



IICA operates the most complete agricultural information center in Latin America and the Caribbean

The Inter-American Information and Editorial Production Center comprises an information and documentation service and three libraries.

The Inter-American Information and Editorial Production Center (IIEPC) assists the personnel of IICA and its Member States in the development of knowledge, by effectively managing information related to making agriculture sustainable and competitive.

The Center operates the Alliance of Agricultural Information and Documentation Services of the Americas (SIDALC), which brings together more than 160 private and public institutions in 23 countries of the hemisphere that specialize in agriculture and the provision of information.

The Center is also responsible for the **editorial process** involved in producing IICA publications, and for preserving the institutional memory.

The Center also promotes strategic relations with organizations such as Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA), Tropical Agriculture Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE), Google, universities, among others.

SIDALC

The Alliance of SIDALC is considered one of the international public goods of IICA. It was created in 1999, after a Kellogg Foundation grant which was critical in developing the proof of concept and the provision of equipment and methodologies to manage agricultural knowledge at the national level, but integrated into a single international system (www.sidalc.net), including the proper institutionalism required for its sustainability.

Our Libraries

- The **Venezuela Library**, located at Headquarters, in San Jose, Costa Rica
- The **Orton Memorial Library**, located at CATIE, in Turrialba, Costa Rica
- The **digital library**, which can be visited on the IICA Website www.iica.int.

The **documentation centers** that operate in the Offices in the Member States also play a key role.

SIDALC, in operation for more than 10 years, carries out its work in the countries via networks or clusters of agricultural institutions interested in the effective management of information.

The Alliance, which is much more advanced than similar services in other parts of the world, has enormous potential for growth. The countries of Latin America and the Caribbean are in a position to provide important knowledge in the areas of agriculture and the management of agricultural information at the global level as a result of this experience.

The Library of IICA

The Venezuela Library, located at Institute Headquarters, ensures IICA's technical personnel access to timely and accurate information they need for their work.

The staff of Venezuela Library facilitates access to technical information related to agriculture and rural development, through information services that meet the needs of Institute personnel, users in the member countries and the agricultural community in general.

It houses specialized collections on rural development, natural resources and the environment, agribusiness, trade, innovation, agricultural health, management, food security, etc. of great scientific and technical value.

Its digital collection contains approximately 12,000 documents, available through its full-text digital library.

The Orton Memorial Library

IICA jointly with the CATIE maintains a library specialized in **agriculture, forestry sciences, livestock farming** and related areas.

The staff of Orton Memorial Library facilitates access to agricultural information and knowledge to researchers, as a contribution to sustainable development and rural well-being in the Americas.

The collection of the Orton Memorial Library comprises books, academic theses, journals, serial publications, nonconventional literature and map and videocassette collections. In particular, the collection of monographs has some **400,000 volumes** and the collection of periodic and serial publications has some **11,000 titles**, of which some 5,000 are still in circulation.

The IICA Digital Library

IIEPC has preserved the institutional memory of IICA in digital format. The information is available openly globally at www.iica.int. At present, the digital collection contains **5000 documents** produced by the Institute and more than 20.000 documents inside the [Google Books Program](#).