

PROCINORTE STRATEGIC PLAN 2015-20

Draft for Review

Board of Directors XVI Annual Meeting, IICA, Costa Rica

Feb 26 and 27, 2015



Cooperative Program in Agricultural Research and Technology for the Northern Region

THE PROCINORTE STRATEGIC PLAN 2015-2020

- Focuses on *priorities* shared among Canada, Mexico and the United States.
- Ensures that PROCINORTE continues its catalytic role in *knowledge sharing* between researchers and regulators from the member organizations.
- Creates a *platform to mobilize knowledge* from the three scientific centers of excellence (AAFC-RB, USDA-ARS and INIFAP) for the benefit of other countries in the *hemisphere*.
- Contributes to the *agricultural dialog* in the hemisphere through the appropriate policy bodies.

VISION

The governments of Canada, Mexico, and the United States working together, in consensus, and through their national agricultural research institutions to problem-solve and support agriculture in the North American region with science, improved technology, and scientifically-based policy guidance.

MISSION

To mutually strengthen agriculturally related governmental and stakeholder collaboration in research, development, and science-based policies to: 1) enhance sector productivity and competitiveness; 2) improve food safety and plant and animal health, and 3) contribute to capacity building through collaborative science and technology activities

VALUES

Ensure an equal representation of all member nations

Share science for the benefit of all, particularly the farmers

Promote good stewardship of natural resources

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1. Share knowledge on agreed priority themes by mobilizing public sector researchers and scientists, incorporating science for regulation when appropriate
2. Strengthen mutually supportive regional networks in priority topics of relevance for agricultural trade
3. Contribute to the deliberations of regional/hemispheric agricultural science and technology bodies, in particular the Forum for the Americas on Agricultural Research and Technology Development (FORAGRO), the Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR), the Global Conferences on Agricultural Research and Development (GCARD) and the G20 Meeting of Agricultural Chief Scientists (MACS)

PROCINORTE COMPOSITION

Board of Directors: highest authority, senior level officials from the member organizations, annual meetings. President appointed by consensus among BOD members- for 2 years, for maximum extension for 4 as per terms of reference

Task Forces: mechanism for tri-lateral collaboration, senior scientists (heads of national programs), appointed by her/his government, one elected by consensus as chair. Each year the BOD reviews the constitution of each TF and approves their plans.

Executive Secretariat (IICA) including support from IICA representatives in Canada, USA and Mexico, and Headquarters, and logistic/ administrative support.

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NORGEN

Contribute to knowledge generation and innovation in areas of common interest in GR preservation.
Reinforce progress with strategic GR management priorities shared by countries, resulting in mutual benefits
Enhance communication and consultation among leadership of national GR systems of the three countries.

TROPICAL AND SUBTROPICAL FRUITS

Facilitate exchange experiences, information and training through the building of linkages among public and private country institutions, and major R&T actors in the region, hemisphere and the world.
Undertakes research relevant for advancing tropical fruit production, post-harvesting and processing, and provides scientific support for relevant regulation in the three countries.

ANIMAL HEALTH

Strengthening Government-led collaboration in animal health science for research and policy-guidance.
Problem-solving through scientific guidance in animal health to help support the NAFTA Trade Agreement.
Helping target animal health research to meet the challenges of the region's farmers.
Assist in harmonizing diagnostics and disease strategies between the 3 countries.

PLANT HEALTH

Promote joint research projects
Capacity building and linking specialists and projects for proactive research on invasive pests and diseases
Promote knowledge sharing on pests/diseases of tri-lateral interest through several means
Carry out outreach activities with other countries and regions in LAC

PROCINORTE STRENGTHS

It is a good mechanism to foster information exchange between the technical experts/scientists, including regulators, in the three countries.

It is a platform for trilateral networking and collaboration on areas of common interest.

It is comprised of strong research organizations that generate science-based solutions to agricultural problems, and the participation of regulators increase its value.

It enables the process of understating the diversity of issues and scientific priorities in the three countries.

CHALLENGE 1: CONSOLIDATE ITS ROLE AS A MECHANISM FOR DIALOGUE

1. Improve communications by using an appropriate information platform such as SharePoint – REQUIRES NMEMBER TO PROVIDE CONTENT
2. Distribute PROCINORTE's achievements at meetings, seminars and other events attended by BOD, TF and ES.
3. Improve internal communications: follow up teleconferences, ensure follow up to scientific meetings.
4. extend links to other PROCIS and thematic networks
5. Participate en FORAGRO and other fora

CHALLENGE 2: OVERCOMING FINANCIAL LIMITATIONS

1. Building on core allocation by IICA, the member countries will work to make PROCINORTE sustainable
2. Attract additional funding, BOD compile list of stakeholders, conversations with agencies, gather feedback
3. Prepare project proposals for interested agencies in Canada, Mexico and USA
4. Leverage synergies between PROCINORTE and IICA's Northern Region and promote achievements, support from IICA representatives

CHALLENGE 3: INTERNALIZATION IN MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

1. It is essential that the TF and other personnel involved in PROCINORTE include this work in their annual work plan of their institutions and obtain the proper support from their authorities to contribute to PROCINORTE more effectively

THE PLAN FOR PROCINORTE FOR THE NEXT 5 YEARS