



المركز الدولي للزراعة الملحية
INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR BIOSALINE AGRICULTURE

ICBA Quarterly Progress Report Q4 2024

January 2025



Executive Summary

During the fourth quarter of 2024, ICBA managed **39 ongoing research and development projects**, of which **7 were completed** and **5 new internal research projects** were launched.

ICBA also hosted and participated in **35 national, regional, and international events** to showcase its **research and development work worldwide**.

Furthermore, ICBA researchers produced **15 research articles** for international peer-reviewed journals and books during the first nine months of 2024.

The **25th Anniversary** celebration was also a major milestone for ICBA in 2024, marking 25 years of impactful contributions to agricultural research and innovation, and witnessing the **launch of ICBA's official strategy and brand identity**.



39 ongoing research and development projects



35 national, regional, and international events



15 research articles

Highlights

Her Highness Sheikha Shamma bint Sultan bin Khalifa Al Nahyan Visits ICBA



Her Highness Sheikha Shamma bint Sultan bin Khalifa Al Nahyan's visit to ICBA included discussions on innovative agricultural solutions, tours of the center's facilities, and engagements with researchers, showcasing ICBA's commitment to sustainability and climate resilience.

On 14 November, **Her Highness Sheikha Shamma bint Sultan bin Khalifa Al Nahyan**, President and CEO of the UAE Independent Climate Change Accelerators (UICCA), visited ICBA to gain insights into its pioneering research and strategic initiatives designed to address critical challenges in agriculture and environmental sustainability.

The visit included discussions on innovative solutions such as **carbon credit and sequestration, biochar production, and composting using local resources**, and ICBA's preparations for COP29 and COP16, with a shared commitment to advancing global climate dialogues. The discussions highlighted ICBA's efforts to **empower women and engage youth in sustainable agriculture**, fostering resilient communities and developing future leaders in environmental sustainability.

The visit included a guided tour of key ICBA facilities, such as the **Date Palm Fields, Forage Fields, the Gene Bank**, and the Emirates Soil Museum. Her Highness was also given an overview of ongoing research and field projects that underscore ICBA's commitment to enhancing agricultural productivity and sustainability in arid and saline environments.

ICBA Marks 25 Years of Innovation and Impact Unveiling its 2024-2034 Strategy and Bold New Identity

On 17 December, ICBA celebrated **25 years** of groundbreaking achievements in the presence of **H.E. Dr. Amna bint Abdullah Al Dahak**, UAE Minister of Climate Change and Environment, On behalf of **H.E. Dr. Muhammad Sulaiman Al Jasser**, President of the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), we would like to acknowledge the presence of **H.E. Mohammad Jamal Alsaati**, Special Advisor to the President of IsDB, along with senior government officials, esteemed partners, global sustainability leaders, and ICBA's distinguished former founders



ICBA's 25th Anniversary Celebration brought together H.E. Dr. Amna bint Abdullah Al Dahak, H.E. Mohammad Jamal Alsaati, senior officials, global sustainability leaders, and esteemed partners to commemorate ICBA's legacy of innovation and unveil its 2034-2024 strategy and bold new identity.

The event showcased ICBA's legacy of turning **challenges into opportunities** and unveiled its **2034-2024 Strategy** and **bold new identity**. With a future-driven vision, ICBA reaffirms its commitment to sustainable agriculture, climate resilience, and global impact.

The **new strategy** focuses on strengthening ICBA's impact through science-driven **biosaline solutions**, fostering global **partnerships**, and expanding efforts to tackle food and water security challenges while enhancing **climate resilience**. It places strong emphasis on innovative approaches to **prevent, manage, and recover** from the impacts of salinity in arid and saline environments.



ICBA's **new identity** reflects its forward-thinking vision and commitment to sustainable innovation. The refreshed logo symbolizes ICBA's mission, with the droplet highlighting the critical importance of **water**, the blue section representing this vital resource, and the brown section signifying **soil** as the cornerstone of sustainable agriculture. At its center, a green leaf represents growth, renewal, and ICBA's focus on climate-resilient **crops**, biodiversity, and food security.

Governance and Management



ICBA's Board of Directors convenes for its final meeting of the current Board cycle, chaired by H.E. Razan Khalifa Al Mubarak, to review the center's achievements, discuss strategic priorities, and approve key policies and plans for 2025.

