FONTAGRO: Results of a unique cooperation mechanism for agricultural innovation in LAC

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GCARD3
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**Objective:** sustainable support of agricultural research and innovation

**Board of Directors:** representatives of 15 member countries.

Sponsored by IDB (Administrator) and IICA (Technical Support)

Financing of regional projects involving at least two member countries

Capital **US$100 Million**

**Over 100** approved projects

**US$88,6 million. Leverage 1:5**

25 countries
FONTAGRO Partners

Private Sector 30%
LAC Universities 24%
National Research Institutions 24%
Advanced Research Institutions and Extra-regional Universities 8%
Regional Institutions 5%
International Institutions 5%
NGOs 4%
External Evaluation Results

- FONTAGRO-funded projects have successfully generated:
  - 35 new technologies and knowledge sources
  - 15 new technologies in Latin America
  - 4 new technologies at the global level

- ✓ FONTAGRO: example of institutional innovation
- ✓ 69% project results have reached final beneficiaries
- ✓ 77% of results incorporated by national systems
- ✓ 74% of results regional public goods
- ✓ Substantial impact on capacity building

(Sain et al. 2014)
Innovations in Family Agriculture: Ticks-Fungi-Bacteria in Rice

- Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua and CIAT
- Loss of 40-60% of rice harvest in 2003
- New varieties and agronomic practices
- > 60% of rice area planted with new varieties
- Marginal benefit increased by USD 192/ha
- 468 farmers and technicians trained
Innovations in Family Agriculture: Native Potatoes

- Ecuador, Bolivia, Peru, Colombia, Venezuela and CIP
- 573 native potatoes accessions
- 24% increased productivity
- New products developed: colored potato chips, gourmet
- Selling price increased by 2-2.5 X
- Over 2500 farmers benefitted