



# ANNUAL REPORT

FONTAGRO'S EVOLUTION

# 2016 / 2017



## MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

### Agronomist Armando Bustillo

2016-2017 Term DICTA/SAG Deputy / Director, Honduras



Dear colleagues,

FONTAGRO had a very active year and achieved impactful results. These results would not have been possible thanks to the invaluable support of our strategic partners.

We began a new phase as a fully consolidated cooperation mechanism. We now have high-impact projects in the region and clear and transparent procedures, which were made possible by the hard work of FONTAGRO's members, its sponsors, and its Secretariat.

I would like to specifically acknowledge the collaboration of the IDB and IICA, both as FONTAGRO sponsors and as partners in the development of joint initiatives.

This year we also had the opportunity to elect our new Executive Secretary, Dr. Eugenia Saini, to whom I wish the greatest success throughout her tenure. I would also like to sincerely thank Dr. Hugo Li Pun, who has worked passionately as the head of the Secretariat for the past seven years.

I extend my thanks to the Board of Directors for its steadfast support and to the Secretariat for the valuable contributions it made throughout the year.

Lastly, I would like to express my desire for all of us to continue working together, one more year, towards the innovation of family agriculture and, especially, for the achievement of food security in our region.

Best wishes!

## MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

### Dr. Hugo Li Pun

2011-2017 term



Dear friends of FONTAGRO,

This is a very special year for me, my last one in charge of FONTAGRO's Secretariat. During my tenure as Executive Secretary, we faced many challenges, but also encountered many opportunities that have enabled FONTAGRO to be consolidated as a regional cooperation mechanism for the innovation of family agriculture in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Today, I feel privileged to have participated in this evolution, working with a great team, with the support of the Board of Directors to implement our vision to reposition FONTAGRO.

In this evolution we reached many milestones, such as: two amendments to the original Agreement for the establishment of FONTAGRO that led to FONTAGRO's reengineering; the financial strategy that has resulted in sustained support for key issues and a long-term projection; negotiations with strategic partners such as New Zealand, the GEF, and the Republic of Korea; and renewals of FONTAGRO's Administration Agreement with the IDB, as well as renewed pledges of support to FONTAGRO from the IDB and IICA.

Lastly, I would like to express my gratitude to the Board of Directors for its support throughout all of these years and I wish my successor much success in her new role.

There is no doubt that there are pending tasks to be completed to strengthen FONTAGRO; therefore, my parting message for this great team is "in the face of challenges: work together with passion, patience, and persistence."

All the best!

# 1

## SIGNIFICANT FACTS



Our achievements from November 2016 to October 2017 have been as follows:



**1. WE EXECUTED** 38 projects totaling \$9.86 million, and 15 projects, totaling \$0.97 million, are being audited.



**2. WE APPROVED** four projects from our 2016 Call for Proposals, for \$5.3 million, of which FONTAGRO contributed \$1.6 million.



**3. WE SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHED** our 2017 Call for Proposals, for the fifth consecutive year. We improved the digital submission for proposals, from which five projects were recommended to be financed for a total of \$4.95 million, being \$1.5 million co-financed by FONTAGRO.



**4. WE APPROVED** the following joint projects for agricultural innovation in response to climate change.

### **Rural Development of Gran Chaco**

Three countries: Argentina, Bolivia, and Paraguay

Total amount: \$995,550, of which \$200,000 are provided by FONTAGRO

### **a) Horticulture under controlled environment in Tropical Areas**

Four countries: Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, and Panama, with Spain's collaboration

Total amount: \$1,645,631, of which \$400,000 are provided by FONTAGRO



**5. WE IMPLEMENTED** the following seed funds totaling \$70,000, with the following executing agencies.

- Basis for Developing a Platform for Project Evaluation and Monitoring, INTA (Argentina)
- Agroclimatic Information Management, CORPOICA (Colombia)
- Use of Legumes in Livestock Systems, PROCISUR, IICA



**6. WE VISITED** leaders, technicians, and producers in the field in Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, Panama, and Peru.