On 16 December, ICBA's Board of Directors held its final meeting of the current Board cycle. The meeting was attended by seven members of the Board and chaired by **H.E. Razan Khalifa Al Mubarak**. ICBA's management presented to the Board members the progress and achievements of the center in terms of administration and operation. The meeting also discussed various issues related to the center's **strategy, scientific research priorities** and future development plans. The Board approved the following:

1. ICBA's 2025 Proposed Budget.
2. ICBA's HR Policy Update.
3. The Appointment of ICBA's External Auditor for the years 2026-2024.

Research Development and Technology Transfer

In the fourth quarter of 2024, ICBA had **39 ongoing research and development projects**, of which **7 were completed** and **5 new internal research projects** were launched during this period.

A total of **39 projects** align with the UAE and donors' priorities in **sustainable agriculture, food security**, and environmental sustainability, addressing the specific needs of local stakeholders across various research and development areas.

New Project Highlights

Assessment of a Smart Irrigation Decision Tool for Optimizing Irrigation and Leaching using a Numerical Simulation Modeling of Salt Movement under Saline Conditions

Budget:	USD 55,482
Country:	UAE
Description:	To develop and validate a smart irrigation decision tool designed to optimize irrigation and leaching under saline conditions using numerical simulation modeling. It is expected to support farmers and researchers in making informed decisions for effective irrigation management.

Understanding Salinity Tolerance Mechanism in Date Palm Under Long Term Salinity Stress

Budget:	USD 89,831
Country:	UAE
Description:	To understand the genetic and physiological mechanisms of salinity tolerance in date palms under long-term salinity stress and to improve the salinity tolerance of date palm varieties. The results are expected to support the development of salinity-tolerant crops, enhancing agricultural productivity in saline environments.

Revitalizing the Vertical Farming Park (VFP) Using IoT and Solar Panels

Budget:	USD 148,240.5
Country:	UAE
Description:	To demonstrate low-cost, sustainable vertical farming technologies suitable for small and middle-income farmers. It will involve using hydroponic systems and evaluating the performance of various crops under controlled conditions. The findings are expected to enhance understanding the potential of vertical farming in arid regions and providing solutions for sustainable crop production.

Using IoT Saltwater and Solar Energy to Increase Sustainability of ICBA Horticulture Production Facing Adaptation to Desert Climates

Budget:	USD 140,143.8
Country:	UAE
Description:	This project proposes the use of saltwater and solar energy to improve the sustainability and efficiency of greenhouse horticulture production at ICBA.

The Potential of Plant Microbiome to Enhance Crop Health in Arid Environments

Budget:	USD 163,974
Country:	UAE
Description:	To characterize and isolate native plant growth promoting microbial communities important for cereal-legume crop rotations in arid zones. It involves determining the effect of integrated nutrient management on the microbiome of alfalfa and finger millet, and understanding the relationship between microbiome and plant yield. Greenhouse efficacy trials will be conducted to evaluate the plant growth potential of microbiome isolates.

Completed Project Highlights

Soil Protection and Rehabilitation for Food Security (RAMSAP II)

Project duration	April 2021 – December 2024
Donors	German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ)
Budget	EUR 401,744
Project countries	Ethiopia
Project beneficiaries	Ethiopia farmers
Project goal	To strengthen food security and improve incomes of smallholder farmers and agro-pastoral/pastoral communities through rehabilitation and sustainable management of salt-affected lands in Ethiopia's Afar region.
Project results	Salinity maps for 17 woredas have been developed and are being used by the Ministry of Agriculture of Ethiopia to guide seed distribution and interventions in salt-affected areas. ICBA supported the distribution of 1,358 kg of salt-tolerant crop seeds—737 kg Lablab, 304 kg Alfalfa, and 317 kg Barley—across Afar, Somali, Oromia, and Southern regions. ICBA also organized a training on land and water management models in Addis Ababa, which was attended by 22 participants. Additionally, ICBA contributed to a workshop organized by the Ministry of Agriculture of Ethiopia on irrigated wheat production systems in Afar and Oromia. The workshop was attended by 36 participants from the Ministry of Agriculture of Ethiopia, the Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research (EIAR), and Oromia Regional Research Institute.

