



# The voice of the world's fertilizer industry

**525 member companies based in 85 countries**



### **Promoting agricultural development in emerging economies**

**The Africa Forum** helps to connect fertilizer companies with relevant stakeholders involved in Africa's agricultural development, promotes the increased use of fertilizers by African farmers, and provides agronomic recommendations to improve soil fertility.

**The China Initiative** promotes sustainable development of the fertilizer and agricultural sectors in China through the sharing of best technological and agricultural practices. It fosters networking between fertilizer industry partners in China and those in other countries.

**The Eastern Europe and Central Asia Initiative** raises the profile of the fertilizer industry in this region and facilitates the exchange of relevant information.

**“To rapidly increase productivity, farmers will also need better access to fertilizers and education and practice conservation agriculture where technically and economically feasible.”**  
–Kofi Annan.

*“Africa can feed itself: Green revolution takes root.” 25 March 2010.*

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#### **International Fertilizer Industry Association (IFA)**

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The agricultural sector is the engine for economic development, and mineral fertilizers are the fuel for that engine.



### **A strong association with 525 members in 85 countries**

- IFA is a not-for-profit business and industry association.
- IFA represents the fertilizer industry globally.
- 50 per cent of IFA's membership is based in emerging economies.
- Member companies represent all activities related to the production, trade, transport and distribution of every type of fertilizers, their raw materials and intermediates.
- Membership includes organizations involved in construction, engineering, consulting, agronomic research and training, among others.
- IFA also brings together national and regional associations.
- IFA has a consultative status with the United Nations. It actively co-operates with other international organizations, such as the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the International Energy Agency (IEA).

### **Representing the global fertilizer industry**

As a member of a global food coalition, IFA acts as the voice and ears of the fertilizer industry. IFA is committed to addressing global policy issues, enhancing the industry's profile and standards, and providing a networking platform.

To accomplish these missions, IFA works in collaboration with different partners, including all stakeholders across the agricultural value chain and parties involved in global food production and policy: its members, farmers, the scientific community, international organizations, policymakers, media and the general public.

- IFA emphasizes and promotes an integrated approach for the production and use of plant nutrients in order to increase agricultural production sustainably.
- IFA encourages its members to adopt best practices and best technologies to improve their stewardship and reduce the industry's overall environmental footprint.
- IFA represents the industry internationally by advocating support for the agricultural sector and demonstrating the importance of balanced fertilization to reach food and nutrition security.

### **Providing expert knowledge about the industry**

IFA produces, all year long, relevant documents prepared by experts. These include analytical agronomic reports, technical benchmarks, and production and trade statistics. IFA is the only industry entity that collects production and trade statistics worldwide directly for the industry participants: producers, traders and associations.



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“No country has grown in the last two centuries without developing its agriculture sector and improving its food security.”

–Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala,  
World Bank Managing  
Director.

“Remarks to the African Union Summit, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 31 January 2010.”

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## Promoting sustainable production and use of plant nutrients

Fertilizers are a component of sustainable crop production systems, and the fertilizer industry recognizes the need to efficiently produce and utilize these nutrients.

### Product Stewardship

- Fertilizer companies are informed of safety, health and environment (SHE) and security principles. Through the IFA Protect & Sustain framework, they can follow a five-step process to implement a product stewardship management system and become recognized as IFA Product Stewards.  
**[www.protectandsustain.org](http://www.protectandsustain.org)**

### Nutrient Stewardship

- It is urgent for the fertilizer industry and its partners to take necessary measures to maximize the benefits of fertilizer use and to minimize the negative impacts associated with its misuse, over-use or under-use. The fertilizer industry works with farmers to promote the 4R Nutrient Stewardship by choosing the Right Nutrient Source to apply at the Right Rate in the Right Place at the Right Time.  
**[www.nutrientstewardship.com](http://www.nutrientstewardship.com)**

### IFA Awards

- **The IFA Norman Borlaug Award** is presented every year to an individual for his/her work leading to significant progress in crop nutrition, and successfully communicated to farmers in the form of practical recommendations.

- **The IFA Green Leaf Award** recognizes individual production sites for their efforts, contributions and/or innovations to enhance safety, health and environmental performance.

## Promoting sustainable agricultural production

IFA works with many partners in the agricultural sector as well as with international organizations, to promote the sustainable intensification of crop production and best agricultural practices.

### Farming First

- IFA co-chairs this international coalition of multi-stakeholder agricultural organizations. As a policy platform, Farming First highlights the importance of improving farmers' livelihoods and agriculture's potential contribution to addressing global issues such as food security, climate change and biodiversity.  
**[www.farmingfirst.org](http://www.farmingfirst.org)**

### International Agri-Food Network

- IFA is one of the founding members of the International Agri-Food Network, an informal coalition of international trade associations involved in the agri-food sector at the global level. The aim of the network is to facilitate liaisons among professional organizations and towards international organizations in the agri-food chain at global level. The network represents the agri-food business sector in a number of international settings, such as the United Nations Committee on World Food Security and Nutrition (CFS) hosted by the FAO.  
**[www.agrifood.net](http://www.agrifood.net)**