



RÉPUBLIQUE
FRANÇAISE

*Liberté
Égalité
Fraternité*



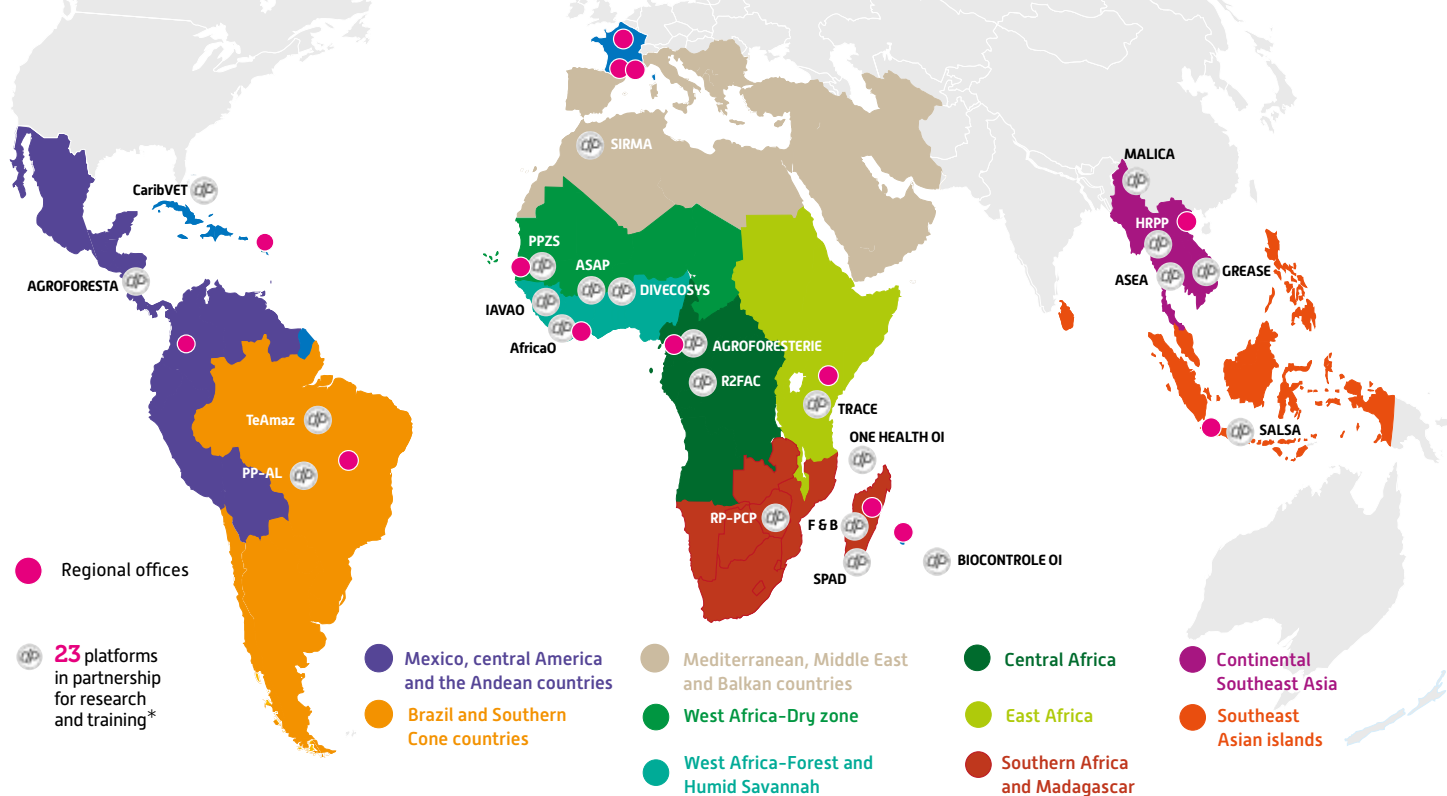
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH
FOR DEVELOPMENT



Working together
for tomorrow's agriculture

Key figures

Activities in partnership with more than **200 institutions**
in more than **100 countries**



CIRAD employees worldwide

200 based outside France,
60% of them **in Africa**,
our geostrategic priority

363 in the French overseas regions



Journal articles*

959 articles in peer-reviewed journals, including:

554 co-published with partners in the
global South;

755 in open access.



