



ifa
INTERNATIONAL
FERTILIZER ASSOCIATION

An Introduction to IFA





About us

The International Fertilizer Association (IFA) was founded in 1927 and is the **only global fertilizer association** with a membership of more than 500 entities, in over 70 countries. IFA's Members include fertilizer producers, traders and distributors, as well as their associations, service providers to the industry, research organizations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

IFA's vision: Productive and sustainable agricultural systems contribute to a world free of hunger and malnutrition.

IFA's mission: IFA promotes the efficient and responsible production, distribution and use of plant nutrients.

IFA's approach: IFA provides a framework for exchange and collaboration among its members on areas of common interest, and a structure for agreeing on common positions and joint actions.

What are the advantages of being an IFA Member? Here are just a few:

- **Being part of a vast global network of fertilizer professionals;**
- **Possibility to inspire and contribute to position papers, as well as participate in policy dialogues on topics of importance to the fertilizer industry, sustainable agriculture and environmental stewardship;**
- **Access to facts and figures in the form of first-class global statistics on fertilizer supply and consumption and market intelligence;**

- **Access to our exclusive publications, newsletters, webinars and industry updates;**
- **Access to benchmarking and certification programs on safety, health and environment;**
- **Representation at high-level meetings of the UN and its specialized agencies (e.g. FAO and UNEP), OECD, and other international organizations;**
- **Gaining experience and visibility by becoming an IFA Ambassador or Committee member;**
- **Reputation enhancement through IFA membership.**

"For [us] the benefit of IFA is when Members (...) align on key messages, align on common goals, and align on what is important for us to address as an industry, for example sustainable agriculture. We as an industry achieve far more than any one company could individually, we gain credibility and we provide leverage around many of the issues that our industry faces"

*Long-standing IFA Member,
President and CEO, West Asia.*



IFA provides an invaluable framework for collaboration along the fertilizer value chain

Our Members decide together on areas of common interest, joint actions and positions with regard to complex issues facing the industry today.

IFA events facilitate the sharing of information and best practices. Joining IFA's thematic Committees, Working Groups or Task Forces expands members'

knowledge and contacts and allows them to shape common positions.

The IFA Secretariat, based in Paris, works with and for Members to carry out the Associations' activities.

Business networking and best practice sharing

IFA organizes conferences and events year-round in various locations all across the world to mirror its global membership.

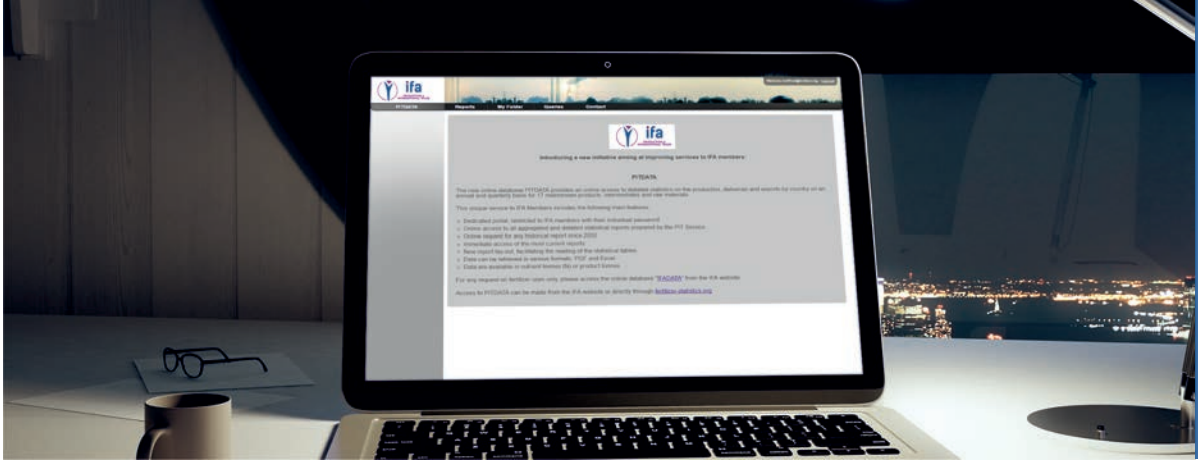
Peer-to-peer contacts remain fundamentally important for the industry's business operations and robust competition. Networking also facilitates the exchange of best practices to drive improved performance. IFA provides open forums for networking and the exchange of knowledge and expertise.

IFA's Annual Conference is the annual fertilizer industry event worldwide. Held in different regions each year, it attracts around 1,300 participants, including chief executives and senior management representatives.

Members also have access to these subject-specific IFA Conferences:

-  The annual IFA Strategic Forum,
-  The annual IFA Crossroads Asia-Pacific Conference (also open to non-Members),
-  The annual IFA Production and International Trade Conference,
-  The annual IFA Agriculture and Communication Meeting,
-  The biennial IFA Global Safety Summit,
-  The biennial IFA Global Technical Symposium.

