



Our
Commitment:
Results

ICA



FORAGRO and GFAR

**XVIII MEETING BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF PROCINORTE
Mexico City, 2016**

FORAGRO and GFAR: brief history and convergence

FORAGRO

- Established by a IABA resolution in 1997 and re-endorsed by that body in 2003
- Envisioned as a space for discussion of and agreement on S&T issues facing agriculture in the Americas; a component of an Hemispheric Agrifood Technology and Innovation System.
- One of its key roles was to help shape policies
- A member of the Global Forum for Agriculture Research (GFAR)



FORAGRO and GFAR: brief history and convergence

FORAGRO

Over its lifespan the Forum has promoted numerous initiatives under different lines of action, including:

- Hemispheric Dialogue
- Regional Research and Development Agenda
- Prospective Studies
- Capacity Building and Exchange of Experiences
- Management of Information for Research and Technology Development
- Political Presence

Since FORAGRO does not have an allocated budget, these activities have been funded through ad-hoc means, mostly through IICA funds and members' hosting



FORAGRO and GFAR: brief history and convergence

GFAR

- Established in 1996 by several UN agriculture and food bodies (FAO, IFAD, CGIAR, ISNAR)
- GFAR focus is on R&D for development:
 - VISION: to make agri-food research and innovation systems more effective, responsive and equitable, towards achieving Sustainable Development Goals
 - MISSION: through its partners, advocate for, and catalyse collective actions to strengthen and transform agri-food research and innovation systems



FORAGRO and GFAR: brief history and convergence

GFAR constituency includes regional forums:

- AARINENA - Association of Agricultural Research Institutions in the Near East and North Africa
- APAARI - Asia Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions
- CACAARI - Central Asia and the Caucasus Association of Agricultural Research Institutions, Tashkent, Uzbekistan;
- EFARD - European Forum on Agricultural Research and Development
- FARA - Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa
- **FORAGRO**

(other constituents include the CGIAR, farmers' organizations, private sector, academic institutions, financing bodies, youth organizations)



FORAGRO and GFAR: brief history and convergence

GFAR and the Global Conferences on Agricultural Research for Development (GCARD):

Organized by GFAR in partnership with CGIAR “to promote effective, targeted investment, build partnership, capacities and mutual accountabilities to ensure that research will meet the needs of the resource-poor end user.”

- GCARD 1 (Montpellier, France, 2010). “Enhancing Development Impact from Research” -> developed roadmap to transform Agricultural Research for Development (AR4D)
- GCARD 2 (Punta del Este, Uruguay, 2012). “Foresight and Partnership for Innovation and Impact on Small-holder Livelihoods”-> how to implement roadmap
- GCARD 3 (South Africa, 2016). “No One Left Behind: Agri-food Innovation and Research for a Sustainable World” -> 17 “collective actions” focused on diversity, inclusiveness, youth

FORAGRO contributed actively with GCARD 1, providing input and positions for the Roadmap. Neither IICA nor FORAGRO sent representatives to GCARD 3



FORAGRO and GFAR: brief history and convergence

FORAGRO was conceived from the beginning as an inclusive forum

However, there were challenges with securing participation and representativeness of stakeholder groups

GFAR began a renewal process in 2012 and held a Constituent Assembly in 2015, aimed at becoming more inclusive and reflect the needs and views of a variety of stakeholders

A new governance was established:

- GFAR Partner Assembly
- Multi-stakeholder Steering Committee



FORAGRO and GFAR: recent developments

- GFAR has approached FORAGRO with an interest in re-engaging and an offer to support some activities
- FORAGRO is undergoing a review and restructuring process of its own with a view to to become more focused, effective, sustainable, and inclusive



FORAGRO and GFAR: recent developments

FORAGRO restructuring (“New FORAGRO”) - Highlights of draft proposal:

- Increased and better defined articulation with regional mechanisms (PROCIS, IABA)
- A new, more inclusive governance (Assembly of Members, Steering Committee, Technical Advisory Group, Secretariat)
- Building a space for multiple national, regional, and global actors
- Need to find a mechanism for financial and institutional sustainability
- Monitoring and evaluation

As part of this process, relationship with GFAR needs to be further articulated



Questions for discussion

- GFAR needs FORAGRO as part of its constituency. What are the areas of common ground for interaction. Where do the two forums meet?
- GFAR is offering to support FORAGRO on some targeted, punctual initiatives. What topics could be of interest for PROCINORTE?
- How can FORAGRO best foster the interaction between regional mechanisms?
- In GFAR's model, FORAGRO plays a role in informing the global forum by contributing to develop hemispheric analyses, priorities and agendas. Would/should FORAGRO be positioned to do this in the future and how would the PROCIs contribute to the process?





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Instituto Interamericano de Cooperación para la Agricultura