Social media

180 000+ subscribers*



Training

400+ PhD students supervised
or co-supervised each year
over 60% of whom come
from the global South

130 vocational training courses

6 100+ hours of teaching each year
for nearly **250** interns

120 Masters-level courses



* as of 30 June 2026

Engaged science, to build resilient farming systems in a sustainable, inclusive world

Six priority research topics guide its targeted research operations

Agroecological transitions

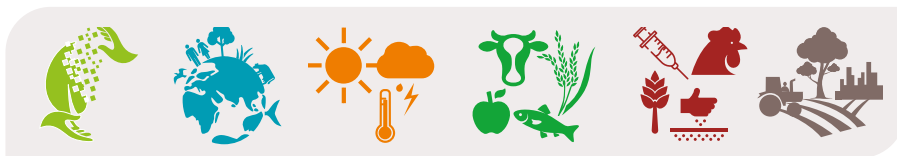
Biodiversity

Climate change

Food systems

One Health

Territories and collective action



Men and women working in more than 40 scientific fields

Recognised scientific and technical expertise in tropical agricultural value chains

Animal Production



Banana and plantain



Cocoa



Coconut



Coffee



Cotton



Dairy



Forest resources



Horticulture



Oil palm



Rice



Roots and tubers



Rubber



Sorghum and millet



Sugar cane



CIRAD is

- **28 research units** split between **three scientific departments**
- **1 750 employees**, including **1 200 scientific staff members**, of whom **850 are researchers**
- Around **900 projects** each year, funded by^{**}:
 - 29%** public research donors
 - 24%** public development donors
 - 27%** private donors
 - 20%** overseas territorial authorities
- Annual budget **245 M €^{**}**:
 - 44%** contractual resources
 - 56%** public service subsidy

^{**} as of 31 December 2025

For a more sustainable, inclusive world

CIRAD has an ambitious remit to help address some of the main challenges facing our world. As agriculture is central to the necessary transitions, it is vital to make it resilient to global change and multiply its positive impacts on society and the planet.

Science in partnership, the heart of our operations

CIRAD conducts useful, targeted research for sustainable development, with the end goal of societal impact in partnership. It works with scientific communities, producers, public and private players and civil society.

CIRAD works throughout the tropics and Mediterranean: in Africa, with priority given to the Europe-Africa axis, and in Southeast Asia and Latin America, where it has long-standing partnerships. The establishment also has a remit to support agricultural and rural development in the French overseas regions and boost scientific cooperation between those regions, the Indian Ocean countries and the Caribbean.

Multidisciplinarity, to benefit a range of stakeholders

From the life sciences to the social and political sciences, CIRAD can analyse biological, technical, social and institutional systems, on behalf of a wide range of beneficiaries. This multidisciplinary expertise allows our researchers to:

- co-construct technical, environmental and societal solutions;
- foster innovation;
- build skills;
- facilitate public decision making;
- support French science diplomacy.

Our values

Working together

All of our operations are built jointly with our partners and beneficiaries, to foster development in tropical and Mediterranean countries.

Useful, inclusive science

We practise ethical, supportive science aimed at including the world's poorest, most vulnerable people.

Openness

We work with a wide range of stakeholders extending well beyond the scientific community.

Engaged science

Our work encompasses the economic, social and environmental aspects of sustainable development. This commitment is our trademark, and guarantees top-quality targeted research.



Research to support societal change

In view of the urgency of current global challenges—health, climate and social crises—, merely doing better is no longer enough: we need to do things differently. This is known as transformative research.

This means profound change, and as part of the process, CIRAD and its partners are working to build technical, social, institutional and economic innovations that allow stakeholders to guide rather than submit to transitions.

We aim to apply scientific knowledge in synergy with local know-how, to build solutions with and for people on the ground, who are the key players in these transformations.

Six priority topics structure our targeted research:

Two global challenges

- Helping farming systems adapt to **climate change**
- Preserving and making use of **cultivated and natural biodiversity**

A scale that guarantees impact

- **Territories**, the scale for **collective action** to generate innovations and support public goods

Three levers for action

- **Agroecological transitions**, to speed up change and redesign crop and livestock farming and forest management system
- **Food systems** that are more sustainable and inclusive
- **One Health**, an integrated approach encompassing plant, animal and ecosystem health, in association with human health

Accelerating change in farming and food systems

The **flagship transformative initiatives (FTIs)** target major issues pinpointed by CIRAD. The establishment's portfolio of projects and network of research units enables it to work systemically.

