



ANNUAL REPORT 2017 2018



1998 · 2018

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENTS



ARMANDO BUSTILLO

Period: 2016 to June 2018

Sub-Director of SAG-DICTA, Honduras

Dear colleagues:

2018 has been an important milestone in the life of FONTAGRO as we celebrate our first 20 years. We have had an intense year of work with activities that gave results and impact. We have helped more than 25 countries, with 135 projects, platforms in public-private partnership with national organizations, national research institutes, universities, the private sector and regional and international organizations.

Much has been done during these years hand in hand with our sponsors and strategic partners which give us constant support in the initiatives we take to meet FONTAGRO's objectives, after achieving the necessary consensus.

Finally, I take leave having completed an important stage of my career. I thank the Board of Directors for their support for my efforts and the Technical-Administrative Secretariat for their strong collaboration with my work at FONTAGRO.

I feel privileged to have been part of this group of committed colleagues, who helped me to be a better professional and, fundamentally, the institution I have represented to strengthen its capacities, generously sharing their knowledge, through cooperation.

It has been an honor to represent 15 countries along the path to improving the lives of farming families in our region.

Fraternal Regards



GUILLERMO CERRITOS

Period: July to October 2018

Director of SAG-DICTA Honduras

Dear friends:

Regional and international cooperation is ever more necessary for joining forces and finding concrete solutions to common problems in the region. Investments in agricultural research, development and innovation are essential for increasing productivity and helping to find a sustainable solution to the problem of food security.

During this year at the head of the DICTA, I have joined the great FONTAGRO team and together we have taken active steps with strategic partnerships to achieve these objectives and, I am pleased to say, our participation in a range of organizations has visibly increased the positioning of this mechanism in our countries.

I wish to thank my predecessor for Honduras, Eng. Armando Bustillo, who held the presidency until I joined FONTAGRO. I also wish to especially congratulate the Secretariat for the efficient implementation of the annual operating plan this year and, for the Board of Directors, my recognition of their support for my work in the Presidency in this short period.

Lastly, I invite you to read this report with the desire to continue working together and contributing to the progress of agricultural research and innovation in the region.

With you always!

MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE SECRETARY



EUGENIA SAINI

Executive Secretary

Dear friends and colleagues,

In 2018, FONTAGRO completed 20 years of work and investment in research, development and innovation in Latin America and the Caribbean. Throughout these years and thanks to the constant support of the Board of Directors, sponsors, members of the Technical Administrative Secretariat, researchers and international strategic partners, a portfolio of 140 regional innovation platforms has been implemented throughout the territory, for an amount close to US\$111 million, of which FONTAGRO has contributed US\$22 million (20%) and achieved a leverage of up to US\$4 for each dollar invested directly.

The preliminary result of the latest external evaluation of FONTAGRO shows that a pool of only eight platforms (of the 140) has an impact that equals or exceeds the total capital invested in the last two decades, even without the impact of FONTAGRO's results outside the region and in other new lines of research.

But apart from the investment and impact, a distinction that makes FONTAGRO unique in the world is its capacity to create synergies and networks inside and outside the region. The role of facilitator that brings together scientists, technicians, students, business owners, decisionmakers, entrepreneurs, producers, and innumerable other actors from around the world; all passionate about science and innovation in agriculture and about “learning-by-doing” in multi- and inter-disciplinary and multicultural environments, thus reinforcing one of our great strengths which is to support the building of unique social capital.

From the Technical-Administrative Secretariat we wish to express our deepest gratitude to all of you for your support for FONTAGRO and letting us be part of this family.



HIGHLIGHTS

From November 2017 to October 2018 these were the results we achieved:

WE EXECUTED 56 PROJECTS FOR US\$10.3 MILLION AND of which 36 are in execution and the rest are in process of audit and closing with a disbursement percentage of 46%.



1. WE successfully **LAUNCHED** for the sixth consecutive year the annual 2018 call for proposals and approved two projects of the 2018 call for a total of US\$1.9 million, of which US\$0.6 million are contributed by FONTAGRO.



2. WE APPROVED THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS:

Seed Funds:



- “Seed fund for water management in agriculture 2030-2050”.
- “Seed fund for gene editing for genetic improvement in plant and animal species”.
- “Seed fund socio-ecological resilience”.
- “Seed fund carbon sequestration”.
- “Seed fund for creation of the multi-agency cacao platform 2030-2050”.