*"We participate in most IFA events, predominantly the Annual Conference (...) It's very good to be an active member of IFA, and interact with many fertilizer companies across the globe. It helps a lot with networking, business development and appraisal of technology all over the world." Long-standing IFA Member, **President and CEO, South America***



Exclusively designed statistics and market intelligence

Authoritative and comprehensive information about the industry and fertilizer markets is the basis of robust competition on the open market, trade and appropriate policies. The information provided through IFA's statistics and analyses are critical for the industry and policymakers alike.



IFADATA: reliable, historic, long-term consumption statistics from 1973 onwards for nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium by product and country. IFADATA is a searchable online database focusing on plant nutrition uses only;

PITDATA: the latest Production and International Trade (PIT) database launched in May 2016, providing IFA members with online access to: statistics on production, deliveries and exports by country of 17 mainstream products, intermediates and raw materials, based on more than 50 years of coverage at IFA. 700 statistical (annual and quarterly) Reports from 2002 onwards are already available to IFA members, with close to 1 million statistics on production and trade retrievable online!

"We use IFADATA on a daily basis. It is the resource that we use the most on the IFA website." Long-standing IFA Member, Senior Analyst, Europe



"The PIT statistics are a neutral, trusted, and proven source of information which we proudly quote to stakeholders in our annual reports and publications." Long-standing IFA member, Vice President, West Asia.



Benchmarking and certification



“The Technical and SHE Committee brings a lot of value [to us], especially through the Protect & Sustain initiative where we work collectively on the product stewardship of the industry.” Long-standing IFA Member, Executive Vice President, North America.

“You can't improve what you can't measure”

IFA has developed several voluntary benchmarks on energy efficiency, emissions reductions and employee safety for its Members. Continuous improvement is critical for the sustainable production, distribution and use of fertilizers. IFA is uniquely placed to promote best practices throughout the fertilizer value chain and to foster improvement in the industry's own operational performance through voluntary benchmarking.

Product Stewardship might be described as the "next step" in Safety, Health and Environmental (SHE) management, that reaches beyond the factory gate in cooperation with suppliers, transporters and retailers. It is about putting into place responsible business management processes across a product's lifecycle.

IFA offers a voluntary **certification called “Protect & Sustain”** for Members who have successfully adopted product stewardship measures. Every two years, the **IFA Green Leaf Award** is given to fertilizer producers that have excelled in their SHE performance.



International engagement & reputation building

International institutions and initiatives address issues that can directly or indirectly pertain to fertilizer production, distribution and use. IFA makes sure that the industry's voice and best interests are represented at policy debates during meetings of the UN, OECD, FAO and other international organisations, as well as other international agricultural, environmental, scientific and policy forums.



IFA's mission is to enhance the profile and reputation of the fertilizer industry among the media, strategic international policymakers, influencers, team leaders, NGOs, and other organizations, by communicating and promoting the continuous actions and solutions offered by IFA members to address global societal concerns related to sustainable agriculture, food security, and environmental sustainability.

One of the important roles of IFA entails **promoting nutrient stewardship** i.e. “the efficient and effective planning and management of plant nutrients.”

IFA communicates extensively on nutrient stewardship practices, based on **the “4Rs”** (which entail using the right nutrient source at the right rate, right time and right place); and promotes them further by partnering with farmers, research and extension organizations. IFA also grants the IFA Norman Borlaug Award since 1993 to encourage research and extension works that improve crop nutrition performance.



IFA has published several books on nutrient management related topics, and contributes to international projects dedicated to the sharing of best management practices. In addition, IFA co-organizes regular conferences and seminars to exchange with its members and partners on sustainable fertilizer management.



Nutrient Management handbook.



Fertilizers and their Efficient Use



Micronutrients for Sustainable Food, Feed, Fibre and Bioenergy Production



Fertilizing Crops to Improve Human Health: A Scientific Review



Managing Water and Fertilizer for Sustainable Agricultural Intensification



Slow- and Controlled-Release and Stabilized Fertilizers

“The biggest benefit we get from IFA's work is the work done in international forums, like the UN (...) The best value we get out of that is when IFA puts together well sourced information that allows us to prosecute a good argument at home”. Long-standing IFA member, Executive Manager, Oceania.



IFA Membership

Membership at IFA is opened to any organization interested in plant nutrition. IFA has four different categories of Members:

- **Ordinary Members:** Fertilizer producers;
- **Associate Members:** Distributors, dealers and other entities which transact business in fertilizers, suppliers of plant equipment, materials or services destined for the fertilizer industry, non-fertilizer industry organizations/companies dealing with nutrients; producers of fertilizer raw materials destined for the manufacture of non-fertilizer products; manufacturers of organic materials and/or soil conditioners; entities in the development or construction phase of fertilizer plants;
- **Affiliate Members:** Not-for-profit governmental or inter-governmental organizations and private or public research institutes engaged in work recognized as beneficial to the objectives of the Association; international, regional and national not-for-profit associations of entities which are Ordinary members;
- **Correspondent Members:** Retired senior executives of any entity which was a member of the Association at the time of his/her retirement.

Contact us and find out what membership category you can belong to.



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