

## **Agribusiness Leaders Meet to Advance Global Food Security**

### ***Participants partner to build AgroLAC 2025 funding platform to boost sustainable agricultural development in Latin America and the Caribbean.***

Nearly 100 international agribusiness leaders gathered in São Paulo, Brazil on March 10th for the inaugural meeting of AgroLAC 2025, a multi-partner funding platform established by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) to support sustainable agricultural development in Latin America and the Caribbean to help the region fulfill its potential in becoming a major part of the solution to both regional and global food security.

Participants discussed ways for agribusinesses and other private sector organizations to collaborate through AgroLAC 2025 to finance cooperation, technical assistance, and studies to improve the productivity of small, medium, and large agricultural producers in the region while protecting the natural resource base and assuring no new net habitat loss. The platform will also seek to increase farmers' access to national, regional, and international markets, access to financial services, and improve their resilience to climate-change.

Latin America and the Caribbean is increasingly seen as a global breadbasket, as its agricultural strength is ever-more relevant to both the region's economic growth and to global food security. Home to abundant natural resources and a robust agricultural sector, the region has the potential to take agricultural leadership in the 21st century. Building off IDB 2014 report "The Next Global Breadbasket: How Latin America and the Caribbean Can Feed the World," spearheaded by the IDB, the Global Harvest Initiative and more than 30 private sector partners, AgroLAC 2025 will serve as the platform for harnessing the region's agricultural prowess to take action in the food security space.

Bernardo Guillamon, Manager of the IDB's Office of Outreach and Partnerships, discussed Brazil's key role in meeting these objectives. "The Latin American and Caribbean region has substantially increased its share of agricultural output in the last half century, thanks largely to the net trade output of agricultural giants like Brazil. By supporting the region as it uplifts its many smallholder farmers, adopts agricultural innovations and technology, enhances sustainability across the agricultural sector, and more, we can tap into the agricultural strength of Brazil and the region at large to feed the world."

Cognizant of the importance of public-private collaboration, AgroLAC 2025 will work closely with regional governments to collaboratively boost agricultural productivity, striving to meet demand at national, regional and global levels and to identify local solutions fit for scale.

"Our region can fill critical gaps in meeting global food security challenges, and actually reducing hunger, as the world's population expands. It is essential for us to unleash the region's unrealized agricultural potential in a sustainable way that preserve our rich natural resources", says Pedro Suarez Dow Chemical Latin America President. "Dow plays an important role in helping bring knowledge to increase production and also to reduce the post-harvest waste, due to its unique position as a technology provider for the whole food chain".

The event was attended by high-level representatives of organizations such as The Nature Conservancy, Dow Chemical, International Center for Tropical Agriculture, the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture, Heifer International, Fair Trade USA, and more.

**SEO:** AgroLAC2025; Food Security; Sustainable Agriculture; Latin America; Small farmers; Inter-American Development Bank; IDB, Partnerships; Sao Paulo, Brazil.

**Title:** Agribusiness Leaders Meet to Advance Global Food Security in LAC and the World

**Description:** International agribusiness leaders gathered for the inaugural meeting of AgroLAC 2025, a multi-partner funding platform established by the IDB to support sustainable agricultural development

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**Links:** AgroLAC2025 [www.agrolac2025.org](http://www.agrolac2025.org);

The Next Global Breadbasket Publication: [www.iadb.org/foodsecuritystudy](http://www.iadb.org/foodsecuritystudy)

Partnerships: <http://www.iadb.org/en/topics/partnerships/home-partnerships-at-the-idb,9602.html>