Emirates Nature WWF.01_Nature-Based Solutions for Climate Action: Nature-based solutions for climate action, biodiversity and People in the UAE

Project duration	January 2022 – December 2024
Donors	HSBC through EN-WWF
Budget	USD 618,057
Project countries	UAE
Project goal	The project aimed to investigate coastal ecosystem management and restoration, focusing on technical, policy, and financial considerations to guide decision-making. It sought to develop a policy framework conducive to financing Nature-based Solutions (NbS) aligned with Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 13 and 14, supporting NbS scaling for climate action.
Project results	This project explored the potential of two salt-tolerant plants, <i>Salicornia sinus-persica</i> (Ssp) and <i>Arthrocnemum macrostachyum</i> (AM), as nature-based solutions to support climate action, food security, and economic growth in the UAE. Grown successfully in coastal areas like Umm Al Quwain, these plants offer benefits such as shoreline protection, carbon capture, and biodiversity support. Nutrient-rich—especially Ssp seeds—they show promise as food and animal feed. The study highlighted their economic viability, particularly with saline groundwater use, and recommended steps to scale cultivation, build supply chains, attract investment, and raise awareness, positioning the UAE as a leader in salt-tolerant agriculture. https://emiratesnaturewwf.ae/sites/default/files/doc-2025-03/Halophytes_book_portrait_light%20new.pdf

Research Knowledge Dissemination

During the period under review, ICBA actively disseminated its extensive research knowledge and promoted evidence-based solutions in various countries. The center hosted and participated in **35 national, regional, and international events** to showcase its research and development efforts globally.

The International Symposium on "The Role of Plant Genetic Resources in Global Climate Change and Food Security"



Experts discuss "Preserving Plant Genetic Diversity: A Strategic Vision for Central Asia's Future" during the International Symposium in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, November 2024

From November 7 to 2024 ,9, the international symposium titled "The Role of Plant Genetic Resources in Global Climate Change and Food Security" was held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, to mark the 100th anniversary of the Research Institute of Plant Genetic Resources. Supported by the Islamic Development Bank, the event featured a high-level panel discussion co-organized by ICBA, titled "Preserving Plant Genetic Diversity: A Strategic Vision for Central Asia's Future."

The discussion, moderated by Dr. Charbel Tarraf, brought together key experts and leaders from ICBA and partner organizations across Central Asia to emphasize the role of global partnerships, funding, and collaborative research in advancing climate-smart crops and promoting biodiversity and food security in the region.

ICBA's Participation in the COP29

ICBA actively participated in COP29 and contributed to its program through a wide range of activities and engagements over three days. The center showcased its research and development efforts in different regions and established new partnerships.

Main Highlights

ICBA Panel Discussion: Creating Sustainable Impact in Arid and Saline Environments in Central Asia: The Power of Partnerships for SDG17



On 19 November, ICBA's side event at the UAE Pavilion, COP29: A panel discussion on "Creating Sustainable Impact in Arid and Saline Environments in Central Asia: The Power of Partnerships for SDG17," moderated by Dr. Charbel Tarraf, featuring Dr. Tarifa Al Zaabi, Mr. Bekmurat Turdishev, and Dr. Marguba Rejapova.

ICESCO High-level Panel: Achieving Resilience in Agri-Food Systems Through Climate Action and Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystem (WEFE) Nexus Management



On 19 November, Dr. Tarifa Alzaabi, Director General of ICBA, with global experts at the ICESCO Pavilion during COP29, discussing resilient agri-food systems through climate action and the WEFE Nexus.

ICBA-ICESCO Panel Discussion: Unlocking the Potential of Youth and Women in Transforming Food Systems for Climate Action Panel Discussion



on 20 November, Panel discussion at COP29 titled "Unlocking the Potential of Youth and Women in Transforming Food Systems for Climate Action," moderated by Dr. Charbel Tarraf, featuring Ms. Nour El Jundi and global experts at the ICESCO Pavilion, Blue Zone.

ICBA's Participation in the COP16

Main Highlights

FAO High-Level Breakfast Dialogue on the Near East and North Africa Regional Investment Framework



On 05 December, Dr. Tarifa A. Alzaabi, Director General of ICBA, participating as a panelist in the NENA High-Level Breakfast Dialogue on Investment for Planet and People during the Food and Agricultural Systems Day at COP16 UNCCD in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Fireside Chat "Biosaline Accelerators for Land Restoration"



On 06 December, Dr. Tarifa Alzaabi and Ms. Nour El Jundi led a Fireside Chat titled "**Biosaline Accelerators for Land Restoration**".

The discussion explored innovative biosaline agriculture practices and their transformative potential in sustainable land restoration and combating land degradation.

