

A group of diverse young people, mostly of Latin American and African descent, are posing for a photo in front of a building. They are wearing tropical-themed clothing, including leis, flower crowns, and hats. The building behind them has a sign that reads "Education offers the" and another sign above the entrance that reads "W.K. Kellogg". The scene is outdoors with palm trees and a clear sky in the background.

GCHERA World Conference

José Zaglul

President Emeritus
-EARTH University-

A group of four students, two women and two men, are sitting on a green lawn under the shade of trees. They are all focused on their studies, looking at various papers and notebooks. One woman in the foreground is writing in a notebook, while the others are looking at documents or talking. The scene is bright and sunny, with dappled light on the grass. A semi-transparent green box with white text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

The role of education in meeting global challenges



Poverty and lack of opportunities



Lack of understanding and violence



A fragile planet

**Do universities deal with
these challenges?**



In Latin America's **oldest** **democracy**



The establishment of EARTH in Central America: Under a very critical geopolitical situation



Poverty and hunger



War and violence



Environmental
degradation

A photograph of a university campus. In the center is a two-story building with a red-tiled roof and white walls. A tall, slender antenna tower rises from the roof. The building is surrounded by lush green trees. A large, mature tree stands prominently in the foreground on the right. The sky is blue with wispy white clouds. A semi-transparent dark banner with white text is overlaid at the bottom.

The university goes **beyond**
simply generating knowledge

Our mission

Prepare leaders with ethical values
to contribute to sustainable
development and to construct a
just and prosperous society.



www.earth.ac.cr



Our vision

Our actions are mission-driven to alleviate poverty, promote social justice and build a future where our communities achieve sustainable and shared prosperity.



What makes EARTH unique?

Admissions

Student recruitment
based on:

- Academic and leadership potential
- Vocation
- Socioeconomic background
- Values and social and environmental commitment





Empower promising young leaders from economically underprivileged communities

Promoting intercultural understanding



Faculty from
20 countries

431

Students

41

Countries

86%

Rural areas

54%

Male

46%

Female

Our formative pillars



**Technical and
scientific
knowledge**



**Ethical
entrepreneurship**



**Personal
development,
attitudes and
values**



**Social and
environmental
awareness and
commitment**

Our **teaching** and **learning** process



**Experiential
learning**

**Student
centered
learning**



Ensure that EARTH alumni have the professional competencies to sustainably manage agriculture and natural resources



From EARTH to space in pursuing of cure Chagas' disease

Develop students'
entrepreneurial spirit,
to proactively
generate
opportunities and
solutions to problems



Real entrepreneurial projects

Loan of up to
\$5,000/project

Interest rate on the
balance

Disbursement
according to cash flow

Labor to be paid at end
of project





Foster self-awareness, empathy, respect, tolerance, teamwork, effective communication and life-long learning along with those values that promote peace, dialogue and understanding



Develop students' social and environmental responsibility and strengthens their capacity to generate positive change

Experiential learning internship



2017 INTERNSHIPS

GERMANY BELIZE

BRAZIL ARGENTINA

BOLIVIA COSTA

HAITI RICA

COLOMBIA ECUADOR

NETHERLANDS SPAIN

GUATEMALA UNITED STATES

LAOS NEW HONDURAS

MADAGASCAR NEW

MEXICO NEW ZEALAND PANAMA

PERU UGANDA ZAM NEW
BIA

DOMINICAN PORTUGAL

REPUBLIC TANZANIA

SOUTH AFRICA

SOMALILAND NEW



Some of EARTH's impacts

Community
Development
Program

Research

Revolution of
the commercial
banana system

Alumni

Community Development Program

- Service-learning course
- Students work with small-scale, local producers and organized groups
 - Promote sustainable community development





“It’s been so important to have the students’ input. We never stop experimenting and learning. The knowledge they’ve brought me is beautiful. They help me by giving me their time and effort to improve this farm with their technical plans and physical labor. They help me with everything. They’re so brave, these students.”

Lidia Hernández

Research

- Applied
- Engaged students and faculty
- EARTH collaborations:
 - University of Florida
 - NASA
 - CIAT
 - IITA
 - Cummins
 - SRI-Rice
 - WholeFoods
 - University of Alabama
- Example projects:
 - agricultural uses for sugarcane ethanol by-products
 - bio-indicator field guides for on-site water quality assessments



The Precision Agriculture Center researches and develops techniques to help farmers produce efficiently



Dramatic changes in the Costa Rican banana industry

- Progressive agriculture techniques
- Respect human and natural resources
- EARTH bananas rated by Whole Foods Market as “Best”



Most definitely a different banana

Alumni impact

90% work in their countries of origin

75% has a positive and direct impact on the agricultural sector, mainly by increasing the efficiency of agricultural production

87% have a direct and positive impact on environmental issues


84% of respondents report having a direct and positive impact on social issues

20% have their own company

“The most rewarding part of my relationship with EARTH has been meeting all the different people that share this mission, particularly the students. Seeing them graduate and then start working and growing as a professional, it becomes obvious that they have learned a totally different kind of work ethic. EARTH is unique and that’s the kind of place that it is so needed today.”

Barbara Butler, longtime supporter.



A man with a mustache and a wide-brimmed brown hat is smiling at the camera. He is wearing a plaid shirt with shades of blue, brown, and red. He is standing in a barn with a corrugated metal roof. In the background, several white goats are visible, and there are stacks of wooden planks and bags of material. The text "EARTH's experience and curricular model is being shared with others universities." is overlaid on the right side of the image.

EARTH's experience and curricular model is being shared with others universities.

We must choose if we want
to fail or succeed in our
mission to ensure our future.





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