Key Partners

As the lead organization for IYP, FAO drew on its expertise in potato development, its experience in facilitating other International Years (Rice 2004 and Mountains 2002), and its regional, liaison and representative offices across the world to coordinate a global awareness and action campaign. It also sought to involve the entire “potato community” in observation of the International Year.

International partners

- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC)
- International Potato Center (CIP)
- Bioversity International
- International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
- Global Forum for Agricultural Research (GFAR)
- The European Union (EU)
- International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

Donors

Funding for IYP implementation was provided by:

- Governments
  - Ireland
  - Italy
  - Spain
  - Switzerland
  - Friuli Venezia Giulia, Italy
- Private sector
  - HZPC Holland
  - McCain Foods Ltd
  - Nikon Europe
  - J. R. Simplot
  - United States Potato Board

Informal International Steering Committee

Implementation of IYP 2008 was guided by an Informal International Steering Committee, made up of representatives of government, potato producers and the potato industry. For a full list of committee members, see page 136.
National Participation

A key objective of the International Year was the creation of national committees that would promote IYP observance and, in developing countries, lay the foundations for long-term potato development programmes. Some examples:

Belgium. IYP celebrations were organized by a task force with representatives of input suppliers, potato growers’ associations, the processing industry, distributors and consumer groups, and delegates from regional governments.

Bolivia. The Ministry of Rural Development, Agriculture and Environment formed a national committee with representatives of FAO, government departments, the national seed potato enterprise, the potato producers’ association, research and training institutes and NGOs.

China. IYP observation was coordinated by a committee representing FAO, the Ministry of Agriculture, the China Academy of Agricultural Sciences, the Chinese Cuisine Association, the Peruvian embassy and CIP’s liaison office in Beijing.

Ireland. The committee included representatives of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, the Irish
Pakistan. Coordinated by the National Potato Programme, the IYP committee consisted of representatives from the Agricultural Research Council, potato seed companies, processing industries, NGOs, farmer associations and provincial research organizations.

Nepal. The Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives created a committee representing the Ministries of health, population and water resources, departments of agriculture and food technology, the National Agriculture Research Council and Potato Development Programme.

Peru. For IYP, the Peruvian Government established a National Multisectoral Commission with an executive team composed of delegates from the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Tourism, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, FAO and CIP.

Syrian Arab Republic. The national committee represented the General Commission for Scientific Agricultural Research, the General Organization for Seeds Multiplication, and directorates of plant production and agricultural extension.