**7. WE HELD** in-person courses in Honduras and Venezuela, three editions of online courses for proposals preparation, and a pilot course for the preparation of final proposals.



**8. WE PUBLISHED** a study on Strengthening Human Capital for agricultural research in the region.



**9. WE RENEWED** our strategic partnership with the Knowledge Partnership Korea Fund for Technology and Innovation (KPK) to continue implementing FONTAGRO's knowledge management and communications strategy and its positioning on social media.



**10. WE CREATED** the Regional Agricultural Communications Network, which had its first meeting in Honduras.



**11. WE ORGANIZED** dissemination activities, including the Twelfth Workshop on Technical Monitoring of FONTAGRO Projects and the Second Symposium on Adaptation to Climate Change.



**12. WE PROVIDED** the FONTAGRO's Seventh Scientific Excellence Award, 2017 to the Beekeeping Platform project led by INTA of Argentina.

**13. WE EXPLORED** new memberships and partnerships.  
**WE RECEIVED** a new capital contribution from Costa Rica.



**14. WE PARTICIPATED** in many meetings with representatives of several national, regional, and international organizations.



**15. WE IMPROVED** the Agreement Establishing FONTAGRO, strengthening FONTAGRO's voting system and the composition of its Technical Administrative Secretariat (TAS).



**16. WE MAINTAINED** a solid long-term financial projection with resources to operate above historical levels.

# 2

## OUR RESULTS AND ACTIVITIES

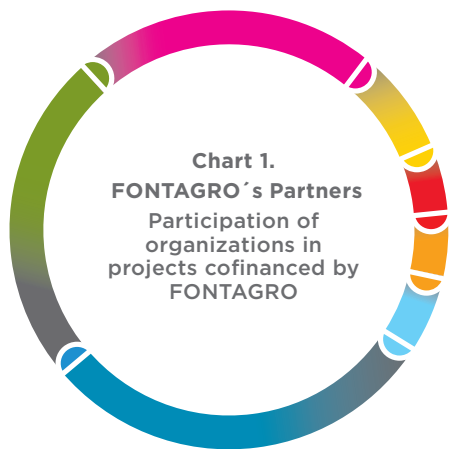


### Our 2015-2020 Medium-Term Plan sets forth strategic plans that guide our work:

- ✓ Technological, organizational, and institutional innovation
- ✓ Adaptation to and mitigation of climate change
- ✓ Sustainable intensification of agriculture and natural resources management
- ✓ Competitive territories and value chains within a framework of equity and sustainability

### Our operating mechanisms are:

- ✓ Calls for Proposals
- ✓ Competitions of successful cases in agriculture innovation
- ✓ Joint Projects
- ✓ Seed Funds
- ✓ Knowledge Management and Training



23%	National Institutions	6%	NGO's
8%	Higher Education Organizations and Universities Outside the Region	30%	Private Sector
5%	Regional Institutions	24%	Universities in the region
4%	International Institutions		

Data as of December 31, 2016 / Source: TAS

# 3

## KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT



**WE CONTINUED** implementing our knowledge management and communications strategy through our partnership with the Knowledge Partnership Korea Fund for Technology and Innovation (KPK). KPK's third technical cooperation (Phase III) provided a grant of \$100,000 and FONTAGRO assigned matching funds.

### Results and achievements for the period:



• **WE PARTICIPATED** in social media; more than 243,880 Twitter impressions were recorded.



• **WE UPDATED** our website regularly.



• **WE IMPROVED** the online call-for-proposals application system.



• **WE DEVELOPED** an online course: Communication Tools for Agricultural Research and Development Projects - FONTAGRO Case.



• **WE PUBLISHED** 38 press releases and were mentioned in the media 68 times.



• **WE CREATED** 11 FONTAGRO project microsites and published 7 of them.



• **WE WROTE** 2 articles on blogs hosted by sponsors and related international organizations; we received 142 visits per month, on average, for 4 months.



• **WE SENT OUT** 10 newsletters, 2 of them in English.



• **WE CREATED** FONTAGRO's Regional Agricultural Communications Network and we brought together researchers, professionals, and technicians with communications specialists in the region.

## KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS



### IMPACTFUL INNOVATIONS IN ENGLISH AND FRENCH

**WE PREPARED** the English and French versions of the Impactful Innovations: Lessons from Family Agriculture on Adaptation to Climate Change in Latin America and the Caribbean publication.

They may be downloaded at the following link:

<https://publications.iadb.org/handle/11319/7802#sthash.OQyxhCpj.dpuf>.



### DRAFTING COMPETITIVE PROPOSALS MANUAL

**WE DEVELOPED** the Training Manual for Drafting Competitive Proposals about Agricultural Research Projects, which is available in Spanish at:

<https://www.fontagro.org/es/publicaciones/manual-de-capacitacion-formulacion-de-perfiles-competitivos-para-proyectos-de-investigacion-agropecuaria/>.



### STUDY ABOUT STRENGTHENING HUMAN CAPITAL IN AGRICULTURE

**WE PUBLISHED** a study containing strategy guidelines for capacity building in FONTAGRO's member countries, prepared by Dr. Edgardo Rubianes, which is available in Spanish at:

<https://www.fontagro.org/es/publicaciones/fortalecimiento-del-capital-humano-lineamientos-de-una-estrategia-para-el-fortalecimiento-de-capacidades-en-paises-miembros-de-fontagro/>.



### REPORT ON THE SECOND SYMPOSIUM ON FAMILY AGRICULTURE ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

**WE PREPARED** the Report on the Second Symposium on Family Agriculture Adaptation to Climate Change in Latin America and the Caribbean and the Twelfth Workshop on Technical Monitoring of FONTAGRO Projects, which is available in Spanish at:

<https://www.fontagro.org/es/publicaciones/memoria-del-ii-simposio-de-adaptacion-al-cambio-climatico-de-la-agricultura-familiar-la-ceiba-honduras/>.

## AWARDS

### Seventh Scientific Excellence Award, 2017

**WE PRESENTED** the Platform to Consolidate Beekeeping as a Development Tool in Latin America and the Caribbean project, led by Mr. Enrique Bedascarrasbure of Argentina's National Agricultural Technology Institute (INTA, for its acronym in Spanish), with **FONTAGRO's Seventh Scientific Excellence Award, 2017.**

### First Prize for Scientific Research at the Eighth World Banana Summit

Our Strengthening the Production Base of Small Producers of Organic and Conventional Bananas in Latin America and the Caribbean: Biological Control of Pests and Healthy Soil Management project was awarded the First Prize for Scientific Research at the Eighth World Banana Summit held in Guayaquil, Ecuador, from August 15 to 17.

### Meeting with USDA Officials

**WE MET** with USDA and USAID officials who visited FONTAGRO's offices, to present Latin America's initiative on the sustainable intensification of livestock production and FONTAGRO's ongoing cacao projects. Said officials expressed their interest in participating in the platform and agreed to help disseminate information on FONTAGRO's initiatives regarding livestock production and greenhouse gas emissions.

### Regional Agricultural Communications Network

**WE LAUNCHED** FONTAGRO's Regional Agricultural Communications Network in La Ceiba, Honduras. We brought together researchers and professionals with communications specialists from research institutes, so they may share best practices and experiences for disseminating project results.



FONTAGRO. Reunión de la red



# 4

## PARTNERSHIPS AND MEMBERSHIPS



### LATIN AMERICA'S SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION PLATFORM

**WE LAUNCHED the Sustainable Livestock Production Platform: Greater Productivity with Lower Greenhouse Gas Emissions**, coordinated by the Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE, for its acronym in Spanish) in collaboration with the Government of New Zealand's Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI), the Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases (known as the Global Research Alliance or GRA), and FONTAGRO. Researchers from public and private institutions, as well as development organizations, attended the meeting.

