix

Systemic Concept	Rural Territories	Agricultural Production-Trade Chains	National and International Context	STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES
Sustainable development approach				
Production – Trade	I. Promoting competitive rural enterprises	II. Integrating chains and strengthening their competitiveness	III. Promoting an environment conducive to competitive agriculture	→ Competitiveness
Ecological – Environmental	IV. Being environmentally responsible in the rural areas	V. From farm to table: promoting integrated environmental management	VI. Participating in building an institutional environmental framework	→ Sustainability
Sociocultural - human	VII. Quality of life in rural communities: creating know-how and opportunity	VIII. Advancing learning and expertise in the chain	IX. Promoting policies to create capabilities and opportunities for the rural communities	→ Equity
Political - institutional	X. Strengthening public and private sector participation and coordinated action between them in the territories	XI. Strengthening dialogue and commitments among actors in the chain	XII. Promoting national policies and regional and hemispheric cooperation for agriculture and rural life	→ Governance
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Rural Prosperity ~ Food Security ~ International Positioning			OVERARCHING GOAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL MILIEU

² Annex 2: What is the AGRO-Matrix and what is it used for?

PART 1: PROGRESS MADE IN IMPLEMENTING THE *HEMISPHERIC MINISTERIAL AGREEMENT GUATEMALA 2007*

Regarding the **2008-2009 Hemispheric Agenda**, the Ministers and Secretaries decided to include 11 strategic actions to supplement the already existing 51 Strategic Actions previously defined at the Panama 2003 and Guayaquil 2005 Ministerial Meetings.

The Strategic Actions, combined with the 12 Purposes of the AGRO Matrix, provide a frame of reference for identifying the national efforts required to implement the current Hemispheric Agenda.

A. QUALITATIVE ACCOUNT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

This should be a general assessment of how the national strategies for the improvement of agriculture and rural life are being implemented taking into consideration the following two strategic orientations that inspire the Hemispheric Ministerial Agreement Guatemala 2007:

- To promote with the agricultural stakeholders a broad based approach to thinking and acting in agriculture and the rural milieu and,
- To promote with them the approach “working together” to improve agriculture and rural life in the Americas.

Narrative (Half page maximum)

B. BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE MOST IMPORTANT EXPERIENCES

It is a **selection** of the country’s most important experiences with regard to each of the 12 Purposes of the **AGRO-Matrix**³. Some of the 62 strategic actions of the Hemispheric Ministerial Agenda could be used as a guide in selecting the experiences with particular emphasis on the 11 strategic actions defined during 2007 Guatemala Ministerial Meeting⁴.

³ Annex 2: What is the AGRO-Matrix and what is it used for?

⁴ Annex 3: The 62 Strategic Actions of the 2008-2009 Hemispheric Agenda pertaining to the 12 purposes of the AGRO-Matrix.

I. Promoting competitive rural enterprises

Most important national experiences

II. Integrating chains and strengthening their competitiveness

Most important national experiences

III. Promoting an environment conducive to competitive agriculture

Most important national experiences

IV. Being environmentally responsible in the rural areas

Most important national experiences

V. From farm to table: promoting integrated environmental management

Most important national experiences

VI. Participating in building an institutional environmental framework

Most important national experiences

VII. Quality of life in rural communities: creating know-how and opportunity

Most important national experiences

VIII. Advancing learning and expertise in the chain

Most important national experiences

IX. Promoting policies to create capabilities and opportunities for the rural communities

Most important national experiences

X. Strengthening public and private sector participation and coordinated action between them in the territories

Most important national experiences

XI. Strengthening dialogue and commitments among actors in the chain

Most important national experiences

XII. Promoting national policies and regional and hemispheric cooperation for agriculture and rural life

Most important national experiences

PART 2: CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED DURING THE IMPLEMENTATION

The identification of the challenges by the countries will be a strategic aspect of the participatory process of drafting the Hemispheric Ministerial Agreement Jamaica 2009 which will update the AGRO Plan with strategic actions for the biennium 2010-2011.

Accordingly, in this second part of the National Report the countries identify the challenges encountered in implementing the Ministerial Agreement Guatemala 2007. In other words, to identify any relevant conditions, constrains and opportunities that call for **decisive action** in the immediate future.

A. QUALITATIVE ACCOUNT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

This should be a general assessment of **the main challenge** encountered in implementing the 2008-2009 Hemispheric Agenda in the country. Describe the most important constrain or missed opportunity identified, which should be given top priority in the drafting process for the Hemispheric Ministerial Agreement Jamaica 2009.

