CIAT

Decision and Policy Analysis Program

The Decision and Policy Analysis (DAPA)[1] Program believes strongly in the power of information for designing effective policies in terms of investments in agricultural development and natural resource conservation and management. Our goal is to contribute to improved decision-making across Latin America. We do this by providing novel and accurate information about agricultural systems and associated natural resources at all levels, from farm to continent. To ensure that the rural poor benefit from both public- and private-sector policies, we also work with key governmental and nongovernmental organizations.

Outputs and impact

The DAPA Program focuses on providing policy-relevant research outputs for four thematic areas where significant demand exists in Latin America. These are:

- Ecosystem services and benefits to the poor.
- Climate change and building resilience into agricultural systems.
- Designing pro-poor and equitable supply chains in a dynamic world.
- Impact targeting, facilitation, and assessment.

Although they are thematically diverse, the underlying research processes are similar, namely, spatial and economic analyses. Specifically, some of our outputs include:

- *Ex ante* targeting of agricultural technologies to maximize potential impact for the benefit of the rural poor.
- Design of payment schemes for managing water-based ecosystem services in the Andes; these schemes would be socially equitable, economically viable, and environmentally friendly.
- Economic modeling to identify appropriate policies for managing carbon in Amazonian agroecosystems.
- Broad-scale analyses of the impact of climate change on tropical agriculture.
- Scenario analyses of potential adaptation options for confronting progressive climate change.
- Develop new pro-poor business models and guidelines for public and private policy that would ensure that the rural poor benefit from supply chains.

Main activities and projects

- Site-specific agricultural development for fruits in Colombia.
- A spatial policy-targeting tool for ecosystem services management in the Amazon.
- Assessing and anticipating the consequences of introducing benefit-sharing mechanisms for managing water in the Andes.
- Coffee Under Pressure (CUP): evaluating the impact of climate change on coffee in Central America, and identifying viable adaptation options for rural communities.
- Analysis of the Colombian agricultural sector's vulnerability in the face of progressive climate change; in collaboration with a range of Colombian partners.
- Terra-i: a monitoring system of land cover for Latin America, a project being developed in collaboration with TNC.
- Gap analysis of germplasm holdings globally.
- *Ex ante* impact assessment of possible breeding investments to confront future climatic change for CIAT commodities and others.

1. For an explanation of acronyms and abbreviations see www.ciat.cgiar.org/newsroom/pdf/acronyms_syntheses.pdf

Main partners and collaborators

AGCommons • Amazon Initiative • ASOHOFRUCOL • Bioversity International • CATIE • CCAFS • CIFOR • CONDESAN • CPWF • CRS • DNP (Colombia) • Global Crop Diversity Trust • GCP • Green Mountain Coffee Roasters • ICRAF • ICT KM • King's College London • Oxfam • SSA CP • Stanford University • Sustainable Food Lab • TNC • UF

Donors

AGCommons • CPWF • Fund for the Promotion of Horticultural and Fruit Production • GCP • GIZ • Global Crop Diversity Trust • Green Mountain Coffee Roasters • IFAD • World Bank

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