Joint-Based Projects:

- “Multi-agency cacao platform 2030-2050, for a total amount: US\$2.4 Million, of which US\$0.45 Corresponds to FONTAGRO.
- “Use of legumes in livestock systems, for a total amount: US\$1.8 Million, of which US\$0.30 Corresponds to FONTAGRO.



3. WE GAVE a face-to-face course for writing profiles project proposals for FONTAGRO in Panamá, and two online editions.



4. WE CELEBRATED our 20th Anniversary with experts and representatives of the agricultural sector in Washington D. C. at the IDB headquarters.



5. WE PUBLISHED a commemorative publication that includes accounts of the origin and evolution of the founders and key people in the development of FONTAGRO over the last 20 years.



6. WE ORGANIZED dissemination activities including the XIII Annual Technical Monitoring Workshop of FONTAGRO projects and the III Symposium on Adaptation to Climate Change in Washington D.C.



7. WE RECOGNIZED the “Bases for the generation of an integrated adaptation-mitigation strategy for livestock systems in Latin America”, with the VIII Award for Scientific Excellence 2018 FONTAGRO.



8. WE ORGANIZED eight webinars based in our innovations platforms.



9. WE EXPLORED new memberships and new partnerships and actively participated in events which increased fontagro's positioning and visibility.



10. WE MAINTAINED the investment portfolio with higher than expected returns.



11. WE ADMINISTERED and MONITORED our projects, providing training in administration and financial management for project leaders.

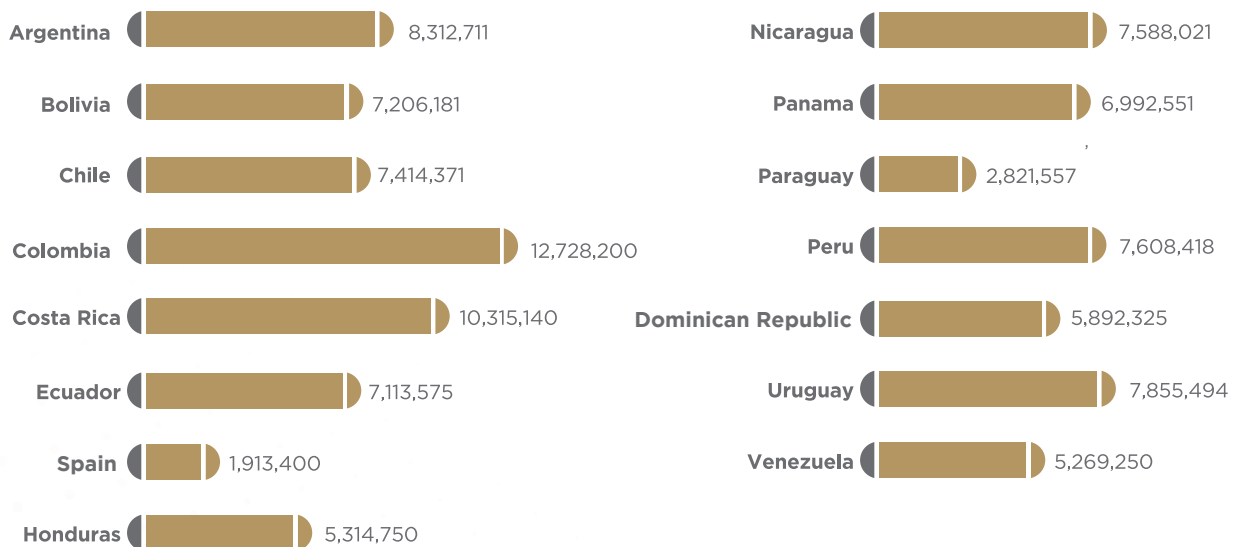


WE WORK FOR OUR COUNTRIES

FONTAGRO has an ordinary capital of US\$83 million constituted from contributions from countries of the Southern Cone (36%), the Andean Region (33%), Spain (18%), and Central America and the Caribbean (14%).