**When:** April, 2017

**Where:** Washington D. C.

#### Organizer Committee:



**Main objective:** Establishing partnerships with key audiences to sustainably intensify livestock production systems as regional research strategy to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)

**Topics of common interest among participating countries:** Coordinating a regional agenda on the topic, sharing knowledge, and building the capacities of farmers and key stakeholders in the public and private sector regarding the subject

**Activity:** Designing a three-year action plan and the knowledge management and communications strategy

**Funding:** FONTAGRO, MPI, and the project on Mechanisms and Networks for Technology Transfer Related to Climate Change in LAC, implemented by FONTAGRO and funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)

### GLOBAL RESEARCH ALLIANCE'S LIVESTOCK RESEARCH GROUP MEETING AT NIFA

**WE PARTICIPATED** in GRA's Livestock Research Group (LRG) Meeting, hosted by the United States Government's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). Flagship programs that are important to the group about enteric methane mitigation, soil carbon, and greenhouse gas inventories were explored during the meeting.

**When:** April 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**Where:** Washington D. C.

## SIXTEENTH IBERO-AMERICAN INIA SYSTEM MEETING IN CHILE

**WE PARTICIPATED** in the Sixteenth Ibero-American INIA System Meeting in La Serena, Chile. The meeting was coordinated with the Twenty-first Annual Meeting of FONTAGRO's Board of Directors, which was held on October 27 and 28. The central subject of the event was the sustainable management of high-productivity agricultural systems in semiarid areas, particularly water management in agriculture. Other presentations focused on state-of-the-art water management in agriculture at participating countries. Local and international specialists participated in the event.

**When:** October 23<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**Where:** La Serena, Chile

## SIXTEENTH MEETING OF FORAGRO'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN COSTA RICA

**WE REPRESENTED** 15 FONTAGRO member countries at the Sixteenth Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Forum of the Americas for Agricultural Research and Technological Development (FORAGRO, for its acronym in Spanish), with the objective of discussing the proposed reorganization of said forum. CATIE hosted the meeting. FONTAGRO has supported FORAGRO's restructuring proposal since 2015. Within the framework of the meeting, the proposal for restructuring the forum was accepted; it included the reorganization of its governance, memberships, and possible funding mechanisms, as well as the option to seek support from the Inter-American Board of Agriculture.

**When:** November 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016

**Where:** Costa Rica

## COOPERATION WITH CATIE

**WE HOSTED** Dr. Muhammad Ibrahim, CATIE's Director General, and Dr. Miley González, CATIE's Deputy Director General, who visited FONTAGRO. We evaluated the progress of ongoing projects, possible new initiatives, and collaboration opportunities on knowledge management issues.

Other actions carried out with CATIE:

- ✔ Surveying the development status of environmentally sound technologies (EST) and innovations
- ✔ Implementing a joint project on the sustainable intensification of the dairy sector

**When:** November 22<sup>th</sup>, 2016

**Where:** FONTAGRO's Offices

## COOPERATION WITH CIAT

**WE HOSTED** the Director General of the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), Dr. Rubén Echeverría, who visited FONTAGRO. We evaluated opportunities for collaboration, such as in the climate-smart livestock platform in Latin America and the Caribbean and in the scaling up of the Water Harvest project, implemented by FLAR in Nicaragua.

**When:** January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**Where:** Washington D. C.

## MISSION TO HONDURAS

**WE CARRIED OUT** a mission to Honduras led by the Dirección de Ciencia y Tecnología Agropecuaria bureau of Honduras' Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (DICTA/SAG, for its acronym in Spanish). We met with Engineer Jacobo Paz Boden, Minister of Agriculture, and analyzed opportunities for cooperation with countries in the region on priority issues for the development of family agriculture. We also met with Mr. Luis Mata, Presidential Delegate Minister for Investment, who underscored the Government's support for FONTAGRO's activities in Honduras, as well as their alignment with the priorities set forth in the Honduras 2020 plan.

**When:** February 12<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**Where:** Tegucigalpa and Comayagua, Honduras.

## FIRST INTERNATIONAL FAMILY AGRICULTURE CONFERENCE IN HONDURAS

**WE SPONSORED and PRESENTED** our experiences at Honduras' First International Family Agriculture Conference, held in Tegucigalpa. The event was organized by the members of Comité Nacional de Agricultura Familiar de Honduras (CNFAH, for its Spanish acronym), the Honduran family agriculture committee integrated by DICTA/SAG, with the support of FAO and IICA. Escuela Agrícola Panamericana Zamorano and Vredeseilanden's Regional Program in Mesoamerica (VECOMA) also participated in the event.