Special attention should be given to **capacity-building** issues for sustainable development of agriculture and rural milieu. In this sense, we should understand that “capacity-building” is an ongoing process through which individuals, groups, organizations and societies enhance, use and maintain their ability to identify and meet development challenges in a sustainable way.

Narrative (Half page maximum)

B. IDENTIFICATION OF CHALLENGES ACCORDING TO THE 12 PURPOSES OF THE AGRO-MATRIX

Describe one or two challenges for each Purpose, based on their importance to the national interest and situation of the sustainable development of agriculture and rural milieu, which should be given top priority in the drafting process for the Hemispheric Ministerial Agreement Jamaica 2009.

I. Promoting competitive rural enterprises

1. .
2. .

II. Integrating chains and strengthening their competitiveness

1. .
2. .

III. Promoting an environment conducive to competitive agriculture

1. .
2. .

IV. Being environmentally responsible in the rural areas

1. .
2. .

V. From farm to table: promoting integrated environmental management

1. .
2. .

VI. Participating in building an institutional environmental framework

1. .
2. .

VII. Quality of life in rural communities: creating know-how and opportunity

1. .
2. .

VIII. Advancing learning and expertise in the chain

1. .
2. .

IX. Promoting policies to create capabilities and opportunities for the rural communities

1. .
2. .

X. Strengthening public and private sector participation and coordinated action between them in the territories

1. .
2. .

XI. Strengthening dialogue and commitments among actors in the chain

1. .
2. .

XII. Promoting national policies and regional and hemispheric cooperation for agriculture and rural life

1. .
2. .

Annex 1 What is the AGRO 2003-2015 Plan?

The AGRO 2003-2015 Plan is the shared long-term agenda for promoting the sustainable development of agriculture and the rural milieu.

The Plan was adopted at the Second Ministerial Meeting “Agriculture and Rural Life in the Americas” (Panama 2003), following a broad-based process of dialogue and negotiation aimed at reaching consensus on national proposals, which were then submitted to the same process at the hemispheric level under the responsibility of the Ministers of Agriculture and their Ministerial Delegates.

The Plan provides a framework for bringing about the changes required to achieve the Shared Vision 2015, and is implemented and updated by the countries through the strategic actions contained in the biennial hemispheric agendas, and the measures for their implementation and follow-up negotiated by the GRICA and defined by the ministers in their Ministerial Meetings.

In the Plan, the Ministers and Secretaries of Agriculture:

- Took into consideration for its preparation a renewed way of viewing agriculture and rural life, which is the conceptual framework of the AGRO 2003-2015 Plan. The **AGRO-Matrix** synthesizes this new concept of agriculture and rural life.
- Adopted the **Shared Vision 2015** for agriculture and rural life. The vision is a characterization of the desired future vis-à-vis the national and international context, rural territories and agricultural production-trade chains.
- Reiterated the commitments they assumed in the Ministerial Declaration of Bavaro, with the **Strategic Objectives** of Rural Prosperity, Food Security, the International and Regional Integration of Agriculture, Agricultural Health and Food Safety, and the Sustainable Development of Agriculture and the Rural Milieu. The Strategic Objectives make it possible to focus the efforts of the leaders of the Community of Agriculture and Rural Life in the Americas.
- Pledged to promote, with the stakeholders in agriculture and others involved in the development of agriculture and rural life, the **strategic actions** of the 2003-2005 **Hemispheric Agenda**, to make progress toward achievement of the Strategic Objectives. This Hemispheric Agenda is the first of six biennial agendas.
- Stated that the AGRO 2003-2015 Plan reflects the member countries’ intention of working to achieve the shared vision, acknowledging that the national governments have primary responsibility for implementing the Plan pursuant to their international commitments and agreements. They decided on a number of **measures for Implementation and Follow-up** of the Plan. These included: (i) the preparation of national progress reports on the implementation of the strategic actions of the current hemispheric agenda; (ii) the updating of the agenda for the next five biennia; (iii) a request that international institutions and cooperating governments coordinate their strategies around the implementation of the Plan; and, (iv) efforts to determine appropriate ways of gauging the progress of the Plan.

The AGRO 2003-2015 Plan of Action has been updated as a result of the HMAs adopted at the Third and Fourth Ministerial Meetings (Guayaquil 2005 and Guatemala 2007).

Annex 2

What is the AGRO-Matrix and what is it used for?