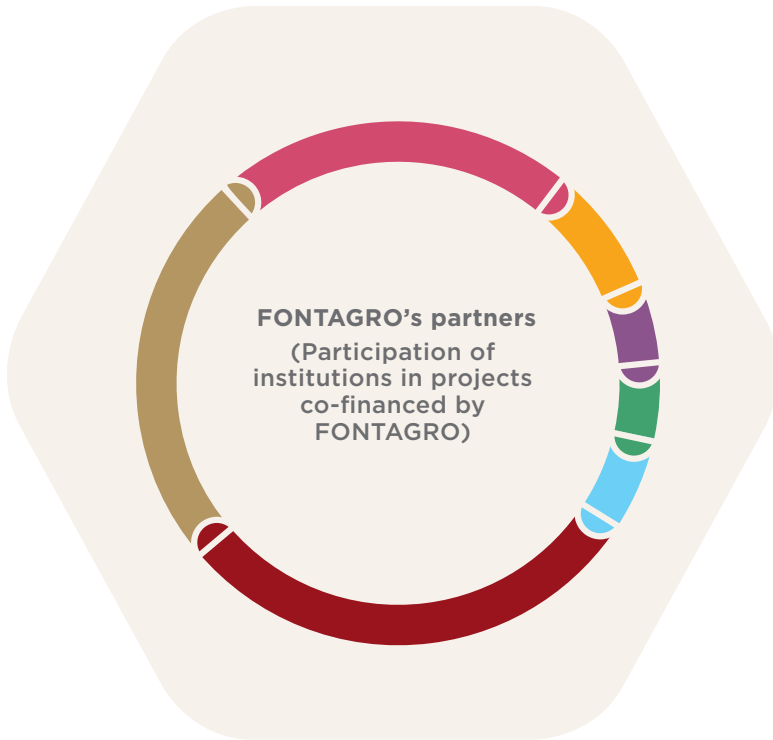
The following figures show FONTAGRO's support for member countries between 1998-2018, and the approximate amounts of the projects in which each country participated.

**Financing by member country
(In US\$)**



Source: STA

47% of our partners are national research institutions or universities in the region, 30% are private sector institutions, and 23% are regional, international and extra-regional institutions and NGO's.



- 30% Private sector
- 24% Universities in the region
- 23% National institutions
- 8% Advanced Institutions and Extra-regional universities
- 5% Regional institutions
- 4% International institutions
- 6% NGO





OUR RESULTS AND ACTIVITIES

For the period 2017-2018, we had the following results:

1. CALL FOR PROPOSALS 2018: WE LAUNCHED the Ordinary Call 2018 which aims to scale up innovations to improve family farming in Latin America and the Caribbean. We approved two new initiatives for the total amount including counterparties is US\$1,987,377:



- “Scaling up continuous improvement of family exports of organic bananas (BOXF),” led by the Institute of Agricultural and Forestry Research (IDIAF) of the Dominican Republic, with the participation of the National Institute of Agrarian Innovation (INIA) of Peru and the Autonomous National Institute of Agricultural Research (INIAP) of Ecuador, for a total amount of US\$948,827.



- “Sustainable control of the Huanglongbing (HLB) vector in Family Farming in Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay and Bolivia” led by the National Institute of Agricultural Technology (INTA) with the ArgenINTA Foundation of Argentina, and the participation of the National Institute of Agricultural Research (INIA) of Uruguay, National University of Itapúa (UNI) of Paraguay, Municipal Autonomous Government of Bermejo of Bolivia, for a total amount of US\$1,038,550.

2. JOINT-BASED PROJECTS In 2018, two new projects were approved for a total amount of US\$4,496,045.

WE CO-FINANCED:



- Legume-based livestock systems led by Fundación Argentina with the participation of INIA (Chile), INIAP (Ecuador), INTA (Nicaragua), IDIAF (Dominican Republic), IPTA (Paraguay) and INIA (Uruguay) for a total amount of US\$1,794,524.

- “Multi-agency cacao platform for Latin America and the Caribbean - Cacao 2030-2050” led by ESPOL (Ecuador) with the participation of INIAP (Ecuador), AGROSAVIA (Colombia), INTA (Costa Rica) and eleven partner institutions for a total amount of US\$2,701,521.

3. SEED FUNDS: During 2018, six new applications for seed funds were submitted, of which, to date, four have been approved for a total amount of US\$120,000.

