



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



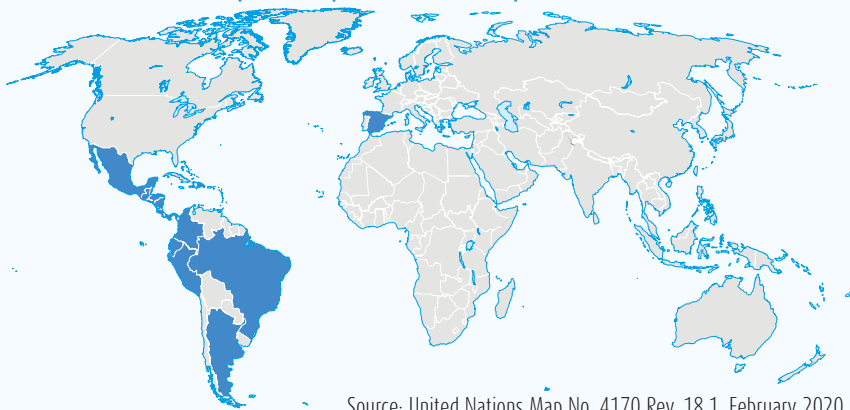
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# Developing capacities to enhance sustainable agrifood systems and combating climate change

FAO and Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (UPM) recognize the need for developing national capacities at all levels – institutional, professional and youth – to achieve the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In this context, FAO and UPM

are strengthening knowledge resources and policies to enhance sustainable agrifood systems and combating climate change. Such activities will increase food security and nutrition, with emphasis on Central America, Latin America and Caribbean countries.

■ Countries where the partnership activities were implemented



Source: United Nations Map No. 4170 Rev. 18.1, February 2020

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## PARTNERSHIP MILESTONES

- 2016 Memorandum of Understanding established partnership
- 2019 Partnership renewed for three-year period

CONTRIBUTING TO





# KEY RESULTS

**01** | Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGGT) and Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (CFS-RAI Principles) included into curricula and research within 27 universities in seven countries.

**02** | International Network of Universities created through Protocol signed by 15 universities in seven countries to adopt academic application of the CFS-RAI Principles. The Network facilitates knowledge, collaborative research and dialogues amongst the institutions. To date CFS-RAI Principles have been included in 13 graduate and 16 postgraduate programmes.

**03** | Facilitation of exchange experiences on the inclusion of the CFS-RAI Principles in university curricula organized with 214 participants from 40 universities in ten countries. As a result, participating universities committed to work on the CFS-RAI Principles and new universities requested to be part of the International Network.

**04** | Event on adoption of responsible business conduct through the application of the CFS-RAI Principles saw the participation of more than 70 private companies and producer organizations from 11 countries, with 16 of these who officially committed to include the CFS-RAI Principles in their companies' policies.

**05** | Two PhD theses were published based on the experience promoted by FAO in the areas of food security, nutrition governance and rural economics in Latin America and the Caribbean.

**06** | Analysis and systematization of good practices (included in two publications) on climate smart agriculture for the dry corridor carried out in coordination with Central American governments and organizations.

**07** | UPM participates in the Right to Food Observatory network. An international forum was organized in Madrid to promote the experience of the Observatory supporting public policies for the right to food.

## LOOKING FORWARD

- The collaboration with UPM has achieved important results, especially with the International Network of Universities, which has enhanced the understanding of responsible investments in agriculture in several universities and is continuing to expand its network.
- Universities are also a powerful bridge to connect with the private sector, and through their advocacy, an increasing number of companies are learning about responsible investment in agriculture and food systems and applying the CFS-RAI Principles in their businesses.
- Planned activities include tailored capacity-development for the private sector and parliamentarians to contribute to the enhancement of responsible agricultural investment in selected countries.

## CONTACT

FAO Partnerships with Academia and Research Institutions:

[www.fao.org/partnerships/academia](http://www.fao.org/partnerships/academia)

FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean

FAO-RLC@fao.org

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy



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FAO Responsible Agricultural Investments

[www.fao.org/in-action/responsible-agricultural-investments/en/](http://www.fao.org/in-action/responsible-agricultural-investments/en/)

UPM Cooperación Internacional (International Cooperation)

[www.upm.es](http://www.upm.es)

[cooperacion.internacional@upm.es](mailto:cooperacion.internacional@upm.es)



## AREAS OF COLLABORATION

Capacity development and promotion of sustainable agriculture through climate-smart applications and disaster risk management approaches including the Climate-Smart Agriculture Strategy of the Central American Integration System in the Dry Corridor of Central America and the Strategy for Disaster Risk Management in the Agricultural Sector in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Strengthening the application of the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems and the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security. Development of policy dialogues and training on instruments and agreements for the promotion of healthy eating, rural development and sustainable management of natural resources.

Postgraduate training, research and capacity development through internships and fellowships in FAO.

## IN PARTNERSHIP WITH UPM

Universidad Politécnica de Madrid is a public university founded in 1971 through the consolidation of many of its independent technical schools which date back to the 18th and 19th centuries. As one of the top universities in Spain, UPM has approximately 2 500 staff and 38 000 students and teaches and undertakes research in 13 areas of graduate and undergraduate studies. Several UPM bodies are contributing to the development and success of the partnership, including the Centro de Estudios e Investigación para la Gestión en Riesgos Agrarios y Medioambientales, the Instituto de Tecnología para el Desarrollo humano and the Grupo de Investigación en Planificación y Gestión Sostenible del Desarrollo Rural Local.



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