The AGRO-Matrix synthesizes a new concept of agriculture and rural life and facilitates a comprehensive understanding of both. It recognizes that agriculture and rural life are complex phenomena, with a multiplicity of actors and a diversity of interests that should be taken into account when designing effective strategies and policies aimed at transforming the sector. It is one of the main outcomes of the consensus-building process followed by the Ministerial Delegates in their efforts to support the Ministers of Agriculture in developing the HMAs adopted at the Ministerial Meetings held in 2003, 2005 and 2007.

The AGRO-Matrix, used by the Ministerial Delegates as the basis for preparing the AGRO 2003-2015 Plan, is the conceptual framework for the sustainable development of agriculture and the rural milieu. There are two aspects that need to be differentiated in the AGRO-Matrix. They are: (i) the two pillars of its structure; and (ii) the three components of the desired situation.

The two pillars of its structure are: a systemic concept of agriculture and rural life, broken down into three categories or operational areas (rural territories, agricultural value chains and the national and international context) and a sustainable development approach consisting of four dimensions or types of actions (production-trade, ecological-environmental, sociocultural-human and political-institutional). The three components of the desired situation needed to attain the Shared Vision 2015 are: the twelve purposes, the seven strategic objectives and the overarching objective, which guide the strategies, policies and actions adopted.

The AGRO-Matrix

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STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Rural Prosperity ~ Food Security ~ International Positioning			OVERARCHING GOAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL MILIEU

The AGRO-Matrix helps to explain the basic aspects of the complex phenomenon of agriculture and rural life, promotes national, regional and hemispheric strategies, policies and actions to address specific issues and facilitates coordination between different interest groups, in order to develop a new institutional framework for the sustainable development of agriculture and the rural milieu.

The AGRO-Matrix is the ideal tool for understanding and defining the “real” contribution of agriculture and rural life to the development of countries. Its use facilitates the development of a common base of information on agriculture and rural life and on the nature and magnitude of the processes they involve. It also helps to organize the compilation of the opinions and expectations of the multiple actors of agriculture and rural life, and to define and rank objectives and strategic actions, to identify the impact of policies and programs and to measure the progress made in achieving the purposes and strategic objectives and moving toward the Shared Vision 2015.

Annex 3

THE 62 STRATEGIC ACTIONS OF THE 2008-2009 HEMISPHERIC AGENDA PERTAINING TO THE 12 PURPOSES OF THE AGRO-MATRIX

I. Promoting competitive rural enterprises

2007 Guatemala Ministerial Meeting

Entrepreneurial and business capability and capability for innovation

To strengthen and promote the development of entrepreneurial and business capabilities and capability for innovation in men and women in rural communities to support the creation of new business operators and enterprises and the sustained and competitive growth of emerging and existing enterprises.

2005 Guayaquil Ministerial Meeting

Areas of local economic development

To further promote local economic development with support from public and private investment based on an integrated approach aimed at improving the productivity, competitiveness and managerial capabilities of rural enterprises, with a view to generating employment and improving living conditions in rural territories.

2003 Panama Ministerial Meeting

Promote conditions that will stimulate, in the rural milieu, the development of needed infrastructure, competitive enterprises, and greater investment to improve rural life.

Promote innovative types of financial and non-financial services, and risk management for the rural milieu.

Promote food security through increased productivity, greater market access through improved distribution and the production of safe, nutritious foods, as well as the production and consumption of products that offer greater competitive advantages, taking into consideration social and economic issues.

Improve rural connectivity and access to information through the creation of information network systems within communities.

Promote increased coordination among farmers, research centers and agricultural public and private services to establish priorities and implement actions in the areas of research and technology transfer.

II. Integrating chains and strengthening their competitiveness

2007 Guatemala Ministerial Meeting

Market information

To increase the availability of, and improve access for rural producers and other sectors linked to the productive chain to, reliable and timely market information through various public and private mechanisms or services.

Inclusive chains linkages

To promote the integration of rural producers and micro, small- and medium-scale agri enterprises into production and marketing/trade chains contributing to a sustainable income.

2005 Guayaquil Ministerial Meeting

Quality management and certification

To promote quality integrated management in the agricultural production chains by, inter alia, developing agricultural health and food safety systems, including certification mechanisms. Information related to existing quality management tools shall be disseminated to facilitate the expansion of production and trade.

Development of products based on the biotechnologies

To develop new products based on the application of biotechnologies, within the framework of national policies on innovation considering biosafety mechanisms, with the coordinated participation of public and private sectors in compliance with existing regional and international agreements.