WE CO-FINANCED:



- “Multi-agency cacao platform for Latin America and the Caribbean - Cacao 2030-2050” led by ESPOL (Ecuador) with the participation of INIAP (Ecuador), AGROSAVIA (Colombia), INTA (Costa Rica), CATIE, CIAT, IDIAF (Dominican Republic), UNA Costa Rica, for a total amount of US\$180,411.

- “Platform for Sustainable Agricultural Intensification 2030/2050, based on innovative strategies for carbon sequestration in Latin America and the Caribbean” led by INIA (Uruguay), with the participation of INIIA (Chile), INTA (Argentina), and CATIE for a total amount of US\$80,000,. This initiative has a commitment from the Ministry of Primary Industries of New Zealand for NZ\$450,000.

WE APPROVED:



- “Platform for Water Management in Agriculture 2030-2050” led by INIA (Chile) with the participation of INIA (Spain), CSIC, INTA (Argentina), and 20 institutions of the region for a total amount of US\$169,373.

- “Gene editing for genetic improvement in plant and animal species” led by AGROSAVIA (Colombia) with the participation of the Ministry of Agribusiness of Argentina, INIA (Uruguay), INIA (Chile), INIAP (Ecuador) and PROCISUR, for a total amount of US\$110,642.

4. The Technical-Administrative Secretariat at the request of the Board of Directors executed a group of projects related to knowledge and communication management, adaptation to climate change, impact assessment, and capacity building, whose final results can be seen on our website. They are:

Projects executed by the Secretariat

✓ Adaptation and mitigation to climate change:

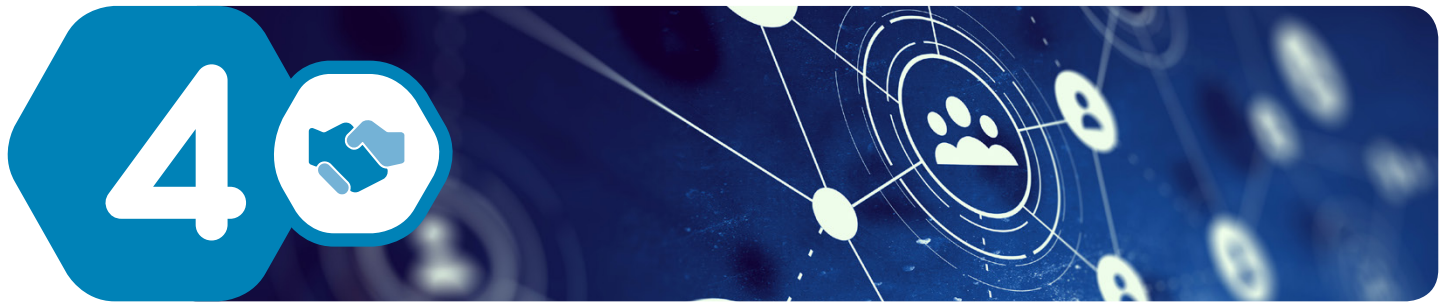
- Climate technology transfer mechanisms and networks in Latin America and the Caribbean. With the support of the Global Environment Facility (GEF).
- Climate Technology Transfer Mechanisms and Networks in LAC (counterpart FONTAGRO)
- Networking and Capacity Building (FTG/STA)

Knowledge and communication management

- ✓ Knowledge Management (KPK III) and counterpart
- Implementation Strategy KCM

Capacity building

- ✓ Capacity building
- Impact evaluation



PARTNERSHIPS AND MEMBERSHIPS

This section includes partnership and membership activities carried out in the period.

Director General of IICA visited the FONTAGRO offices



WE MET with Dr. Manuel Otero, Director General of IICA, along with other representatives of the Institute, during a visit to Washington D.C.

Meeting with representatives of the National University of Seoul



WE PARTICIPATED in meetings during a visit by representatives of Seoul National University - Pyeongchang Campus & Advanced Agricultural Technology of the Republic of Korea.

Presentation at the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs of Korea



WE WERE INVITED to a presentation organized by the IDB for the delegation of representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs of the Government of the Republic of Korea to explore areas of common interest for international cooperation.

Meeting of FORAGRO Steering Committee. Argentina



WE PARTICIPATED in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in the Meeting of the FORAGRO Executive Committee and the workshop on definition of the needs and vision of FORAGRO.