The FTIs form an integrated offering combining:

- scientific knowledge and technical solutions;
- decision support tools and organisational models;
- public policy support;
- the capacity to act as an intermediary between players;
- strengthening of international coalitions and networks.

Federating its partners around these levers allows CIRAD to boost the impact of its operations and contribute to sustainable, inclusive solutions.



Biodiversity

CONFORMA, communities at the heart of sustainable forests

In brief

Location: Guatemala

Period: 2025 - 2029

Funding: Fonds français
pour l'environnement mondial (FFEM)

Budget: € 2.1 million

Partners: Centro de Estudios Mexicanos y Centroamericanos (CEMCA), Centro Agronómico Tropical de Investigación y Enseñanza (CATIE), Rainforest Alliance, Association technique internationale des bois tropicaux (ATIBT), Asociación de Comunidades Forestales de Petén (ACOFOP)

Coordination: CIRAD



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The CONFORMA project aims to strengthen community forest management (CFM) in Guatemala to combat deforestation and preserve the exceptional biodiversity of the Selva Maya. It rests on greater territorial consultation between the government and local players, putting traditional know-how at the heart of operations.

An integrated ecological and social forest management approach, including:

- rolling out "climate-smart" restoration and diversifying into ecotourism, to generate sustainable income;
- building multi-stakeholder dialogue platforms to harmonise forest use and guarantee concerted resource management;
- promoting the Guatemalan model as a reproducible global reference method for saving tropical forests.

Climate change

GALILEO, agroforestry for climate and rural communities

In brief

Location: Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Senegal

Period: 2025 - 2028

Funding: Horizon Europe Programme (EU) –
Swiss Confederation

Budget: € 7 million

Partners: 24 institutions (research,
universities, NGOs and farmers' organisations)

Coordination: CIRAD



© Caroline Dangleant, CIRAD

The GALILEO project aims to transform agro-silvo-pastoral systems in sub-Saharan Africa in a sustainable way, to secure the livelihoods of rural communities. It involves 24 international and local partners and is using a participatory approach to co-develop agroforestry innovations tailored to the realities on the ground. By integrating trees, crops and livestock harmoniously, the initiative is boosting biodiversity while offering new economic opportunities, even during extended dry seasons.

A project geared towards rolling out innovations, including:

- setting up eight living labs and innovation platforms;
- launching nurseries and planting fodder trees to improve soil fertility, capture carbon and guarantee livestock feed supplies;
- building agroforestry value chains and providing open access to results and methods.

Agroecological transitions

DESIRA+ OI, agroecology for sustainable food supplies

In brief

Location: Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles

Period: 2025 – 2030

Funding: European Union – Agence française de développement (AFD)

Budget: € 7 million

Partners: national institutions, training networks, PRêRAD-OI and private sector

Coordination: CIRAD



© Y. Chiba, FAO

The DeSIRA+ OI project aims to transform farming systems in the southwestern Indian Ocean, by accelerating the drive to scale up agroecology in the region. The project uses participatory capitalisation and territorial foresight to identify and roll out the most resilient innovations suited to the island contexts in the zone. By building local capacity and informing public policy, it guarantees sustainable natural resource management for the benefit of the zone's 33 million inhabitants.

Scaling up for sustainable change, including:

- supporting local innovation in terms of plant health, water management and sustainable value chain development;
- running foresight workshops to foster a link between science and decision making, to support the rollout of agroecology;
- strengthening the PRêRAD-OI regional platform, to connect knowledge and players in the different island States.

Sustainable food systems

BANA+, varietal innovation to save bananas in the French West Indies

In brief

Location: Guadeloupe, Réunion

Period: 2024 –2029

Funding: French Ministry of Agriculture and Food Sovereignty

Budget: € 11.7 million

Partners: Institut national de recherche pour l'agriculture, l'alimentation et l'environnement (INRAE), Institut technique tropical (IT2), Vitropic

Coordination: CIRAD



© Lucie Lemagnen, CIRAD

The BANA+ project aims to transform the banana value chain in the French overseas regions sustainably, by developing varieties resistant to fungal diseases such as black Sigatoka. The objective is to help reduce pesticide use while ensure that producers remain competitive. The project relies on an integrated approach combining conventional improvement by crossing and state-of-the-art genome editing tools.

