

Questions about FUNDACIAT

- 1. Will you envisage ever using the Foundation also as a fund-raising tool for CIAT's research operations, in addition to the mission you describe here? I am thinking, for example, of something that could attract private wealth, such as what IRRI is trying to do in Asia?**

Yes, according to Colombian Law, the Foundation can do all sorts of fund-raising activities. We envision the Foundation collecting funding for research, development, infrastructure, and services projects. There are no restrictions as soon as we keep things under the law.

- 2. How will the LAC connection work? It is pretty clear what the benefits would be for Colombia, but less so for other areas?**

FUNDACIAT will be open to all LAC organizations, not only Colombian ones. However, we expect that Colombia –being CIAT's host country- will play a major role.

- 3. Will the Foundation be able to issue tax receipts to donors (as a charitable Foundation)?**

Yes. FUNDACIAT will be able to issue "certificates of donation" for tax purposes (discounts and benefits for donors). At least, under Colombian tax law, the donor can deduct the donation from its income tax return.

- 4. Is there any risk that having this Foundation could somehow interfere with the diplomatic privileges enjoyed by CIAT?**

No. Diplomatic privileges and immunities granted to CIAT by Law 29/88 are nontransferable. Therefore, FUNDACIAT –being an independent legal entity- cannot benefit from those privileges.

- 5. Is this a totally new legal structure or is it building on something already existing?**

FUNDACIAT is a totally new legal structure. It is an independent non-profit entity organized as a foundation under Colombian laws. As such, FUNDACIAT will be another member of the Agronatura Science Park, which already exists at CIAT.

- 6. Is it possible to envisage other country Foundations if this works as hoped - perhaps CIAT-Brazil, for example?**

There is no need to create other country foundations. As a Colombian NGO, FUNDACIAT can have activities anywhere in the world provided that donors are willing to support them.

- 7. Will the Foundation take on a consultancy role to earn money - for example implementation of a World Bank or IADB project which may not be exactly something that extends CIAT results, etc?**

Yes. One of the objectives is to fetch non-traditional funding. FUNDACIAT will be able to hire experts (including CIAT's staff) and organize the teams to bid for projects, consultancies and the like. This strategy brings not only additional funding, but allows CIAT to deliver research findings since these projects are in essence, development projects.

- 8. There are key CIAT resources (like DG time) that will to a certain extent support Fundaciat. How will we avoid potential criticism on this regard? And on the other extreme, it would not make too much sense if the foundation's and Ciat 's resources are not shared to attain the synergies one would expect.**

As the founder of FUNDACIAT, CIAT will have to pay the registration fees. Once the foundation is set up, CIAT will be responsible for the first year salary of the Executive Director. As soon as FUNDACIAT becomes self-sufficient it will pay all service charges (full cost) according to CIAT's policies, as a member of the Agronatura Science Park.

According to FUNDACIAT's bylaws, CIAT has only one representative in a seven member Executive Council which will be appointed by the Director General's Office.