First Workshop: Climate change and livestock development in Latin America and the Caribbean - Costa Rica, in the framework of the sustainable livestock platform co-financed by FONTAGRO, the GEF and New Zealand. Costa Rica



WE ORGANIZED, with the World Bank, the Global Research Alliance on Greenhouse Gases (GRA), the Global Agenda for the Sustainable Development of Livestock (GASL coordinated by FAO), FAO, and CATIE, the workshop in the framework of the Latin American and Caribbean platform for the Sustainable Intensification of Animal Production. The platform is co-financed by GRA-NZ and FONTAGRO and the Global Environment Facility (GEF).

LXIII Annual Meeting of the PCCMCA - 2018. Panama



WE PARTICIPATED in Panama in the meeting of the Central American Cooperative Program for Crop and Animal Improvement (PCCMCA) under the slogan “Technological innovation for the sustainable development of agriculture and food sovereignty.” The meeting was hosted by the IDIAP of Panama.

IDB Mission to Israel



WE PARTICIPATED in a mission to Israel organized by the IDB to learn cutting-edge technologies and innovations for agriculture and different models of agribusiness and financing. During the mission, representatives of the IDB, the IDB Lab (former MIF) and FONTAGRO, among others, met with officials from the public and private sectors in Israel, among other activities.

Coordination with the IDB



WE ORGANIZED a working session on Agtechs, together with IDB Lab and the IDB, in the framework of the joint effort to organize calls for projects that generate new cases of agricultural technology known as Agtechs.

WE PARTICIPATED in the ForoMIC, an annual event.

XVI Meeting of the Ibero-America INIA System (Chile)



WE PARTICIPATED in the XVI Meeting of the INIA System of Ibero-America organized by the INIA of Spain and hosted by the INIAP Ecuador, and the key theme was governance in the agricultural sector, with an especial focus in the national research institutions

New memberships



WE STARTED membership efforts with the countries of the Caribbean, Guatemala and Brazil.



KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

WE COMPLEMENTED the efforts of the existing technical cooperation with the Korean Partnership for Knowledge in Technology and Innovation (KPK) to continue implementing the knowledge and communication management strategy.

Results and achievements in the period:

- **WE PARTICIPATED** in social media with more than 149,870 impressions on Twitter.
- **WE PUBLISHED** 2 new digital annual reports.
- **WE LAUNCHED** a Virtual Course: “[Communication tools for agricultural research and development projects FONTAGRO Case](#)”.
- **WE PUBLISHED** 32 [press releases](#) and received 71 mentions in the media.
- **WE CREATED** and published 10 microsites of FONTAGRO projects.
- **WE WROTE** an article in blogs of sponsors and related international organizations (more than 4,000 views).
- **WE SENT** 8 [newsletters](#): one in English.
- **WE ORGANIZED** a face-to-face meeting in the Regional Agricultural Communication Network in Washington D.C. in 2018.





KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS



“FONTAGRO: 20 years supporting innovation in family farming in LAC”.

WE PRESENTED for the anniversary of FONTAGRO during the celebration event on June 4, 2018 a commemorative publication available on the website in the following link.



“The new agriculture” Report of the celebration and the FONTAGRO Technical Workshop.

WE DEVELOPED, for the events of the III Symposium: “Adaptation of family farming to climate change in Latin America and the Caribbean” and the XIII Technical Monitoring Workshop of FONTAGRO Projects, a report available on the website in the following link.

Other institutional publications



Annual Report 2016-2017.

Annual Report 2016-2017 Digital. Available in this link.



KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION AND PROGRESS OF PROJECTS

WE ORGANIZED:

Program of Webinars 2018



WE ORGANIZED, in the framework of the dissemination activities included in the knowledge and communication management strategy, a webinar program with 56 online participants. The seminars were:

- **Regional platforms for agricultural innovation: Lessons Learned**
- **Young scientists in agriculture: Benefits and challenges**
- **Collective innovation. Apiculture Platform RedLAC**

Celebration of the 20th Anniversary of FONTAGRO - Washington D.C.



WE CELEBRATED at the IDB headquarters in Washington D.C., the twentieth anniversary of our foundation. The event included a presentation of the commemorative publication “FONTAGRO. 20 years supporting innovation in family farming in Latin America and Spain,” which can be consulted in this [link](#).

