



Institute for  
Agriculture &  
Trade Policy

# 2024 Annual Report

Minneapolis | Washington, D.C. | Berlin | [iatp.org](http://iatp.org)



# A Note From Our Executive Director

The gap between the end of our fiscal year on December 31 and the production of our annual report six months later is always disorienting. When it comes time to draft this letter, typically in late April, the previous December feels far away – let alone January of the year before!

But this year, our sense of time and distance is different. No public institution has gone unscathed by the dramatic transformation ushered in by the second Trump administration, and many in the private sector are feeling the burn too, from farmers to financiers. Through all the changes, IATP is committed to fight in defense of the values that lie at the root of democracy: to uphold truth and scientific integrity, the rule of law, and the universality of human rights.

But let us in these few pages step back to celebrate 2024. We had a good year. IATP's budget is healthy. We welcomed new staff, adding a part-time position to our development team, and we said a few goodbyes. Crucially, IATP continues to increase the share of resources it gets in multi-year grants, giving staff more room to plan with confidence. The board unanimously approved our **2025-2027 Strategic Plan**, setting our roadmap for the coming years.

2024 highlights include the Minnesota Legislature passing its first-ever Farm to Kids Strategic Plan, building out the vision for how to make programs more inclusive state-wide. This is the result of more than a decade of work in which IATP has been a leader, organizing with community groups and dedicated public servants around the state committed to healthy kids and a healthy farm economy. Despite the new administration's disappointing decision to cut federal support for programs dedicated to regional food systems, we are confident that, together with our partners, we can elect a future government to bring back public investment in these popular programs.

In November, we published a global review of corporate disclosure rules. We produced a four-part podcast series **How to Fight a Factory Farm**, about the farmers and rural organizers in our region who are fighting against large-scale confined animal farms in collaboration with coalition partners at the Campaign for Family Farms and the Environment. With Mexican and Canadian allies, IATP challenged the claims made by the U.S. Trade Representative's office that the Mexican government should not be allowed to ban glyphosate and genetically modified corn imports. In October we joined thousands of civil society organizations in Cali, Colombia at the 16th Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity, to support a vision for food and agriculture that centers an integrated vision for climate action and biodiversity protection.

Read on to learn more! And thank you so much for your interest and support. Please do not hesitate to reach out with questions, concerns, and ideas to share. Now more than ever we need to be working together and holding strong.



**Learn more about our staff:**  
<https://www.iatp.org/about/staff>



**Learn more about our board of directors:**  
<https://www.iatp.org/about/board>



**Learn more about our history:**  
<https://www.iatp.org/about/history>

Sophia Murphy, Ph.D.  
Executive Director





# Mission, Vision & Values

IATP is building a just transition for agriculture, which is not the work of one year, or five, but a lifetime.



Photo © NRCS Oregon

## MISSION

IATP works locally and globally at the intersection of policy and practice to ensure fair and sustainable food, farm and trade systems.

## VISION

IATP envisions agriculture, trade and food systems that are good for people, farmers and food system workers, ecosystems and social justice globally.

## VALUES

IATP is guided by values of economic and racial justice, environmental sustainability and resilience, and strong democratic institutions.



# Program Overview

IATP is dedicated to building just and resilient food, farm and trade systems, working at the intersection of policy and practice. IATP upholds the twinned principles of food sovereignty and agroecology. Food sovereignty gets at the question of who makes the decisions that shape food systems and how those decision makers are held accountable. Agroecology is a principle that drives practices to empower smallholder farming, ensuring access to healthy food, and builds climate resilience.



Staff and Board at HAFA Farm

Our work is organized around three cross-cutting teams: Community Food Systems, Climate Solutions, and Trade and Governance. The concepts of agroecology, food sovereignty and corporate accountability cut across all three program areas.

The teams all have their own geographies: Community Food Systems leads our work in Minnesota, with participation in some national alliances, while the Climate Solutions work is primarily in the U.S. and at the EU level from our Berlin office. The Trade and Governance team works in multilateral spaces, such as the UN Committee on World Food Security, in the U.S. on trade policy infrastructure, in a wide range of nations in the Global South, and on every continent through bilateral and regional networks.



Staff and Board at HAFA Farm



## IATP Program Values

**Protect and promote food sovereignty, defined as the right of people to determine their food systems democratically at every level of governance.**

**Advocate for agroecology, which is a systems-based understanding of food production and consumption that is scaled to specific landscapes and respectful of human-ecological interrelationships.**

**Support remunerative incomes and the right to decent work for all who work in food systems.**

**Protect ways of living that respect planetary boundaries and that see humanity as a part of (not apart from) nature.**

**Uphold the principles of feminist leadership, including self-care and care for others, power sharing, inclusion, accountability, and the dismantling of systemic discrimination.**



# Community Food Systems

In Minnesota, IATP advances an agroecological transition by building model community-based food systems. Our aim is clear: ensuring that all people have sufficient access to culturally appropriate and nutritious food, while opening new markets and opportunities for small to midscale farmers.



