Peer-Reviewed
Climate Risk Management (2025).

Local Technical Agroclimatic Committees (LTACs): The bridge between climate science and decisions that transform territories

The study **"Local-to-Regional Mechanisms Behind Successful Climate Services for Agriculture in Latin America",** published in **Climate Risk Management (2025),** analyzed 26 cases across Latin America and concludes that the difference between a successful LTAC and one that disappears does not lie in the model itself, but in the people who are part of it, the strength of its governance, and the commitment to sustain it over time.

What are Local Technical Agroclimatic Committees (LTACs) and why do they matter?

The Local Technical Agroclimatic Committees (LTACs) are multi-stakeholder platforms where meteorologists, farmers, technicians, academia, the private sector, NGOs, local governments, and other key actors come together to analyze climate forecasts, discuss expected impacts, and collaboratively agree on practical agricultural recommendations.

More than just meeting spaces, they serve as **essential bridges between technical knowledge and local action, translating scientific data into concrete decisions that protect livelihoods and crops.** In the context of the climate crisis, information alone is not enough: **we need living, sustained, and participatory mechanisms that ensure climate data is transformed into effective local action.**

Every step taken today is an investment in resilience. *Keeping LTACs alive means preserving a channel that translates science into collective, inclusive, and evidence-based decisions, essential to safeguard Latin America's food future in the face of climate change.*

Communications: Daniela Arce, d.arce@cgiar.org - Jaime Urdinola, j.urdinola@cgiar.org

Peer-Reviewed
Climate Risk Management (2025).

Key findings from the study

The **analysis of 26 LTACs** in four Latin American countries (Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua) revealed clear patterns of what drives, and limits, their functioning.

Only 12 of the 26 LTACs achieved high levels of effectiveness, sustainability, and scalability. The strongest cases (such as Córdoba and Boyacá in Colombia, and El Paraíso in Honduras) not only produced useful information, but also maintained recognized leadership, stable funding, and institutional diversity.

The most effective LTACs shared these traits:

- **Legitimate local leadership:** respected figures in the community who inspire trust and mobilize actors.
- **Stable and diversified funding:** combining public, private, and cooperation funds to operate beyond one-off projects.
- **Institutional diversity:** integrating meteorologists, universities, producer associations, NGOs, and local governments to increase responsiveness and relevance.
- **Local autonomy with national backing:** a balance that strengthens ownership and ensures continuity.
- **Clear and active roles:** leaders, coordinators, climate and crop technical support, resource mobilizers, and engaged participants — avoiding passive involvement.

Conversely, LTACs facing the greatest difficulties often showed:

- Infrequent meetings and lack of follow-up mechanisms.
- Low farmer participation, reducing the relevance and adoption of recommendations.
- High dependence on international cooperation without their own funding sources.

Ingredients for LTAC success

- Trusted and locally recognized leadership.
- National support balanced with local autonomy.
- Stable and varied funding sources.
- Diversity of actors and knowledge.
- Active participation from all members.
- Clear roles and responsibilities.

Success is not guaranteed by the model itself, but by the strength of the institutional and social fabric that supports it. Without leadership, funding, and diversity, an LTAC can vanish as quickly as it emerged.