ICBA Side Event: Soil Health to Combat Land Desertification



Dr. Charbel Tarraf, Chief Operations and Development, Mrs. Ryma Affani, Curator of the Emirates Soil Museum, and Dr. Ahmed El-Naggar, Soil Management Scientist, discussed innovative approaches to preserving soil health, combating desertification, and promoting sustainable land management practices.

ICBA's side event "Soil Health to Combat Land Desertification" at UAE Pavilion, highlighting sustainable land management practices and collaborative efforts to address desertification challenges.

ICBA Stress-Tolerant Seeds Exhibition



The exhibition highlighted UAE native seeds, emphasizing their vital role in preserving biodiversity, enhancing resilience in challenging landscapes, and supporting sustainable agriculture and food security for future generations.

Interactive display at UAE Pavilion showcasing the role of planting salt-tolerant species to prevent soil erosion and promote sustainable land management.

Capacity Development and Knowledge Transfer

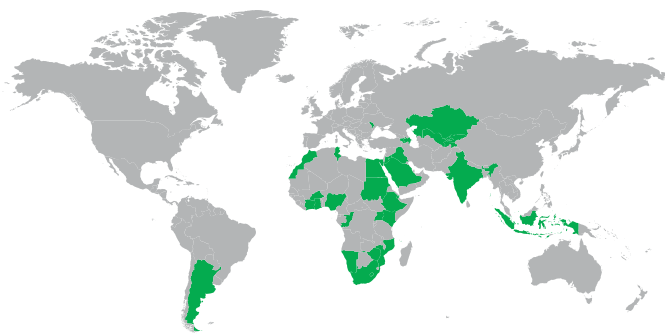
Capacity development and knowledge transfer are an integral part of ICBA's work. The fourth quarter of 2024 saw the launch of one CPD-certified e-learning course: "Biosaline Agriculture as an Approach to Land Restoration" in collaboration with the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). The course equips professionals and students with essential skills in sustainable land management through engaging and interactive content.



Developed by ICBA's scientists with support from UNCCD, the course builds on the success of in-person trainings that have reached over 70 participants from 40+ countries. Participants receive a CPD-certified certificate upon completion.

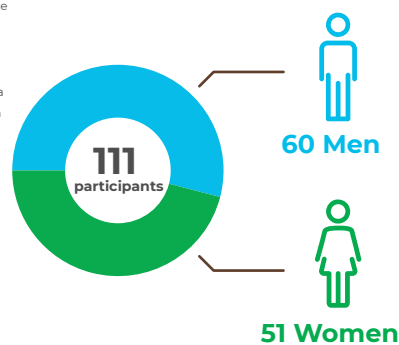
The course is available on ICBA's E-learning platform at <https://tinyurl.com/4px2day3>

Technical training in Q4 2024

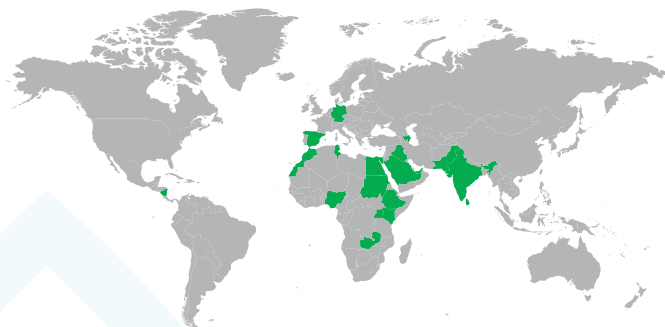


4 in-person courses, participants from 33 countries

Azerbaijan
Kazakhstan
Kyrgyzstan
Tajikistan
Uzbekistan
Argentina
Armenia
Burkina Faso
Comoros
Egypt
Ethiopia
Ghana
India
Indonesia
Iraq
Ivory Coast
Jordan
Kenya
Lesotho
Moldova
Republic of Congo
Mozambique
Morocco
Namibia
Nigeria
Saudi Arabia
South Africa
Tunisia
Zimbabwe
Djibouti
Sudan
Uganda