A daring approach for sustainable banana production, including:

- creating new hybrid varieties and strengthening the Cavendish variety;
- setting up a varietal breeding platform in Guadeloupe, connected to the laboratories in Montpellier, to speed up research cycles;
- developing solutions to prevent future threats such as TR4 fusarium wilt and adapt to climate change.

One Health

ASEACA, using the One Health approach to prevent future pandemics

In brief

Location: Caribbean, Mozambique, Philippines, Tanzania, Vietnam, Zimbabwe

Period: 2026 - 2029

Funding: AFD (PREACTS Programme/ PREZODE Initiative)

Budget: € 5 million

Partners: national health services, research institutes and civil society organisations

Technical implementation: CIRAD



© Alain Rival, CIRAD

The ASEACA project aims to reduce the risks of the emergence of diseases that can be passed from animals to humans (zoonoses), before global pandemics develop. It prioritises co-construction, involving frontline players and local communities. The approach encompasses major transverse issues such as gender inequality and climate change, to guarantee solutions tailored to local socioeconomic realities.

An integrated global health monitoring strategy, including:

- four key components: evaluating emergence risks, rolling out prevention strategies, early detection, and socioeconomic assessments;
- including local people and civil society, to foster ongoing dialogue between science and public policy;
- targeted surveillance of pathogens with high pandemic potential, such as coronaviruses, rabies, Nipah or Rift Valley fever.

Territories and collective action

PUDT CONGO, science to benefit sustainable land planning

In brief

Location: Republic of the Congo

Period: 2023 - 2028

Funding: AFD

Budget: € 7.45 million

Partners : 4 ministries in Republic of the Congo, Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), World Wildlife Fund (WWF), World Resources Institute (WRI), Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), High Conservation Value Network (HCVN)

Technical implementation: CIRAD



© Guillaume Lescuyer, CIRAD

The sustainable land use programme (PUDT) aims to plan rural land use in order to diversify the economy in Congo while preserving its forest ecosystems and peatlands. It is being coordinated by the Congolese government and technically implemented by CIRAD, and rests on unprecedented multi-stakeholder consultation, involving 13 ministries, the private sector and civil society, to build a shared vision of national development. By precisely identifying high-potential agricultural zones and high-conservation-value forests, PUDT serves to reconcile economic growth and biodiversity protection. The end goal is to produce reliable data to inform policy decisions and build local authority capacity long term.

A multi-sector strategy for balanced development, including:

- drafting a national land use plan (PNAT) and rolling out pilot schemes in Pool and Niari departments;
- identifying zero-deforestation production basins for priority crops (cassava, groundnut, plantain banana);
- securing fuelwood supplies to Brazzaville and Pointe-Noire by means of sustainable management roadmaps.

Impact, the core of our engagement

CIRAD sees impact as the strategic purpose of its research. To this end, our operations rest on four fundamental pillars.

A shared culture

Since 2010, CIRAD has been working to build an impact culture, both in house and among its partners. With those partners, we design, plan and conduct research according to its actual effects on society, territories and communities.

Participatory, inclusive research

We work within territories, with the players who bring them to life. This multi-stakeholder approach guarantees “actionable” results and responses to local communities’ true requirements. We pay particular heed to all forms of inequality, particularly gender-based, to ensure that our innovations benefit each and every stakeholder.

Support for innovation systems

In order to strengthen innovation systems, CIRAD supports skill building among players on the ground, by providing training and sharing methodologies. We act as a catalyst to ensure that scientific discoveries result in new solutions and sustainable practices.

Action at the interfaces between science and society

For science to inform future choices, CIRAD is building bridges between scientific communities and decision-makers, from the local level to multilateral bodies. We are involved in dialogues between science and policymaking, to ensure that our research results serve to support public decision making and build sustainable policies.

ImpresS : co-constructing change



To steer its research towards impact, CIRAD uses ImpresS (Impact of Research in the South), an approach developed in house.

□ Tracking change

With our partners, we co-construct impact pathways and pinpoint the priority operations required to tackle societal and environmental challenges.

□ Assessing

We analyse the successes and the challenges faced at different points in research and innovation processes, to learn from them and improve practice.

