

Next generation of leaders works from all regions of the planet

IFAMA Young Board: Driving young professionals in the world of agribusiness

Youth prepares to take on the global food challenge

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IFAMA Young Board is the representation of the youth of the world in agribusiness. Courtesy / The Republic.

In the midst of the task of the [International Association of Food and Agribusiness Administration \(IFAMA\)](#) to establish a global agribusiness community that improves the planet's food conditions, young people raise their hands and seek to continue this legacy for generations to come.

For this reason, through the "IFAMA Young Board" the challenge of attracting the talent of young professionals from agribusiness and agribusiness is raised, allowing the consolidation of the legacy of more than 30 years of this Association.

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Formed in 2020, the Young Board is committed to seeking and attracting professionals who, during their first years of career, can promote the next generation of leaders in the agricultural sector.

With a long-term vision and analyzing the realities of the different regions of the world, this Young Board knows that tomorrow's decisions and solutions also require new voices.

"We are the representation of youth in the world of agribusiness, they have given us the space in IFAMA so that we can bring other young people and we can deploy and make a special place for them, so that they express themselves, so that they make a participation that starts of those great sustainability discussions of tomorrow, of environmental problems, of social problems, and be part of where the important discussions are taking place", said Edeoba William Edobor, president of the IFAMA Young Board.

Guaranteeing compliance at the request of young people with spaces, where they can express their voices and talents, is essential to guarantee the agriculture and food of tomorrow, according to Edobor.

As part of this consolidation, a second generation between 2020 and 2021 has been given the task of establishing what the next steps of this network of professionals will be.

"The idea of the Youth Board is to launch that networking, that proactivity of the professional or student in agribusiness or other disciplines, who want to solve something that impacts the world of agribusiness, which in the end, ends up being the world of food , because if all agribusinesses produce food or impact the world's diet, we are going to do something better to meet the demands of the world, which has more and more people," said Juan José Bolaños, a Costa Rican who is part of the IFAMA Young Board.

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One of the activities with which IFAMA seeks to promote the talent of young people from all regions of the world is a [case study competition](#) , which, through the analysis of real problems in the industries, allows students and professionals to show their talents to provide the best solutions.

“The case competition has not been used so extensively in the world in higher education of agricultural sciences, but it can be the Trojan Horse to enter a form of education by doing, because you are pretending to be the manager of a company , making decisions. The methodology aims to expose youth to that mental process of critical analysis, that structuring of information to understand what the main problem is, how I can make a line of work and a strategy to identify what can affect me in different ways, how does in real life in companies,” added Bolaños.

During the 32nd edition of the IFAMA Congress, held in Costa Rica, groups of students from different parts of the planet and in three categories, exposed their ingenuity to solve a case study.

Kansas State University and Universidad ZAMORANO obtained first and second place, respectively, in the undergraduate category; while, in the case of graduates, the International School of Agri Management (ISAM) obtained the first place, Santa Clara University the second place and the third place went to INCAE Business School.

For the Young Professionals category, New Zealand's Massey University teams took first and second place.

PROFILE

IFAMA Young Board

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