

**Dr. James B. French**  
**Director of Technical Leadership and Knowledge Management**  
**Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)**

James B. French, Doctor of Philosophy, Agricultural Economics, from the University of Missouri-Columbia, is known as a proactive, performance driven professional with over 25 years of management, teaching and research experience in academics, service and business activities, throughout the Americas.

He has worked at several international organizations in Latin America over a period of 28 years, including EARTH University where he was Provost for 16 years and led the development of and oversaw academic programs, faculty, research, student affairs, continuous education and outreach, library, and computer services; and at CATIE, as professor and researcher contributing to the development of diverse projects, training and postgraduate programs. He has gained teaching experience from the Universities of Missouri-Columbia, EARTH, CATIE, British Columbia and Colorado-Boulder.

From 1980 to 1981 he was part of a multidisciplinary team of scientists responsible for planning, implementing, supervising and producing area specific profile (diagnostic) studies for selected areas of Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Guatemala.

Since 2006 he oversees the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture's Technical Programs as Director of Technical Leadership and Knowledge Management, including Agricultural Health and Food Safety, Policy and Trade, Agribusiness, Technology and Innovation, Rural Development, Natural Resources Management and the Environment, Institutional Modernization, Biotechnology and Biosafety, as well as Agroenergy among others.

He has also led the development of IICA's strategy on Food Security, coordinated the external evaluation of the Institute's Technical Capacity and IICA's response, as well as the development of IICA's Knowledge Management strategy and coordinated its implementation across the institute.