

International Cooperation In Codex



Codex Trust Fund second version (CTF2)

The Codex Trust Fund supports countries to build strong, solid and sustainable national capacity to engage in Codex. Applications from eligible countries or groups of countries are assessed through a fair and transparent process and successful applications receive support for up to three years.

The Fund is currently under its second version for the 2016 – 2027 period. During this period, it will support countries by strengthening their national structure to effectively participate in Codex.

From the CCLAC region, 16 countries were eligible for the CTF2. At the last round of applications held at the end of 2017, 5 of them submitted a proposal to Benefit from the program, these were:

- Bolivia
- Cuba
- El Salvador
- Guatemala
- Honduras

Out of this 5 submissions, the proposal presented by Honduras, titled *“Strengthening the structure of the focal point, national committee and its consultation mechanisms to improve the management of Codex Alimentarius in Honduras”*

was accepted and Will be funded and implemented by the CTF Secretariat along with the WHO, between 2018 and 2020.

The project will seek to strengthen the technical capacities, structure and management of the Focal Point, as well as having a standardized system of processes in all instances related to Codex at the national level.

Among the expected results are:

- Strengthen the Codex Focal Point.
- Improve the technical and systematic processes of the National Committee, to ensure the participation of all decision makers and other sectors that have an impact, to promote food safety and Codex management.
- Have an active and effective participation of scientists and experts identified by the National Committee.
- The National Committee participates actively in the ordering, harmonization and systematization of the processes established in the national food safety policy.
- Effective communication and procedures applied among the actors involved in updating, elaborating or adopting standards

IICA Twinning Program

The twinning programs programmed and funded by the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), in conjunction with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), are intended to promote technical cooperation and capacity building among the member countries of IICA in of the Codex Alimentarius, through the promotion of activities that encourage the exchange of technical, scientific and institutional experiences in this area.

Through this program, IICA focuses on developing capacities in the beneficiary countries in the area of the Codex Alimentarius, using the capacities and positive experiences of other countries in the CCLAC region.

Currently, the countries that are in the execution or completion stage of this program are : Costa Rica; Nicaragua; Honduras; Guatemala; Perú; y República Dominicana.

Among the issues that have been addressed through this tool, the strengthening of the Codex Alimentarius institutional framework at the national level and the development of technical capacities related to strategic issues that have been addressed in the last Codex meetings are highlighted.

Virtual Colloquia

For the first semester of this year, IICA together with the USDA decided to implement an alternative modality to face-to-face colloquia that the region celebrates 3 times a year, celebrating in its place virtual colloquia.

The objectives were the following:

- i) Identify topics of common interest;
- ii) Advance the analysis and possible joint strategies for the Codex meetings;
- iii) Clear as much as possible technical questions about topics of interest;
- iv) Introduce and explain the status of the issues in the Codex agenda.

Between the 22nd of February and the 22nd of March, 4 Virtual Colloquia of the Codex Alimentarius were held, through the IICA webex IT platform. Agenda items of the following committees were addressed: CCFA, CCCF, CCPR, CCRVDF

This modality proved to be successful, with an average of 27 countries and 53 participants in each of the colloquium, in which country positions were commented, and specific concerns in each topic and agreements were reached.

ILSI Mesoamerica Project: Strengthening Capacities in CODEX

The International Life Sciences Institute (ILSI) is a global, non-profit, non-governmental organization that aims to promote a space for dialogue and scientific exchange between academics, the state and industry.

As part of its strategy of cooperation and strengthening of its members, ILSI began to implement a cooperation project in order to consolidate a solid Codex Alimentarius structure to meet the challenge of participating actively in the harmonization of Codex standards, with special focus on include representatives of the Academy in the work that is done in Codex in El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, and soon in Nicaragua, Panama and the Dominican Republic.

The Codex team of Costa Rica has been instrumental in the implementation of this initiative, supporting ILSI with training sessions.

From the CCLAC Secretariat, we invite you to share your experiences of cooperation and remind you that Chile will always be available to support initiatives that strengthen Codex at the national and regional levels.

If you want to make queries you can do it to the following e-mail address: cclac@achipia.gob.cl – CCLAC Secretariat.