XIII Workshop on Technical Monitoring of Projects - Washington D.C.



WE ORGANIZED the workshop in Washington D.C. as part of the celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the creation of FONTAGRO. The workshop was attended by representatives of 15 FONTAGRO’s members countries. The technical tour included a technical visit to the United States Department of Agriculture, the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (USDA-ARS, BARC), and the facilities of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). To see the presentations, visit the [link](#).

III Symposium on Adaptation of Family Farming to Climate Change



WE ORGANIZED, as part of the celebrations, the III Symposium on adaptation of family farming to climate change, supported by the BID, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and FONTAGRO. The symposium included a conference on **open source technologies** by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in support of adaptation of agriculture to climate change.

VIII Prize for Scientific Excellence 2018



WE AWARDED the project: **“Integrated Adaptation-Mitigation Strategy for LAC Livestock Systems”** led by researcher and deputy director Marta Alfaro of the National Institute of Agricultural Innovation (INIA), Chile.



Regional Network of Agricultural Communication



WE ORGANIZED, on June 8, 2018, during the XIII Workshop on Technical Monitoring of Projects, the II Meeting of the **Regional Network of Agricultural Communication FONTAGRO**, with the aim of bringing together professionals and communicators to present examples of good communication practices at national level, and share experiences related to their work of disseminating results.



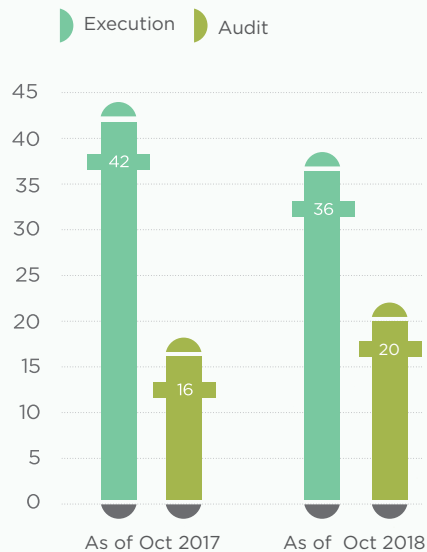
MONITORING OUR PROJECTS

WE HAVE 56 operations in execution for US\$10.3 million, of which 36 are in execution and the rest in process of audit and closing with a disbursement percentage of 46%.

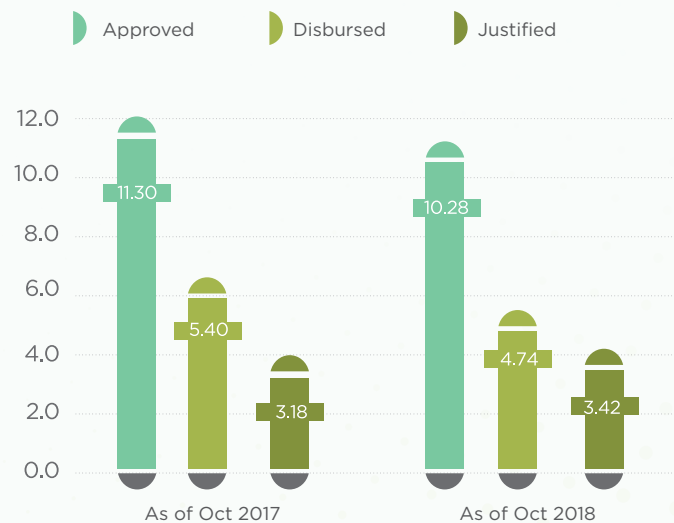
In the graphics below show information on the current situation of operations.