**When:** September 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**Where:** Tegucigalpa, Honduras

## GALA 2017 CONFERENCE IN URUGUAY

**WE SUBMITTED** 5 of the 77 projects presented at the Third Conference of Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Animal Agriculture Production Systems of Latin America (GALA 2017). The conference was organized by Uruguay's INIA and led by Dr. Verónica Ciganda, leader of a FONTAGRO project on Climate Change and Livestock Production; 120 researchers from 19 countries attended the conference.

**When:** October 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**Where:** Colonia, Uruguay

## PRESENTATION WITH THE WORLD BANK AT COTE D'IVOIRE

**WE COLLABORATED** with the World Bank to present the strengths and opportunities of FONTAGRO's model as a cooperation mechanism in Latin America and the Caribbean. The objective is to replicate the mechanism for African countries in the future.

**When:** October, 2017

**Dónde:** Cote d' Ivoire

## NEW MEMBERSHIPS

**WE CONTINUED** our dialogue with authorities of the Governments of Brazil, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, and Mexico to explore their incorporation into FONTAGRO, as well as possible partnerships.

# 5

## MONITORING OUR PROJECTS



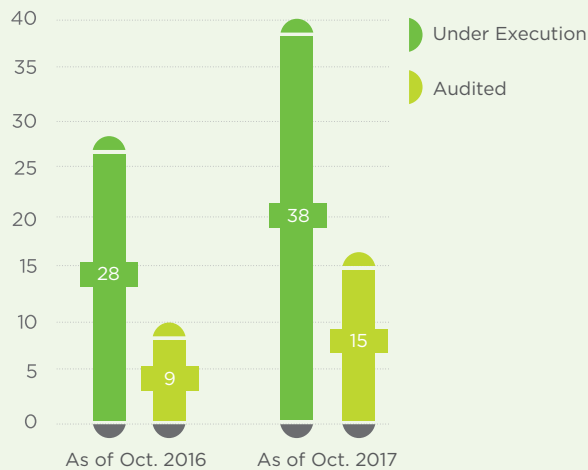
### MONITORING OUR PROJECTS

**WE HAVE 38 ongoing operations totaling \$9.86 million, and 15 operations, totaling \$0.97 million, are being audited. Amounts disbursed total 43%.**

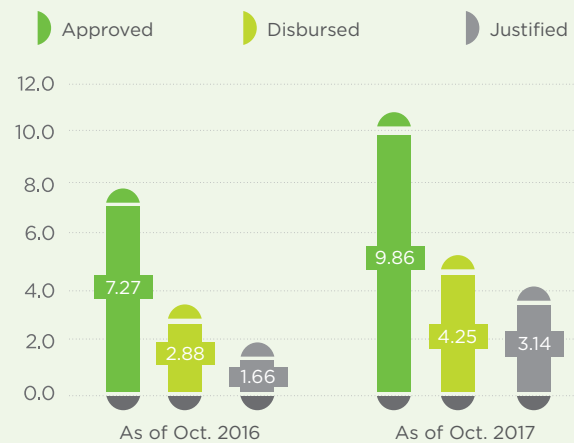
The following charts include information on the status of our operations and contributions.