□ Improving our performance

With more than 1500 researchers and partners trained in the approach, ImpresS is transforming research stances and contributing to transformative science.



Training, to share skills worldwide

There can be no sustainable development unless countries have the capacity to generate knowledge by themselves. In the aim of co-constructing knowledge and of mutual learning. CIRAD helps to build capacity among societies in tropical and Mediterranean countries, to enable them to acquire the knowledge required for their development.

That commitment means:

- co-constructing and co-leading diploma training with partner universities in tropical and Mediterranean countries;
- co-supervising Masters and PhD student researchers;

- providing professional training for scientists within our infrastructures.

CIRAD is also determined to build the functional capacity of research institutions in tropical and Mediterranean countries in terms of research management and programming, answering calls for proposals, leading scientific networks and institutional partnerships.

We work in partnership with various French higher education establishments to fulfil our commitment to training in the global South, notably in association with the Occitanie region, and others in Europe and elsewhere.



Partnerships are second nature to us

CIRAD can rely on a unique global network of some 200 partner institutions in more than 100 countries. Our approach rests on equitable, inclusive and sustainable partnerships profoundly anchored in territories.

We work with a wide range of partners: research institutes, ministries, local authorities, the private sector, universities, NGOs and farmers' organisations.

The platforms in partnership for research and training (dp) have been our preferred mode of intervention for almost 20 years now. They federate some 20 structures and almost a thousand scientists, including 150 CIRAD researchers.

Involved in French and European dynamics

CIRAD is a key agricultural research for development (AR4D) player. We are part of "Team France" (Equipe France), alongside INRAE and IRD, in institutional coordination structures. We also contribute to EU programmes (Horizon Europe, DeSIRA and DeSIRA+) and support the dialogue between the European Union and the African Union.

A strong presence on the international stage

We work with major organisations such as FAO, IFAD, development banks and CGIAR. Our partnerships fit into global coalitions aimed at influencing international policy in favour of sustainable agriculture.

Strong links with the private sector, for innovation and impact

CIRAD has been working with the private sector for decades, to build concrete solutions tailored to the issues facing agricultural, agrifood and environmental value chains.

Its status as a public industrial and commercial agricultural research establishment (EPIC) gives it the necessary flexibility to turn scientific excellence into operational solutions that are directly applicable on the ground.

The establishment interacts with a wide range of players: farmers, SMEs in the global South, start-ups, major agroindustrial groups, NGOs and foundations. It offers various forms of collaboration, to satisfy its partners' specific needs:

- research collaborations;
- co-construction of multi-stakeholder projects of international scope;
- bespoke appraisal, advice and training services;
- promotion of innovations, including patent, software, brand or planting material licences, under the CIRAD'Innov® trademark.

CIRAD is one of the few players capable of bringing together a wide range of actors to work on shared scientific objectives.

FOCUS

**ECOFFEE R&D,
a public-private partnership
to reduce pesticide use in
coffee plantings**

In 2020, to reduce pesticide use in coffee plantings, CIRAD launched the ECOFFEE R&D initiative, a public-private consortium associating seven leading roasters (Illycaffè, Jacobs Douwe Egberts, Lavazza, Nestlé, Paulig, Starbucks and Tchibo), three green coffee traders (ECOM, Mercon and Olam) and international research institutions. The aim is to develop sustainable alternatives to pesticides, while guaranteeing producers' economic viability.

The project rests on an international network of experimental plots in which innovative solutions such as biological control or agroecology are tested. These experiments, in collaboration with producers, are intended to validate practices adapted to local contexts and roll them out on a large scale.





CIRAD is the French agricultural research and international cooperation organization working for the sustainable development of tropical and Mediterranean regions.

Its works with its partners to build knowledge and solutions for resilient farming systems in a more sustainable, inclusive world. It mobilizes science, innovation and training in order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Its expertise supports the entire range of stakeholders, from producers to public policymakers, to foster biodiversity protection, agroecological transitions, food system sustainability, health (of plants, animals and ecosystems), sustainable development of rural territories, and their resilience to climate change. CIRAD works in some fifty countries on every continent, thanks to the expertise of its 1750 staff members, including 1200 scientists, backed by a global network of some 200 partners. It also supports French science diplomacy operations.

CIRAD is a public establishment (EPIC) under the joint authority of the Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Space, and the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs.

Find all our
reference
documents



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