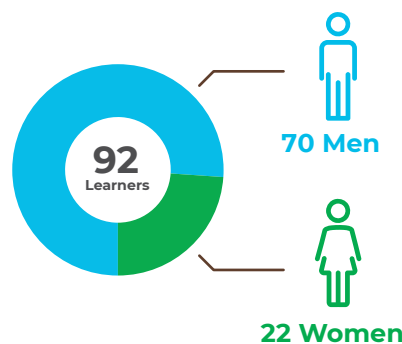


ICBA's e-learning statistics for Q4 2024

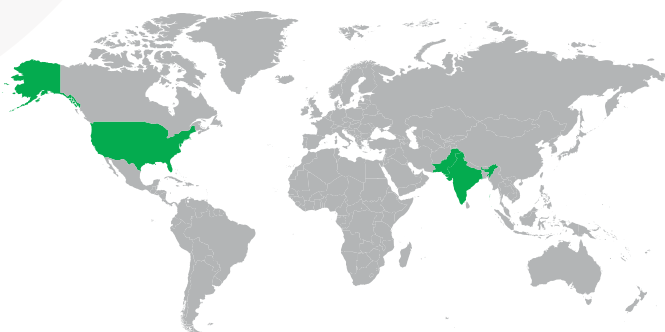


Learners from 19 countries completed one or more of the 11 e-learning courses available on ICBA's e-learning portal

Azerbaijan
Egypt
Ethiopia
Germany
India
Iraq
Kenya
Morocco
Nicaragua
Nigeria
Pakistan
Saudi Arabia
Spain
Sri Lanka
Sudan
Tunisia
UAE
Uganda
Zambia

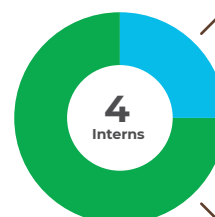


Internships in Q4 2024



4 interns from 3 countries

India
Pakistan
USA



1 Man

3 Women

Regional Training Workshop on “Gene Bank Operations in Central Asian Countries”

ICBA with support from the Islamic Development Bank organized a 3-day regional workshop on gene bank operations and agricultural biodiversity in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. The event gathered 24 experts from five Central Asian countries, including Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan.

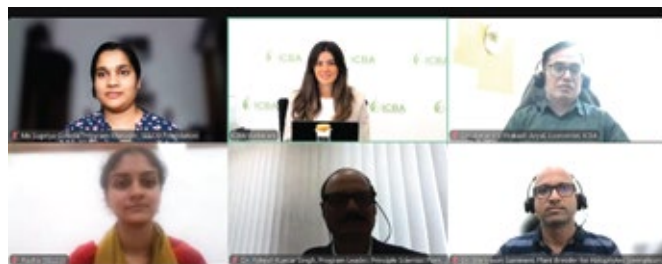
The workshop aims to equip participants with advanced techniques and best practices in gene bank operations to strengthen their capacity in preserving agricultural biodiversity and managing genetic resources.



Participants of ICBA's Regional Training Workshop on Gene Bank Operations in Central Asian Countries, held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, from 10–8 October 2024

Webinar on “Enhancing Millet Value Chain for Sustainable Livelihoods and Climate Resilience”

Coinciding with International Day of Rural Women, ICBA in partnership with SELCO Foundation, hosted a webinar titled “Enhancing Millet Value Chain for Sustainable Livelihoods and Climate Resilience”. The event gathered experts from ICBA and SELCO Foundation to discuss millets as a climate-smart crop that supports farmers, small enterprises, and empowers women.



Speakers from ICBA and SELCO Foundation during the webinar on "Enhancing Millet Value Chain for Sustainable Livelihoods and Climate Resilience," held on the International Day of Rural Women.

ICBA-UNCCD Training on Biosaline Agriculture as an Approach to Land Restoration



Participants of the ICBA-UNCCD training on "Biosaline Agriculture as an Approach to Land Restoration" engage in practical sessions, field visits, and knowledge-sharing activities at ICBA's headquarters in Dubai, UAE.

On 4 November, ICBA, in collaboration with the G20 Global Land Initiative of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), organized a four-day training program on “Biosaline Agriculture as an Approach to Land Restoration” at ICBA's Headquarters in Dubai, UAE. The training hosted 25 participants from 23 countries, with expertise in agriculture, environmental science, and climate resilience.

Participants gained advanced knowledge and hands-on skills to support sustainable land restoration and combat desertification, enhancing their capacity to drive resilience in their home regions.

WACAA Regional Dialogue in the CAC Region in Baku



Participants of the WACAA Regional Dialogue in the CAC Region, organized by ICBA in Baku, Azerbaijan, on 23–22 October, discussing the intersection of climate change, agriculture, and women's leadership.

On 23–22 October, ICBA organized the **WACAA Regional Dialogue in the CAC Region in Baku, Azerbaijan**, bringing together **30 distinguished women experts** from research and academic institutions across **Central Asia and the Caucasus**.