Apple Crunch at Minnesota State Capitol October 2024

IATP creates new markets for small-scale and emerging farmers by supporting and expanding Farm to School and Early Care programs in Minnesota. In 2024, we worked on the first **Minnesota Farm to Kids Strategic Plan**, setting state priorities to support a shared vision and roadmap for advancing local purchasing and agricultural education in K-12 schools and early care settings across the state. We championed state support for Farm to School and Early Care, and expanded access to grants to include home-based early care providers for the first time. We also documented essential information on local purchasing activity, challenges and opportunities for growth, publishing the results of the first statewide Minnesota Farm to School survey of school districts in 12 years, and the first ever statewide **Minnesota Farm to Early Care survey**.

In addition to high-level research and strategy, we ground our work in community experience. IATP worked with a cohort of early care providers on a pilot program to provide feedback adapting the Minnesota Harvest of the Month resources, and additionally, we published a set of Farm to School Spotlights to lift the creative ways schools are incorporating local Minnesota Farm to School foods into their menus.

Through all of our initiatives, we work in coalition to strengthen collective impact. IATP houses the **MinneAg Network** and co-leads with partners to bring together an array of Minnesota farm and food systems organizations to build civic engagement capacity and jointly advocate for nonpartisan policies that protect rural communities, farmers, and the climate.



## 2024 Community Food Systems Spotlights:



Hunger Day, March 2024



# Climate Solutions

IATP works at the local, national and international level for a just transition for food and agriculture systems. In 2024, IATP worked closely with partners to push back against the exploitive practices of some of the largest poultry and meat companies by establishing **strong new rules** at the U.S. Department of Agriculture that ensure fairness in the marketplace for farmers. These rules updated the Packers and Stockyards Act by protecting farmers from unfair contracts, stopping discriminatory practices and banning retaliatory actions from big poultry and meat companies.

Our **series of reports** on the Farm Bill showed how many farmers are closed out of conservation programs that protect the climate, and how polluting, industrial farms are benefiting. Our research informed the fight to protect conservation program funding for farmers included in the Inflation Reduction Act and spawned new legislation to redirect funding for industrial livestock farms toward agroecological systems of farming. We continue to provide critical research for our coalition partners, policymakers, and the media on the climate implications of the next Farm Bill.



Agrivoltaics Tour, August 2024

In 2024, we expanded our work for greater accountability from the largest meat and dairy companies for their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Our research on global meat giant JBS was the basis for a **New York Attorney General lawsuit** accusing the company of making misleading net zero claims. We also launched new work **tracking corporate climate disclosure rules** being established by governments around the world and how these new requirements pressure global meat and dairy companies to reduce their emissions.

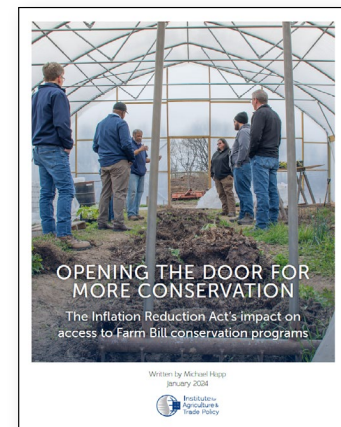
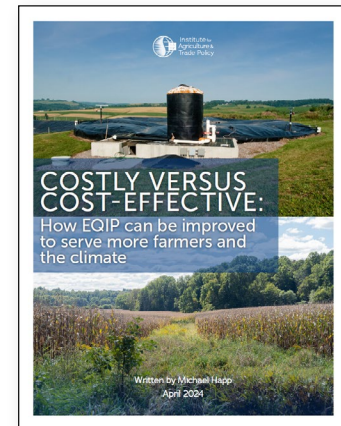
In Europe, we continued to work for farm policy that can deliver for both farmers and the climate, highlighting the **inadequacy** of relying on carbon markets as a way to address agricultural GHG emissions. We tried to open up an otherwise technical discussion with **easy to understand** and **engaging** analysis.



CFFE Strategy Meeting, November 2024



## 2024 Climate Solutions Spotlights:





# Trade & Governance

Our work on trade this year brought people together across borders to defend progress toward agroecology and to develop alternatives to existing trade rules. Much of that work focused on the trade dispute brought by the U.S. under the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement over Mexico's restrictions on genetically modified corn – we created **an information hub** for those following the case, and we organized a **bilingual webinar series** focusing on the science, human rights, and economic impacts. Our submission on Mexico's right to honor its commitments to Indigenous people and biodiversity informed the official public hearings on the dispute. While we were disappointed that the dispute panel ruled against Mexico in December, we continue work with allies to defend each country's right to determine its path to agroecology.