2003 Panama Ministerial Meeting

Promote the strengthening of linkages in agricultural production-trade chains, and the expansion of infrastructure for development.

Promote research, development and marketing programs for products that recognize added value use of national raw materials.

III. Promoting an environment conducive to competitive agriculture

2007 Guatemala Ministerial Meeting

Strengthening of small- and medium scale rural enterprise

To implement policies that promotes coordination between the public and private sectors, to improve the competitiveness of rural enterprises and producers to maximize trade.

Mobilizing resources

To mobilize public and private resources for the creation of infrastructure in an effort to promote investment in the rural sector and promote competitive agriculture.

2005 Guayaquil Ministerial Meeting

Generation of energy from alternative sources

To promote policies that will encourage the generation of energy from alternative sources based on agricultural and agroindustrial activities, sustainable use of renewable natural resources and modern biotechnology.

Policies for agroindustry

To promote the adoption of policies for the development of market oriented agro-industries, agribusiness and nonagricultural rural activities.

2003 Panama Ministerial Meeting

Support a real and meaningful reform in agriculture by strengthening the multilateral rules governing agricultural trade, as agreed in Doha, including substantial improvements in market access; reductions of, with a view to elimination of, all forms of export subsidies, and substantial reductions in trade-distorting domestic support. Support the establishment of free trade areas in the hemisphere and in other regional or sub-regional forums. Support and participate in capacity building and technical assistance that contributes to these objectives.

Assign high priority to regional policies on animal and plant health and on food safety, strengthening national and regional systems, and reaffirming their commitment to the competent organizations recognized by the WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures and the relevant international organizations (Codex Alimentarius, the World Animal Health Organization (OIE), the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)) and regional organizations.

Foster economic and social conditions conducive to the development of agribusinesses, the generation of employment, the integration of production-trade chains and their participation in the international context.

Promote micro, small and medium scale rural enterprises, cooperatives and community groups engaged in agricultural production, agroindustry and rural services.

Promote cooperatives as a way to improve production and marketing organization and to improve rural income.

Support programs that encourage internal and external private investment in the rural milieu, promoting the adoption of legal measures that provide investors with security.

Foster the establishment of priorities and the revitalization of research capabilities by coordinating among farmers, research centers and agricultural services, and facilitate access to innovative technologies that are adaptive and practical with direct links to production, processing and marketing systems.

Facilitate access to new technologies to improve productivity; and establish a hemispheric mechanism to advance better understanding of the science and safety of biotechnology products, including the development of a data base. Consider the development of biotechnology and its use in agriculture with a sustainable strategic vision.

Support actions to comply with international agricultural health standards.

IV. Being environmentally responsible in the rural areas

2007 Guatemala Ministerial Meeting

Environmental plan for businesses

To promote the creation of national capabilities to develop and implement agro environmental policies in the rural milieu with the participation of rural organizations, academia and the public and private sectors.

2003 Panama Ministerial Meeting

Increase understanding of the environmental impact of conventional agricultural systems, and of production systems suited to agroecological systems.

Promote access to, and adoption of, agricultural, forestry and fisheries practices that are environmentally sound, including agroecological and organic alternatives.

Foster better understanding, facilitate dialogue and work towards hemispheric consensus with regard to the links between agriculture and biodiversity within the framework of national and international agreements.

Strengthen national and local capabilities to mitigate natural disasters.

Foster sustainable agriculture with an expanded agroecological and innovative vision based on land use planning, diversification and non-food uses of agricultural products.

Foster dialogue and collaborate with other sectors related to rural life for the development of activities that link agriculture with other non-agricultural activities such as agro-tourism, eco-tourism and environmental services.

V. From farm to table: promoting integrated environmental management

2003 Panama Ministerial Meeting

Promote environmental management in the links of the production-trade chains.

VI. Participating in building an institutional environmental framework

2005 Guayaquil Ministerial Meeting

Environmental services and environmentally sound practices

To encourage the development of various approaches and mechanisms that recognize the value of the environmental services offered by the rural milieu and environmentally sound practices.

Market opportunities for goods and services produced in an environmentally sustainable manner

To improve institutional frameworks and consolidate the progress reached in the production and marketing of sustainable agricultural products.

2003 Panama Ministerial Meeting

Promote organic agriculture, as well as regulations for the production, oversight, quality certification and trade of organic products.

Collaborate with the appropriate domestic authorities on the updating of environmental regulations for agriculture and strengthen public-private coordination for environmental management.