#### Performance of FONTAGRO Operations

**Chart 2. Number of Operations**

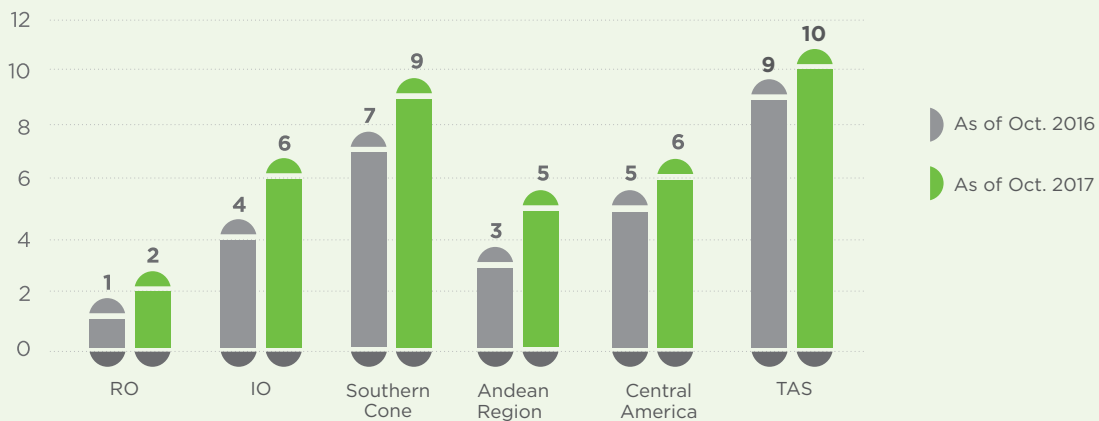


**Chart 3. Value of Operations (\$ in millions)**



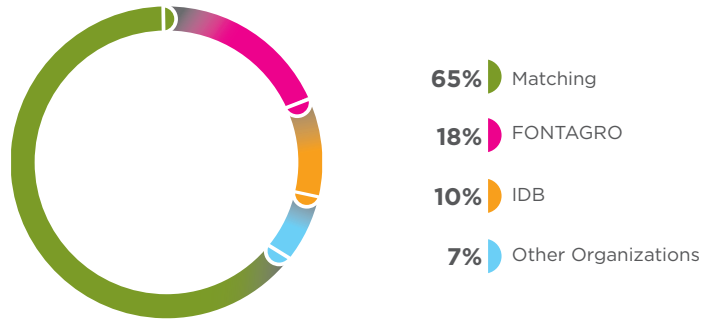
Source: TAS, 2017

**Chart 4. Number of Operations by Region and Organization**



Note: RO: Regional Organization; IO: International Organization; TAS: FONTAGRO's Technical Administrative Secretariat

**Chart 5.  
Fund Contributions by Source of Origin (1998-2017)**



Source: TAS, 2017

# 6

## GOVERNANCE



### SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING FONTAGRO

At its Annual Meeting in October 2016 our Board of Directors approved the second amendment to the Agreement Establishing FONTAGRO. The IDB's Board of Executive Directors approved the addendum to the Administration Agreement through document GN-1965-14 (Resolution DE-35/17, dated August 2, 2017), which enables us to operate more flexibly.

### OUR AUTHORITIES

**WE RENEWED** our authorities during the Twenty-first Annual Meeting of FONTAGRO's Board of Directors; representatives of 14 FONTAGRO member countries elected a new president and vice president for its Board of Directors for the 2017-2018 term, as well as the new Executive Secretary.

#### Executive Committee



**Armando Bustillo, Engineer  
President**



**Dr. Julio Kalazich  
Vicepresident**



**Dr. Hugo Li Pun  
Executive Secretary  
2011-2017 term**

**WE THANK Dr. Hugo Li Pun**, our outgoing Executive Secretary, who has completed two successful periods in charge of the Executive Secretariat and will end his term on December 31, 2017.