Supported by the **Islamic Development Bank (IsDB)**, the dialogue aimed to explore the intersection of climate change and women in agriculture, focusing on gender equality, women's leadership, and climate resilience in agricultural practices.

The discussion emphasized the importance of inclusive policies, resources, and opportunities to drive meaningful change, underscoring that women's active participation is essential for enhancing the resilience of agricultural systems and ensuring food security.

Research Publications

Science-based publications are at the heart of ICBA's knowledge output and serve as a significant contribution to advancing agricultural science. In addition to several other important research papers published during the reporting period, ICBA's scientists produced a total of 15 research articles for international peer-reviewed journals and books over the last six months of 2024. All research publications are available on ICBA's website at www.biosaline.org/publications.



Publication: Ecological Informatics

Title: Framework for deep learning diagnosis of plant disorders in horticultural crops: From data collection tools to user-friendly web and mobile apps

Publication date: December 2024



Publication: Frontiers in Agronomy

Title: Optimization of irrigation scheduling using crop-water simulation, water pricing, and quantitative weather forecasts

Publication date: October 2024

High-Level Visits and Meetings

From October to December, ICBA hosted and participated in several high-level visits and meetings to showcase its **research** and **development** efforts and explore **opportunities for collaboration** across various areas.

Main Highlights

Delegation from CGIAR Independent Science for Development Council (ISDC) visits ICBA



On 6 November, Delegation from the CGIAR Independent Science for Development Council (ISDC) visits ICBA to explore research innovations in biosaline agriculture and discuss potential collaborations.

ICBA Explores Cooperation with Tashkent State Agrarian University in Uzbekistan



On 13 November, Delegation from Tashkent State Agrarian University, led by Vice-Rector Narzullo Oblomuradov, visits ICBA to discuss collaborative research, capacity-building, and partnership opportunities.

High-level World Agriculture Forum (WAF) Consultation Meeting



Participants of the World Agriculture Forum (WAF) Consultation Meeting, hosted by ICBA, discussing innovative strategies for sustainable agriculture in saline and arid environments.

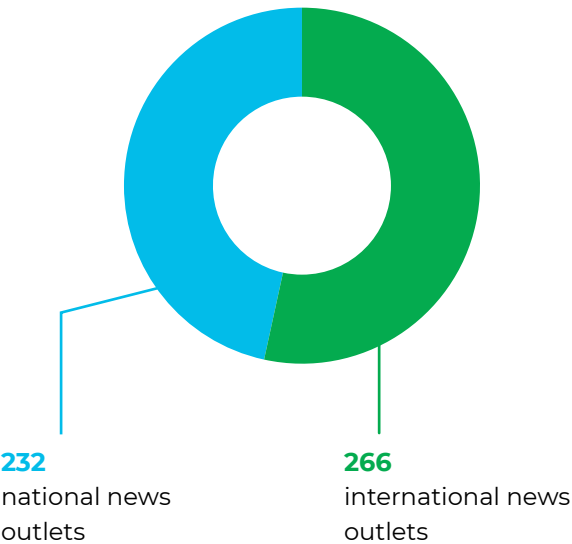
On 10 December, Participants of the World Agriculture Forum (WAF) Consultation Meeting, hosted by ICBA, discussing innovative strategies for sustainable agriculture in saline and arid environments.

Communication of Research and Development

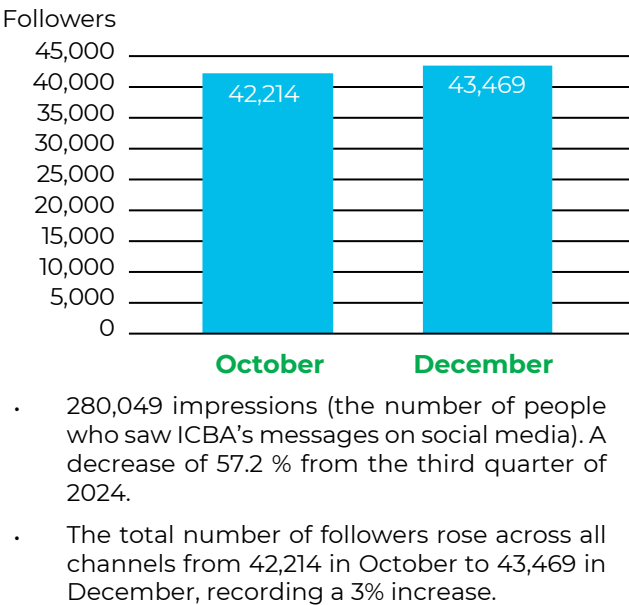
ICBA places a strong emphasis on sharing information about its projects, activities, and achievements to a wide range of stakeholders via **news media**, **social media**, and other channels. During the reporting period, the center actively disseminated news and updates about its research, development efforts, and other initiatives. .