Encourage active participation of agricultural and rural community leaders in national discussions related to international negotiations on the environment and sustainable development.

Encourage the establishment of a hemispheric network specialized in early warning and agrometeorological monitoring for the mitigation of natural disasters through the joint efforts of public and private institutions in the hemisphere.

VII. Quality of life in rural communities: creating know-how and opportunity

2003 Panama Ministerial Meeting

Support public-private interaction and coordination in order to improve national capabilities for strategic action, dialogue and negotiation.

Improve the agricultural education system and promote the improvement of education of the rural population.

Promote appropriate social protection measures for economically vulnerable rural families.

Promote the participation of the rural population and consider its cultural diversity in the design and application of rural development strategies.

Promote policies that support access to resources such as land, credit, market information and other services.

VIII. Advancing learning and expertise in the chain

2003 Panama Ministerial Meeting

Promote the development of entrepreneurial capabilities among different social and cultural groups in the rural communities.

IX. Promoting policies to create capabilities and opportunities for the rural communities

2007 Guatemala Ministerial Meeting

Repositioning of rural issues in national strategies

To participate proactively in the repositioning of agriculture and rural issues and priorities in national strategies by promoting in society an increased understanding of the contributions made by the rural sector, a rural-urban balance in the national development agenda and efforts to overcome biases and exclusions that are detrimental to rural communities.

2005 Guayaquil Ministerial Meeting

Social responsibility in rural enterprises

To promote the concept of social responsibility in rural enterprises; fostering the creation of jobs and the principle of decent work as reflected in international conventions.

2003 Panama Ministerial Meeting

Promote rural development programs that include gender equity, including multicultural considerations, where applicable, and special attention to different age groups to improve the living conditions of the rural population.

Promote agricultural and rural training and recommend to the competent authorities the evaluation and accreditation of agricultural education.

X. Strengthening public and private sector participation and coordinated action between them in the territories

2007 Guatemala Ministerial Meeting

Establishment and follow-up of partnerships and agreements

To support rural stakeholders and their organizations with establishing coordinating, consensus building, and follow-up mechanisms on partnerships and agreements to facilitate joint efforts in implementing policies and strategies in rural territories.

2005 Guayaquil Ministerial Meeting

Integral development of rural territories

To foster integrated rural development based on a multisectorial and participatory approach, and strengthened public-private coordination.

2003 Panama Ministerial Meeting

Support the participation of rural communities in decisions that affect their lives and the environment in which they live, specifically to develop their capabilities, leadership skills and their ability to participate in government programs.

XI. Strengthening dialogue and commitments among actors in the chain

2003 Panama Ministerial Meeting

Promote institutional frameworks to facilitate dialogue and negotiation among all participants in the production-trade chains.

XII. Promoting National policies and regional and hemispheric cooperation for agriculture and rural life

2007 Guatemala Ministerial Meeting

Establishment of partnerships and agreements

To promote cooperation and the establishment of lasting alliances and agreements at the national, regional and hemispheric levels, which allow for greater participation of the private and social sectors in public policy development and implementation geared towards the improvement of agriculture and rural life.

Modernization and institutional strengthening of the rural public sector

To promote the modernization of public institutions in agriculture to enable them to integrate actions and services, that will improve linkages with other public, private and social stakeholders, as well as international partners, in the implementation of the 2003-2015 AGRO Plan.

Reassessment of the value of agriculture and the rural milieu

To promote efforts to reassess the value of agriculture and the rural milieu by helping to address strategic and emerging development issues, promoting urban-rural integration, taking into consideration social, political, economic, ecological and cultural factors, reporting on the multidimensional contributions made by the rural sector to national development.

2005 Guayaquil Ministerial Meeting

National policies

To promote long-term national policies for the development of the agri-food sector and the rural milieu, taking into consideration existing international frameworks.

Interinstitutional and multisectorial work

To strengthen sectoral and multisectorial coordination to facilitate the implementation of long-term national policies, for improving agriculture and the quality of life in rural communities.

2003 Panama Ministerial Meeting

Strengthen the mechanisms for cooperation among countries in the areas of technical assistance, knowledge, information and experience which contribute to the modernization of agriculture and rural life.

Develop additional opportunities for cooperation and collaboration with agricultural and non-agricultural stakeholders and with civil society and to ensure that agricultural institutions have sufficient capacity to pursue these objectives.

Strengthen regional and hemispheric interaction among and between agricultural ministries and international organizations.