We collaborated with a diverse international team and a network of allies active in trade, food, and global environmental advocacy to reimagine global trade rules for agriculture and food security for the 21st century, an effort informed by new research we produced on the rapidly changing climate risks for global grain production and trade. We developed new analysis of WTO debates on foods stocks as a tool to cope with unstable markets, and we explored the ways ambitious new programs like the EU Deforestation Regulation can interact with free-trade agreements. In all of these efforts, we seek to align important goals for a just climate transition with the trade rules needed to achieve them.

We bring this knowledge into the global spaces that determine policies on agriculture and food systems. Our collaborative work at the UN Committee on Global Food Security advances a complete approach to agroecology that goes beyond increases in sustainable production and incomes. Our work also incorporates the broader imperatives to bring farmers and scientists together for innovations that strengthen communities as well as food supplies.



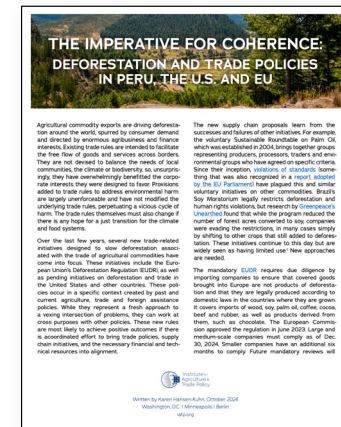
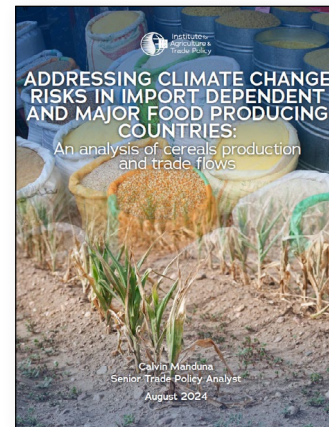
AoA Reimagined, September 2024



Karen and Sophia at COP16, October 2024 in Colombia



## 2024 Trade & Governance Spotlights:








# Communications

Since its beginnings, IATP has been producing trusted, data-driven publications and communications materials to tell the stories of those impacted by unjust agricultural and trade policies and push policymakers to build better, more just systems that benefit the whole of society. Our communications have taken the form of detailed research to thought-provoking articles to podcasts, video, newsletters, and webinars. Our communications team plans, produces, and promotes the work of our program staff to reshape prevailing narratives and advance our mission.

In 2024, the communications team oversaw the creation and promotion of:

 **41** articles

 **16** regulatory comments and letters

 **6** policy briefs and case studies

 **7** reports

 **18** webinars



Our popular podcast miniseries, **How to Fight a Factory Farm**, featured discussion from IATP policy experts and guests about how factory farms took over the American agriculture system and the impact they've had on rural communities. With over 5,000 listeners across four episodes, the series resonated with a broad audience, fostering meaningful dialogue and understanding.

Through strategic media outreach efforts, our team secured significant coverage across various platforms, including online, print, radio and TV outlets. With IATP quoted, mentioned or cited nearly 900 times, our messages reached a potential audience of over 3 billion people.



IATP staff at California Street Farm in Minneapolis, July 2024



# 2024 Financials

## BALANCE SHEET

Total Assets	\$ 4,198,465
Total Liabilities	\$ 399,248
Total Net Assets	\$ 3,799,217
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 4,198,465</b>

## INCOME STATEMENT<sup>1</sup>

Total Revenue	\$ 3,873,596
Total Expense	\$ 2,177,587

## FUNCTIONAL EXPENSE ALLOCATION

Programs	\$ 1,533,779 <sup>2</sup>
Mission Support/Administration	\$ 441,512
Mission Support/Fundraising	\$ 202,295

## USE OF FUNDS

Programs	70%
Mission Support/Administration	20%
Mission Support/Fundraising	10%

<sup>1</sup> IATP reported strong revenue growth in 2024, reflecting the success of strategic fundraising efforts focused on securing larger award amounts and multi-year grant commitments. This progress underscores our focus on building long-term sustainability. The summarized financial information provided in this annual report has been extracted from IATP's 2024 consolidated audited financial statements. Please refer to the complete audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2024 for the full generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) presentation.

<sup>2</sup> A complete breakdown of expenses per individual program is available on [IATP's website](#).





Institute for  
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Our mission is made possible in partnership with generous donors. Through a tax-deductible **donation** to the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy, you can support our work locally and globally at the intersection of policy and practice to ensure healthy, fair and sustainable food, farm and trade systems.

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