From 1 October to 31 December 2024, the center secured **498 mentions** from national and international news outlets, three news articles on Trading Views (US) respectively recorded a reach of around 22M, another three Trading Views (India) recorded a reach of between 4.9 - 4.8M and UrduPoint Network recorded a reach of over 2.4M among others.

Media mentions for October-December 2024

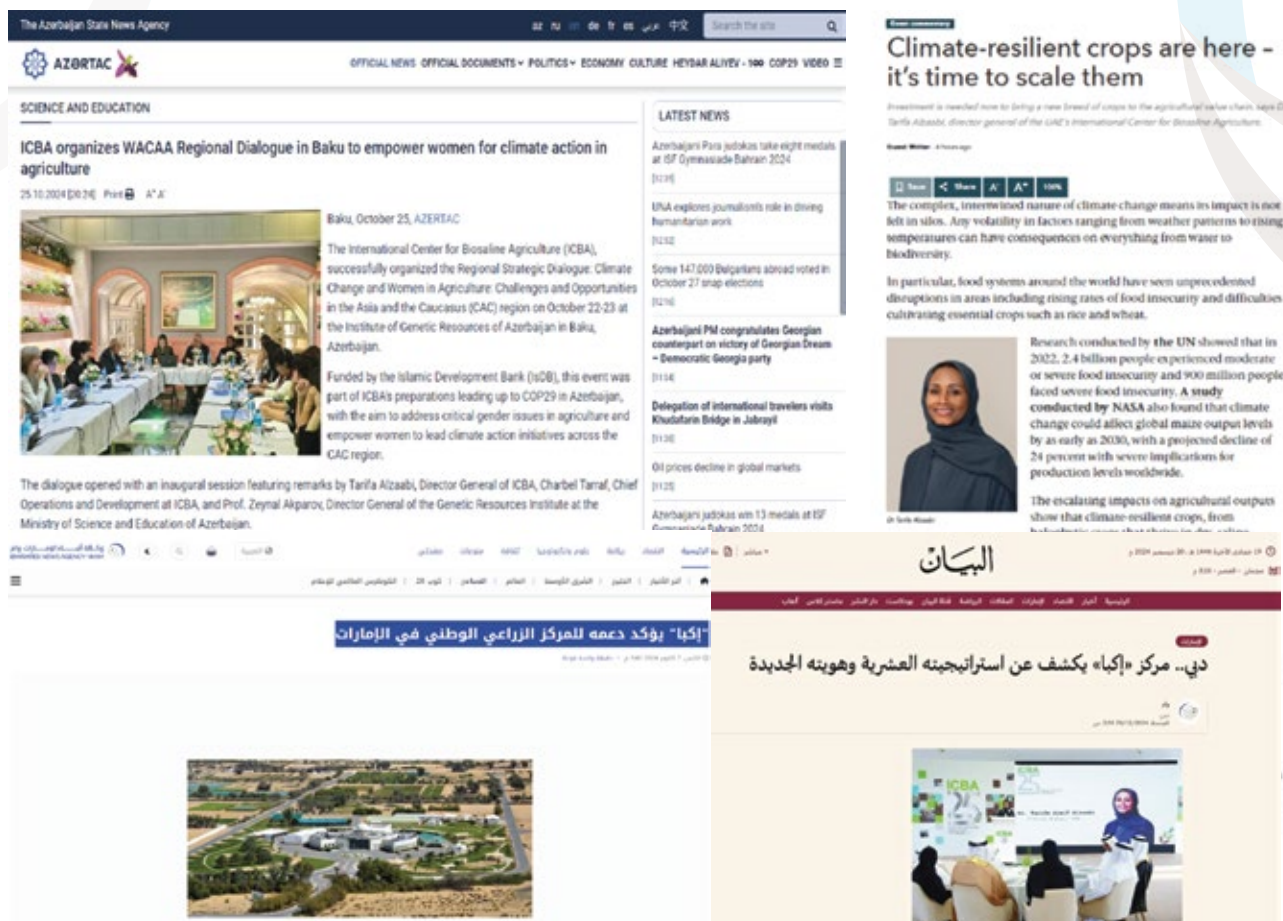


Social media stats for October-December 2024



As a result of social media activities, the number of followers increased from 23,854 to 25,127 on **LinkedIn**; from 8,341 to 8,556 on **Facebook**; from 2,953 to 3,021 on **X** (formerly Twitter); and from 2,898 to 3,080 on **Instagram**. In the last quarter of 2024, ICBA's **YouTube** channel videos totaled 4,449 views with the end of the year recording a total of 3,685 subscribers.

