

INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND REGIONAL INTEGRATION PROGRAM



MAIN RESULTS IN 2022



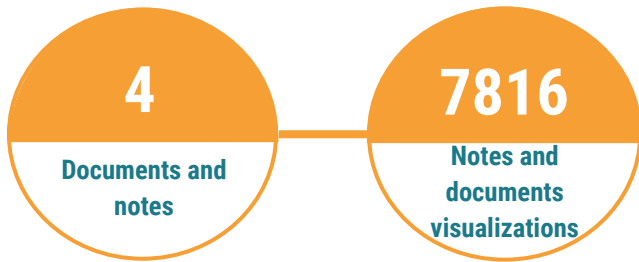
Effective participation in multilateral forums



IICA participated as an observer in the Committee on Agriculture of the World Trade Organization (WTO). This allowed it to follow discussions surrounding the implementation of measures that restrict or facilitate agricultural trade, particularly in relation to COVID-19 and agriculture; notification commitments undertaken by countries; and the application of the results of the Twelfth Ministerial Conference (MC12), information that it then shared with countries in the Americas and partners throughout the world. Moreover, during 2022, the WTO Reference Center at the Institute ([Facebook](#), 25306 visits and [Twitter](#), 27367 visits) published more than 100 agrifood trade-related news articles on social media; disseminated eight information capsules about trade flows in the region; attended 27 technical consultation meetings with the academic, private and government sectors, addressing specific trade policy issues; and delivered various presentations that were viewed by more than 300 individuals. The Center now boasts more than 1,000 social media followers.

After MC12 (the meeting of the main decision body of the WTO), the Institute, via the IICA blog, disseminated the [main agriculture-related issues addressed at that conference](#). On the other hand, an article was jointly published with the National University of Costa Rica, discussing the outlook for food security in the Americas and the results of MC12. In preparation for the 27th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP27), IICA and the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) co-hosted the event Agriculture in the Americas on the Road to COP27: Challenges and Opportunities for Public Policy. Moreover, a technical note of the same name— [Agriculture in the Americas on the Road to COP27: Challenges and Opportunities for Public Policy](#)— was also prepared and disseminated, highlighting the main challenges facing agrifood systems in the region as a result of the climate crisis, among them mitigation, adaptation, climate financing and a new generation of policies.

War in Ukraine and its implications for trade and food security

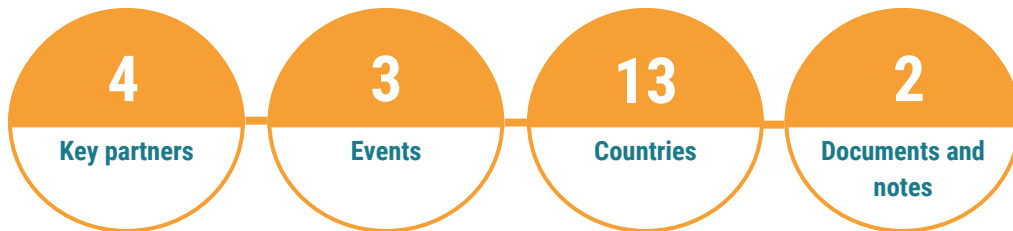


In 2022, armed conflict between Russia and Ukraine erupted in a world already experiencing a slow post-pandemic recovery and the effects of extreme climate events that had affected agrifood systems in the region. The war contributed to increased prices for food, fertilizers, and fuel, while also destabilizing supply chains, further affecting the food security of millions of people and disrupting agrifood trade flows.

The Institute began to track the issue, through technical notes and documents that analyzed [the effects of the conflict on agrifood systems](#), [its impact on food security and trade](#), and [the behavior of agrifood exports and imports of chemical fertilizers](#) to the region. Moreover, through its [Public Policy Observatory for Agrifood Systems \(OPSAa\)](#), IICA documented the trade measures adopted to tackle the crisis and shared indicators related to the [agrifood](#) and [fertilizer](#) trade in the region.