FONTAGRO: Performance of Operations

Number of operations



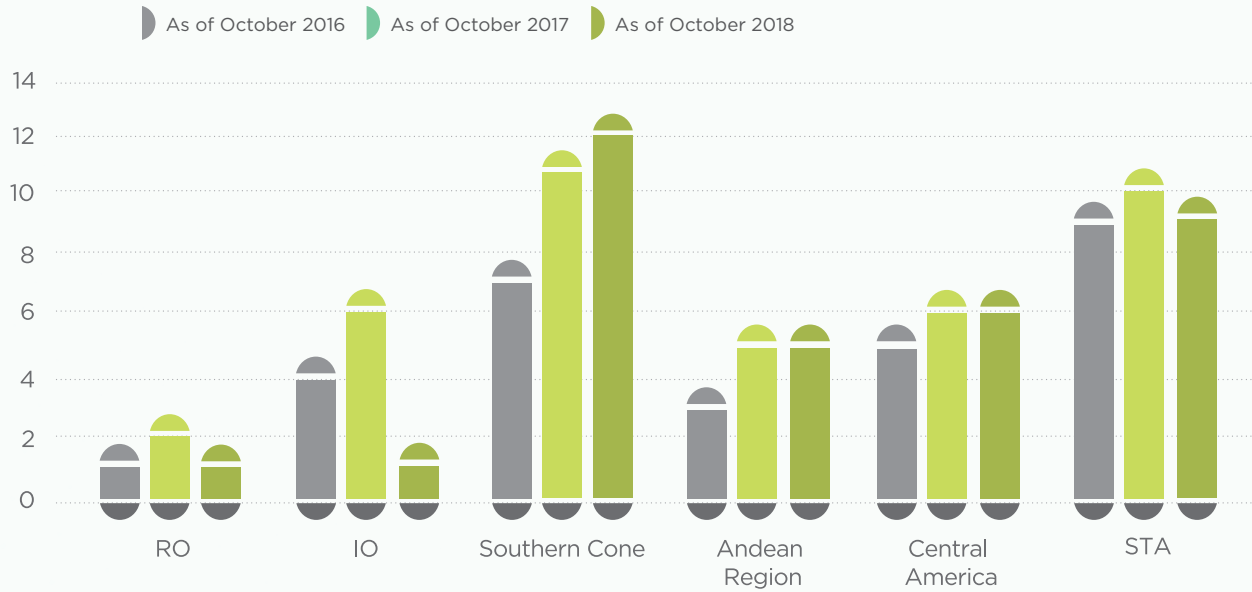
Value of operations (in millions of US\$)



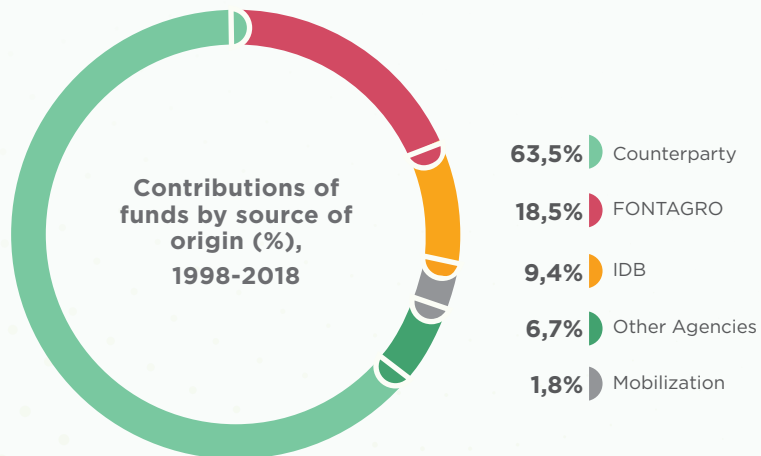
Note: the difference in the number of transactions between years is because some of them have been closed.

Source: STA, 2018

Number of operations by region and organization



Note: RO: Regional Organization; IO: International Organization; FTG/STA: Technical Administrative Secretariat.