In Q4 of 2024, ICBA gained 1,177 new fans, a figure closely mirroring that Q3 of 2024, though follower counts varied across platforms, 11,225 engagements, including video views (%20 increase from Q3 of 2024), and 9,218 link clicks (%5.7 increase from Q3 of 2024). The number of posts this quarter stood at 706, a %90 increase in posting frequency.



ICBA's work was covered by leading national and international news outlets.

Resource Mobilization and Partnership Building

Resource Mobilization: During the reporting period, ICBA secured **5 new project** agreements totaling **US\$ 270,497**. These projects support sustainable agriculture, climate adaptation, and capacity building, and include:

A Funded Award Agreement was signed on 14 November 2024 with Khalifa University (KU) for AED 81,540. project titled “Smart Food-Water-Energy Management of Greenhouse for Improved Food Security”. The project is funded by KU's Competitive Internal Research Award (CIRA) program.

A Collaboration Agreement was signed on 10 December 2024 with Environmental Agency – Abu Dhabi (EAD) for a project titled “Enhanced Afforestation in Arid Regions: Sustainable Seedball Technology Implementation in the UAE”.

A Work Order was received on 27 December from the UAE Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure (MoEI) for US\$ 155,304. Titled “Integrated Agricultural-Water Management, Planning, and Evaluation Tool for the United Arab Emirates (UAE)”,

A Cooperation Agreement was signed on 29 December 2024 with the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) and Expo City Dubai (ECD) for the “Development of an Earth Observation (EO) Practical Guide and Evaluation Of Digital Agricultural Technologies”.

A Sponsorship Agreement was signed on 30 December 2024 with the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD) for AED 200,000 to create a **Blueprint Manual for Soil Museum Development and Operation**.

Partnership Building: During the reporting period, seven new Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) were signed, including the following:

MoU with Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT) was signed on 31 October 2024, to focuses on sustainable agriculture research and capacity development through internships and fellowships, while also promoting women's empowerment via WACAA and encouraging youth involvement in agriculture through an ICBA YES chapter at WIUT.

MoU with International Potato Center (CIP) was signed on 25 November 2024. The collaboration with CIP, part of the CGIAR System, will advance sustainable root and tuber cropping systems in dryland regions, focusing on ecological intensification, soil health, and climate-resilient varieties. It will also promote knowledge exchange, innovative technologies, and support women in agriculture through WACAA.

MoU with the Arab Authority for Agricultural Investment and Development (AAAID) was signed on 17 December 2024 during ICBA's 25th Jubilee celebration. The collaboration will focus on applied research, seed production for climate-smart crops, and technical support for sustainable agriculture. It will also include capacity-building for farmers, knowledge exchange, and joint events on technical topics of mutual interest.

MoU with the International Center for Living Aquatic Resources Management (ICLARM, also known as WorldFish) was signed on 17 December 2024 to restore coastal ecosystems, promote sustainable agri-aquaculture, and advance climate-smart fisheries in vulnerable regions. Focus areas include climate change adaptation, blue carbon, capacity building, and developing resilience-focused policies.

MoU with the Research Institute of Plant Genetic Resources (RIPGR) of the National Center for Knowledge and Innovation in Agriculture under the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan was signed on 7 November 2024. The collaboration will focus on joint projects and capacity building in plant genetic resources, crop diversification, and biodiversity conservation, while also supporting women's empowerment through WACAA initiatives.

MoU with the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA) was signed on 16 December 2024. The cooperation seeks to improve food security and rural livelihoods in sub-Saharan Africa through climate-smart agriculture, resilient crops, and better soil health. It will focus on irrigation, climate-resilient crop value chains, drought early warning systems, and empowering women and youth in agriculture.

MoU with Elite Agro Projects LLC (EAP) was signed on 17 December 2024, a UAE agricultural company, will collaborate on research, capacity building, and knowledge sharing to address salinity and aridity challenges. Key areas include developing resilient crops, sustainable farming, and training programs.



AGRICULTURE FOR
TOMORROW

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