Intraregional trade promotion



Mindful that international regulatory cooperation may assist in overcoming barriers to economic and trade integration resulting from incompatible national regulations, in 2022, the Institute, in collaboration with the Latin America Integration Association (ALADI), organized a [high-level meeting](#) attended by ministers of Agriculture and senior officials from 11 ALADI member countries. Participants exchanged ideas on the importance of regulatory convergence in promoting intraregional trade and food security, as well as in reducing the risk of shocks in third-party markets.

recommendations and in tandem with mutual recognition agreements, the implementation of trade facilitation actions, and the strengthening of regional trade promotion, among others actions.

IICA provided support to the General Secretariat of the Andean Community in the preparation, dissemination, and approval of a project on implementing the strategic lines of action of the [Andean Agricultural Agenda](#), in relation to trade and agribusiness development. Most notably, this entailed defining and establishing common regulations and sanitary and phytosanitary requirements, in line with international

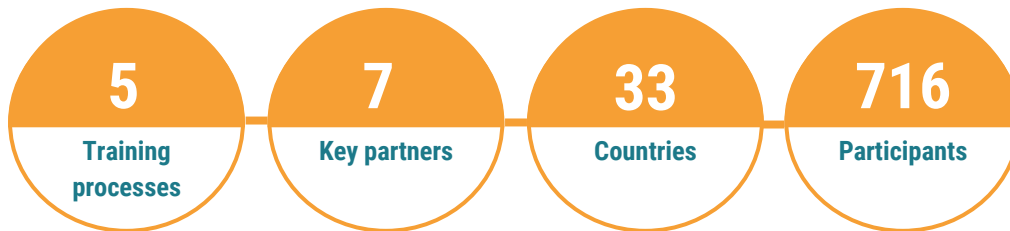




Guía de Identificación y Sistematización de Información sobre las Regulaciones del Comercio Internacional para el Sector Avícola

In partnership with the Central American Dairy Federation (FECALAC), the International Trade and Regional Integration and the Agricultural Health, Safety and Food Quality programs developed national workshops aimed at validating the Analysis of Current Trade Agreements to Capitalize on and Improve Trade Opportunities and Access to Dairy Products in Central America. The workshops also sought to identify the need for technical and horizontal cooperation to assist in the development of projects in response to these opportunities. Moreover, the Institute also collaborated with the Latin American Association of Poultry Farming (ALA) in the publication and dissemination of the [Guide to the Identification and Systematization of Information on International Trade Regulations for the Poultry Sector](#), which systematized technical information on international trade in the poultry sector required by ALA member countries.

Capacity building



Aiming to build capacity in the ministries of Agriculture and Trade of the region in the area of agrifood trade policy, the Institute worked with key partners in delivering training at the hemispheric, multi-country, and regional levels, engaging more than 450 participants. The Institute also offered the following courses that enhanced the export capacities of more than 250 representatives of companies, producer organizations, and institutions that promote the internationalization of agrifood sector companies:

- “Short Virtual Course on Trade Policy for Members of the Latin American Integration Association”, organized in association with ALADI and the WTO, with the participation of more than 26 individuals from 13 countries.
- “Trade Policies, with a Focus on the Agriculture Sector of the SICA Region”, which trained 53 specialists from ministries of Agriculture and Trade in the Central American Integration System (SICA) region. The course was co-organized with the Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration (SIECA), the Food and

Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the Executive Secretariat of the Central American Agricultural Council (SECAC).

Curso de Comercio internacional y Agricultura

Módulos temáticos:

- Estructura económica internacional, acuerdos comerciales y negociaciones internacionales.
- Comercio internacional e instrumentos de política comercial en el sector agrícola.
- Nuevos temas del comercio agrícola y de alimentos.
- Caracterización de los bloques comerciales en América Latina y sus acuerdos comerciales de extrazona.

