

IRSA - CONGRESSO MUNDIAL DE SOCIOLOGIA RURAL (01/10/2025 A
20/01/2026) - IRSA 35 - PUBLIC POLICIES FOR FAMILY FARMING IN LATIN
AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

**PUBLIC INSTRUMENTS FOR THE COTTON SECTOR OF FAMILY FARMING
IN LATIN AMERICA: THE CASES OF BOLIVIA, COLOMBIA, PARAGUAY
AND PERU**

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The use of cotton dates back to 4,500 BC in ancient India, becoming common in the Americas and other continents, domesticated by humans and serving the same purpose it does to this day: being the basis of clothing (CEPAL, 1985; ABRAPA, 2022). Cotton, one of the 20 most important commodities in the world market in terms of value (ITC, 2007; VOORA et al., 2023), involves approximately 350 million people in its value chain (FAO, 2018). In Latin American countries, cotton occupied a strategic position in generating economic revenue through exports, and in creating national employment and income. In the 1990s, this product entered a severe productive and commercial crisis, generating economic and social consequences for all countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. The objective of this work is to record, describe, and reflect on the public policy instruments promoted by the +Cotton international

cooperation between 2012 and 2023 in four Latin American countries. Methodologically, the research is qualitative in nature, with a descriptive and exploratory method that allowed the identification and systematization of primary and secondary information from the countries regarding public policy instruments, whose trajectory contains intersubjective elements that represent the basis of social research (DEMO, 2000, GIL, 2008, AUGUSTO et al., 2014). In conclusion, it was identified that the four countries, during this period, launched different public policy instruments seeking to strengthen the cotton sector of family farming. Bolivia approved the National Cotton Program, Peru processed the National Cotton Program, Colombia included cotton as one of the 8 priority production chains, and Paraguay was a pioneer in resuming the cotton chamber, involving the public and private sector. The establishment of public policy instruments is central to promoting sustainable rural development, particularly in territories with a predominance of family farming.

Palavras-chave: family farming; cotton; public policies; international cooperation; latin america.