



Question and Answers about AgroLAC 2025

What is AgroLAC 2025?

AgroLAC 2025 is a multi-donor funding platform that has been created by the Inter-American Development Bank and a range of public and private sector partners to support sustainable agricultural development in Latin America and the Caribbean and thereby help the region fulfill its potential in becoming a major part of the solution to both global and regional food security.

Why is it important?

One of humanity's greatest challenges for the 21st century is to feed a global population that will grow from 7 to 9 billion over the next three decades, and do so in ways that are sustainable, climate change resilient and do not deplete the natural resources base. With more than a quarter of the world's high potential farmland and a third of its fresh water – as well as a growing agricultural sector – the LAC region has an opportunity and the potential to produce enough food, sustainably, to make an enormous contribution to meeting global food demand at mid-century.

So why is a fund such as AgroLAC 2025 needed?

Despite all the promise, the region still faces major challenges in feeding a rapidly growing global population without expanding farming into environmentally sensitive areas, without diminishing the productive capacity of the land already under cultivation, and with a goal of doubling the region's productivity without additional habitat loss. Overcoming these challenges will require more investment in agricultural research in the region, modernization of rural infrastructure, improvements in things like farm mechanization, irrigation and water management, a reduction of import and export barriers to agricultural trade, strengthening of agricultural extension services, producer associations and farmer cooperatives, and efforts to reduce post-harvest losses.

What can AgroLAC 2025 do to address these challenges? How will it work?

AgroLAC seeks to raise unrestricted donations from private and public sector partners that its collective leadership will leverage toward addressing the supply side of the food security equation, with the objective of increasing agricultural productivity without new habitat loss. Among the fund's aims are to stimulate investments in rural infrastructure to facilitate a more profitable yet environmentally sustainable agriculture, largely by identifying and supporting pilot and demonstration projects in the region, and by funding initiatives (such

as field testing of new technologies) that bolster agricultural research. In addition to funding projects and initiatives, AgroLAC 2025 will offer support for adjusting trade regimes in ways that will boost agricultural productivity to meet local and global demand.

How much is AgroLAC looking to raise and how much has been raised so far?

AgroLAC is seeking to raise \$30-\$50 million over 3-5 years, and in just the first few months has received nearly \$13 million in commitments. The platform will not be formally launched until later this year.

Who is involved in AgroLAC 2025?

The IDB and The Nature Conservancy are the initial steering committee members, and Dow has made initial funding commitments and is playing host to AgroLAC 2025's inaugural partner and project conference in Sao Paulo, March 10-11, at which nearly 100 representatives from more than 40 private sector companies and organizations are expected to participate.

Why 2025?

The 2025 target date of AgroLAC also corresponds to the region's Hunger Free LAC Initiative, as the Heads of State have announced their commitment to the design of a Food Security, Nutrition and Hunger Eradication Plan by 2025.

What does AgroLAC 2025 hope to accomplish?

We hope and expect that AgroLAC 2025 will have a significant impact in advancing technologies and sustainable farming practices that will assure Latin American agriculture reaches its potential to be a major part of the solution to both global and regional food security.