Inicio: 28 de junio.

Duración: 4 semanas.

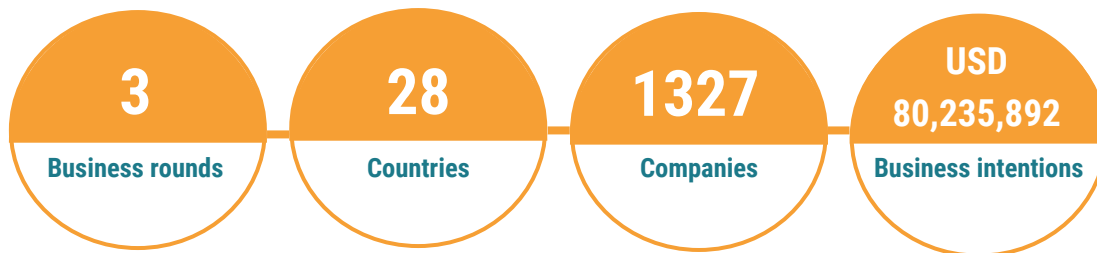
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- “[Agricultural Trade Policy](#)” and “Trade and Food Security”, which garnered 320 and 60 participants, respectively, and which were organized in collaboration with SIECA, the FAO, and SECAC.
- “Getting Ready to Export Agrifood Products”, which was delivered in English and Spanish, based on an agreement with the Forum for International Trade Training (FITT) of Canada, attracting more than 250 participants.



Linking agrifood producers to export markets



In collaboration with various strategic partners, the Program staged the [fifth](#) and [sixth](#) editions of the Virtual Business Roundtable of the Agrifood Chains of Latin America and the Caribbean, which enabled agrifood companies and organizations to consolidate and diversify their presence in regional markets. In total, 685 companies took part in the fifth edition, held in March, generating USD 53.2 million of expected business. On the other hand, 470 companies participated in the sixth edition, resulting in USD 25.8 million of expected business. The roundtables sought to promote the trade of commodities and their by-products, processed foods and production and trade support services. Most of the participating companies were from the following subsectors: fruits and vegetables; coffee and cocoa; basic cereals and seeds; prepared foods and healthy snacks; packaging and distribution services; and finally, transportation and logistics.



Edición	Fecha	Participantes	Intención de negocio (USD)
V edición	28 de marzo al 01 de abril de 2022	685 empresas	USD 53,210,892
VI edición	05 al 09 de septiembre de 2022	470 empresas	USD 25,800,000

172 participating companies

1,225,000 USD estimated business amount

www.redca.sieca.int info_redca@sieca.int

Furthermore, in November, the [Second Business Roundtable to promote intraregional trade in the Caribbean](#) was held, attracting 172 companies, and resulting in USD 1.2 million of tentative business deals.

Promoting information exchange and transparency in agricultural markets



On the other hand, as the Technical Secretariat of the Market Information Organization of the Americas ([MIOA](#)), IICA assisted in implementing key actions for the organization, to promote the exchange of accurate information and the transparency of agricultural markets in the Americas. The Secretariat fostered collaboration among member countries, as well as shared experiences and best practices through technical presentations that attracted more than 580 participants. Additionally, 143 persons were able to build their capacities, through the virtual courses “Introduction to Price Analysis in Agriculture” and “Techniques for Agricultural Price Analysis”. Furthermore, assistance was provided in the development of region-specific price catalogues and reports (available on the [MIOA](#) website), which provided an interactive system that facilitated the identification and characterization of the main agricultural products of the Americas. With financial support from the Agricultural



Marketing Service (AMS) and the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Institute provided specialized diagnostic and reinforcement sessions to agricultural market information systems (AMIS) in Ecuador, Paraguay, Guatemala, and Peru to assist in building capacities in AMIS management. Capacity-building sessions on agricultural statistics were provided to their counterparts in the Dominican Republic.