**Dr. Eugenia Saini, PhD  
Executive Secretary Elect**

# 7

## OUR FINANCES

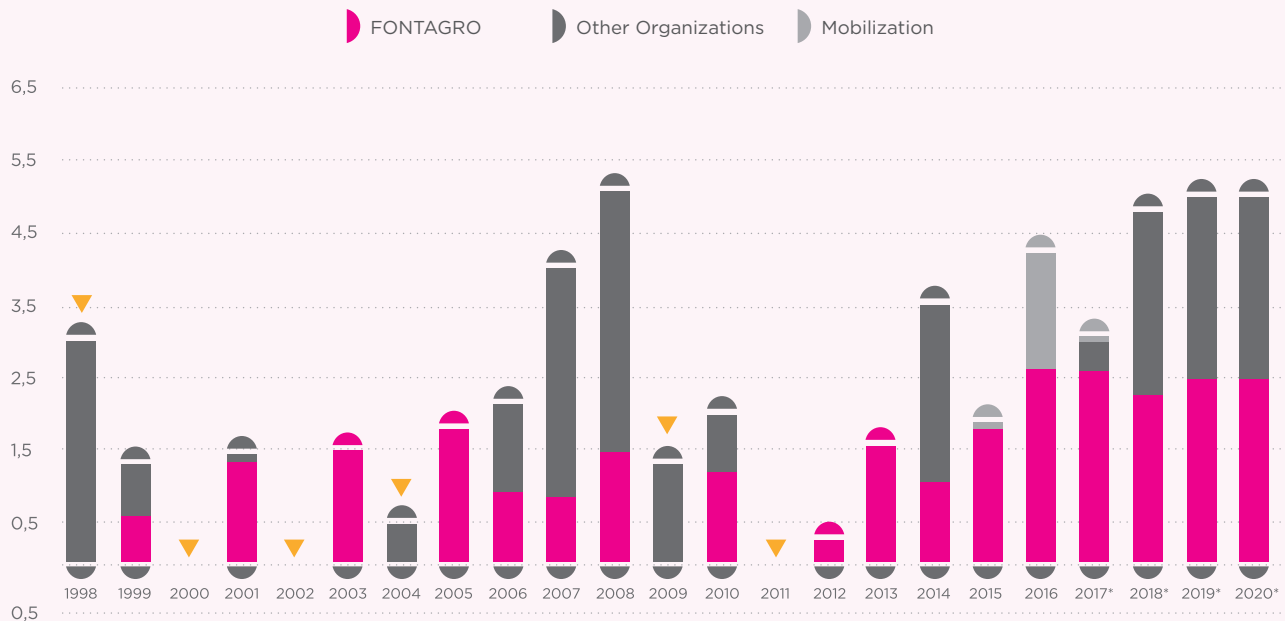


### FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**WE INCREASED** our assets by 2% and we decreased our liabilities by 14%. Our financial position as of December 31, 2016, was 1.6% higher than the previous year (according to our audited financial statements as of December 31, 2016). The following chart shows the evolution of annual contributions made by FONTAGRO and its partners.

### EVOLUTION OF RESOURCES MOBILIZATION

Chart 6. Annually Allocated Funds, by Type of Source of Funding



Notes: (\*) projected figures. The orange arrows on the chart show the years in which FONTAGRO did not make contributions to new projects. Funds from other organizations include contributions executed and/or mobilized by FONTAGRO.

Source: TAS, 2017



# ABOUT FONTAGRO

We are a unique cooperation mechanism among countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as Spain, that promotes family agriculture innovation, competitiveness, and food security.

We were established in 1998 and we have fifteen member countries that have contributed a capital of some \$100 million.

Our sponsors: the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) provides us with legal, administrative, and technical support and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) provides us with technical and strategic support.

**\$105.5 MILLION MOBILIZED, GENERATING INNOVATIONS IN FAMILY AGRICULTURE**

**MORE THAN 110 INSTITUTIONAL AGREEMENTS SIGNED WITH 186 PARTNERS SINCE 1998**

## OUR VISION

**TO BE AN INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED MECHANISM OF COOPERATION FOR STRENGTHENING SUSTAINABLE AGRIFOOD AND AGRIBUSINESS INNOVATION AMONG MEMBER COUNTRIES**

## OUR MISSION

**TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE INNOVATION OF FAMILY AGRICULTURE THROUGH COOPERATION AMONG MEMBER COUNTRIES, WHILE PROMOTING COMPETITIVENESS AND FOOD SECURITY BASED ON STANDARDS OF EQUITY AND SUSTAINABILITY**

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Carina Carrasco, FONTAGRO  
Eugenia Saini, FONTAGRO  
Hugo Li Pun, FONTAGRO  
David Gómez, FONTAGRO  
Priscila Henríquez, IICA

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This report was prepared by the  
Technical Administrative Secretariat of



with the support of the Knowledge Partnership Korea Fund for  
Technology and Innovation



and with support from FONTAGRO's sponsors



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