

International Federation of Agricultural Producers

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IFAP: A Worldwide Farmers' Organisation

The International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP) is a world farmers' organisation. Founded in 1946, it currently represents more than 600 million family farms with a membership of 115 national farmers' organisations in 80 countries around the world. IFAP has General Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

Vision and Mission

IFAP's vision is a world free from hunger, in which farmers and their families are able to live decently from their work. IFAP's mission is to develop farmers' capacities to influence decisions that affect them at both the domestic and international levels. Through its action, IFAP: helps to secure the fullest cooperation between organisations of agricultural producers in meeting the optimum nutritional and consumptive requirements of the peoples of the world, and helps to improve the economic and social status of all who live by and on the land.

Objectives

- To Act as a platform or forum in which leaders of national farmers' organisations can meet to:
 - highlight mutual interests and take co-ordinated action to further such interests;
 - develop an understanding of world problems; and
 - exchange information, experiences and ideas.
- Keep members informed about international events of concern to them as farmer organisations.
- Act as a recognized spokesperson for the world's farmers, bringing concerns of agricultural producers to the attention of international meetings of governments and other bodies.
- Promote the creation and strengthening of independent, representative organisations of farmers throughout the world.

Structure

IFAP's main event is the World Farmers' Congress which occurs every two years. It brings together all member organisations and operates by the principle of one vote per country. At this Congress, the Federation's President and the 24 members of the Executive Committee are elected and policy priorities are established. IFAP's secretariat, situated in Paris, France is in charge of the management of the organisation and the actual implementation of IFAP's members' decisions. IFAP is composed of numerous committees and working groups whose presidents are also elected at the World Farmers' Congress.

Specialized Committees

- **Commodity Groups:** Grains and Oilseeds, Sugar, Tropical Commodities (cocoa, coffee and cotton), Dairy Products, Meats and Feeds.
- **Regional Committees:** Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia, the Mediterranean.
- **Standing Committees:** Agricultural Cooperatives, Women in Agriculture, Young Farmers.
- **Development Cooperation Committee:** DCC is the main instrument of IFAP's development activities.

IFAP in Action

The focus of IFAP's policy work is to improve the position of farmers in a rapidly changing world-wide environment, characterized by globalization, liberalization and changes in what is expected from the agricultural sector. IFAP's policy priorities are the following:

- Increasing recognition for farming as a profession, and recognition of farmers' contributions to the well-being of mankind.
- Supporting the family farm as the basis of a sustainable system of agriculture, for today and in the future.
- Promoting farmer-to-farmer cooperation for strengthening farmers' organisations to participate in self-help development.
- Pressing for farm policies to achieve food security, poverty eradication and the opportunity to earn a fair and reasonable income from farming.
- Promoting the best farming practices resulting from scientific and technological progress, in order to achieve high levels of food safety and food quality throughout the food chain, and conservation of the natural resource base.
- Maintaining and enhancing the vitality of rural communities.
- Strengthening the situation of the farmer faced with substantial industry concentration in the food chain.

Through its actions to promote mutual understanding and dialogue among farmers of different countries, IFAP plays an essential role in world agriculture.

Financing

IFAP is financed by contributions from its member organisations, which are granted on a voluntary basis. IFAP also receives development assistance to fund its developing countries activities.

Membership

Africa	The Americas	Asia and Oceania	Europe
Algeria	Argentina	Armenia	Austria
Arab Republic of Egypt	Belize	Australia	Belgium
Benin	Brazil	Bangladesh	Cyprus
Burkina Faso	Canada	Cambodia	Denmark
Central African Rep.	Chile	Fidji	Finland
Comores	Colombia	India	France
Côte d'Ivoire	Costa Rica	Indonesia	Georgia
Dem. Republic of Congo	El Salvador	Japan	Germany
Ghana	Haiti	Jordan	Iceland
Guinea	Mexico	Mongolia	Ireland
Kenya	Nicaragua	Nepal	Italy
Madagascar	Paraguay	Pakistan	Luxembourg
Malawi	Peru	Palestine	Moldavia
Mali	Trinidad and Tobago	Papua New Guinea	Netherlands
Morocco	United States of America	Philippines	Norway
Niger	Uruguay	Rep. of Korea	Poland
Nigeria		Sri Lanka	Portugal
Rwanda		Taiwan	Spain
Senegal		Thailand	Sweden
Seychelles		Turkey	Switzerland
South Africa		Vietnam	United Kingdom
Tanzania			
Tunisia			
Uganda			
Zambia			
Zimbabwe			