

**THE SIHCA  
HEMISPHERIC TRAINING SYSTEM FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT  
(SIHCA)**

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**ABSTRAC**

The Hemispheric Training System for Agricultural Development (SIHCA) has been established to coordinate the efforts of countries in the western hemisphere to upgrade the skills of people working in agriculture and related fields, particularly through training because in the 90's decade there was a great isolation between the agrarian and agricultural science faculties; few of them have agreements and inter institutional way of work together. SIHCA was created to promote horizontal cooperation among America's member's countries in connection with agricultural training initiatives, programs, projects and education activities.

The methodology to create SIHCA begun with negotiation between the actors of the rural development in the countries, about the necessity of the coordination efforts in order to get education and training activities more efficiency, quality productivity with the human and financial resources available.

SIHCA's principal instrument for the action is the Hemispheric Network of Agricultural Training Institutions. Establishing and coordinating this network is the SIHCA Executive Secretariat. To this end, from 1.996 to 2008, SIHCA will receive support from IICA's Office. In 2008, The IICA endorsed this effort to FAESCA, The Andean Federation of High Education in Agrarian Science, which delegates this responsibilities in SIHECA FUNDATION, an special civil association in order to do so.

The Hemispheric Training Network is made up of public and private organizations and institutions of the member countries. SIHCA operate a network of about 470 Institutions: agrarian universities, agronomical, veterinarian, agro industrial, food, environment and forestall faculties and other education, training and research institutions what are related with education and training in the agricultural science field. SIHCA have conducted and organized about 115 training events, webmaster a site [www.sihca.org](http://www.sihca.org) which have near a million of visits per year with educational information, a profile of the supply of training and programs in agricultural items and serve as the Network of the FRADIEAR, the Regional Forum of the Andean Region of the Agricultural Science Faculties for the Education and Rural Development, which have an annual regional meeting, an annual national meetings in every Andean countries and a permanent electronic intercommunications by mail, electronic forum and so on.