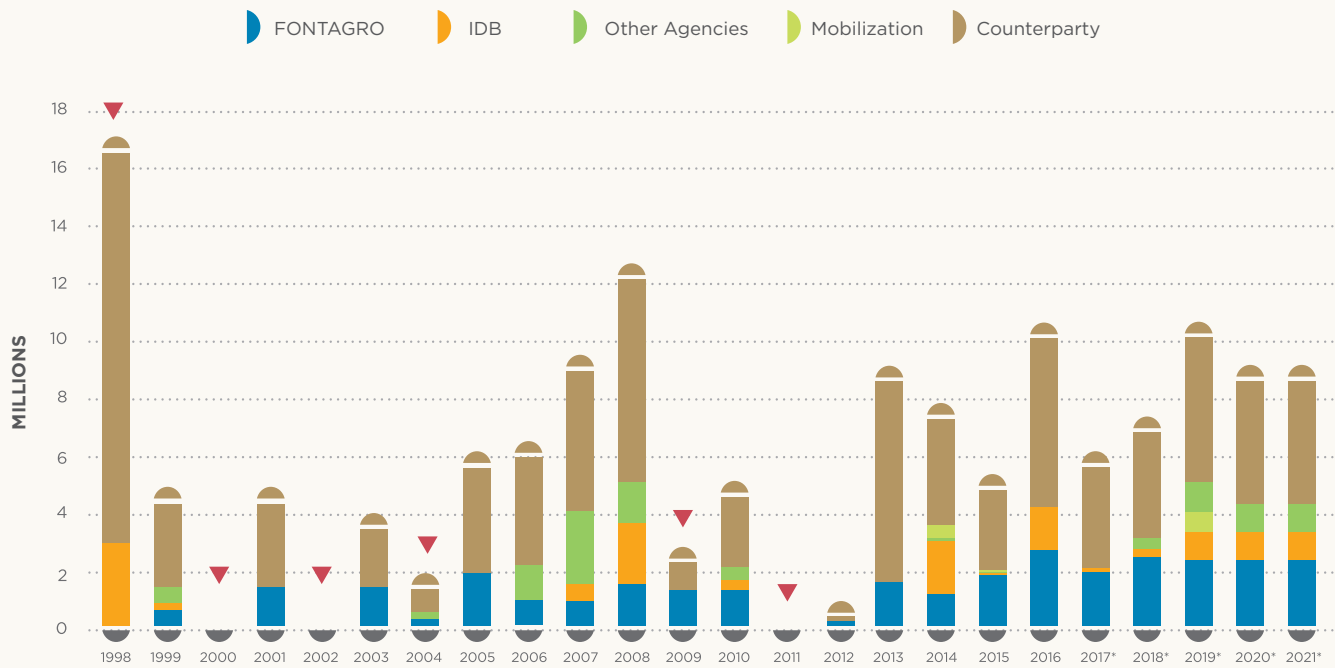
Source: STA, 2018



OUR FINANCES

Graphic below shows the evolution of the annual contributions of FONTAGRO and its partners. Funds from other agencies include contributions executed and/or mobilized by FONTAGRO.

Funds allocated annually, by type of funding source



Source: FONTAGRO Technical Administrative Secretariat, 2018. Note: (*) projected figures. There was no call for projects in 2000, 2002, 2004, 2009, 2011, and 2012.



GOVERNANCE

Approval of Operations Manual 2018

The Technical-Administrative Secretariat worked to update the Operations Manual (MOP) of FONTAGRO, with the aim of introducing new mechanisms such as remission of co-financing notes and requests for seed funds, joint-based projects and other initiatives.

IX Extraordinary Meeting of Board of Directors in Washington D.C.

WE HELD the IX Extraordinary Meeting of the Board of Directors of FONTAGRO in the framework of the XIII Workshop on Technical Monitoring of Projects. The meeting approved actions of the partnership and membership strategy 2018-2020, a joint-based project and two seed funds.

Our Authorities

WE RENEWED our authorities during the XXII Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors of FONTAGRO, Representatives of 14-member countries of FONTAGRO elected the new president and vice president of the Board of Directors for the period 2018-2019.



Dr. Pedro Bustos Valdivia
President

National Director of the Institute of Agricultural Research (INIA) of Chile.



Dr. Axel Villalobos
Vicepresident

General Director of the Agricultural Research Institute of Panama (IDIAP).

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 have fifteen member countries that have contributed a capital of \$83.05 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.

▶ **US\$110 MILLION MOBILIZED, GENERATING INNOVATIONS IN FAMILY FARMING**

▶ **MORE THAN 140 INSTITUTIONAL AGREEMENTS SIGNED WITH 186 PARTNERS SINCE 1998**

OUR VISION

To be an internationally recognized mechanism of cooperation for sustainable agricultural and agribusiness innovation among member countries.

OUR MISSION

To contribute to the innovation of family farming through cooperation among member countries, while promoting competitiveness and food security based on standards of equity and sustainability.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

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FONTAGRO SECRETARIAT



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for Technology and Innovation



With the support of its sponsors



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