



REGIONAL WORKSHOP

Strengthening agrifood trade in the region to enhance its role in sustainable development and food security

San José, Costa Rica
September 4 and 5, 2023





Objective of the workshop

To incorporate strategic topics into the regional agenda with a view to enhancing the role of the region's agrifood trade in sustainable development and food security.

Guide to workshop

Segment 1.

First presentation: "The international context: The importance of and opportunities for cooperation among countries in the region"

M. Piñeiro

G. Abraham

The presentation will cover the following topics:

- Geopolitical changes and their impact on international trade
- Restructuring the multilateral system within the framework of the WTO
- Role, challenges and opportunities of agrifood trade in the Americas
- Opportunities to engage in collective action

Subsequently, the floor will be opened for comments by the participants.

Second presentation: "WTO agricultural negotiations: State of play in the lead-up to MC13"

Edwini Kessie, WTO

Subsequently, the floor will be opened for comments by the participants.

Segment 2.

Presentation of the concept note for the event: "Strengthening collective action in agrifood trade to enhance the region's role in economic development, food security and global sustainability"

D. Rodríguez, IICA



Collective actions proposed by the organizing institutions:

- Restructuring the multilateral trade system
- Preventing the emergence of rules, regulations and actions with the potential to restrict the agrifood trade of countries in the region
- Capitalizing on current agreements and signing new ones
- Consolidating and increasing intraregional trade

Subsequently, the floor will be opened for comments by the participants.

Segment 3

Four work sessions will be carried out to enable participants to share their ideas, comments and opinions regarding the priority areas of action, based on two guiding questions:

- What joint actions between countries could be developed to strengthen the role of trade in each of the priority areas?
- What are some guidelines for the development of a collective/cooperative work agenda in the priority areas?

At the end of each work session, a rapporteur will provide an overview of the discussion.

Lastly, a final session will be geared towards sharing the conclusions of the four work sessions. Participants will have the opportunity to make comments based on the summary presented by the rapporteurs of each session.



Agenda of the event

Time	Activity
Day 1 – 4 September	
9:00 to 9:30	Opening remarks and start of the meeting
Segment 1.	
9:30 to 10:30	The international context: The importance of and opportunities for cooperation among countries in the region M. Piñeiro G. Abraham Comments by participants.
10:30 to 11:00	Break
11:00 to 12:00	WTO agricultural negotiations: State of play in the lead-up to MC13 Edwini Kessie, WTO Comments by participants.
12:00 to 12:15	Group photo
12:15 to 13:30	Lunch
Segment 2.	
13:30 to 14:45	Concept note: “Strengthening collective action in agrifood trade to enhance the region’s role in economic development, food security and global sustainability” D.Rodríguez, IICA Comments by participants.
Segment 3	
14:45 to 15:45	WORK Session 1: Restructuring the multilateral trade system Moderator: P.Giordano, IDB
15:45 to 16:15	Break
16:15 to 17:15	WORK Session 2: Preventing the emergence of rules, regulations and actions with the potential to restrict the agrifood trade of countries in the region Moderator: V.Piñeiro, IFPRI
17:15 to 18:15	IICA of Open Doors
18:15	Cocktail reception



Time	Activity
Day 2 – 5 September	
09:00 to 10:00	WORK Session 3: Capitalizing on current agreements and signing new ones Moderator: J.Durán, ECLAC
10:00 to 11:00	WORK Session 4: Consolidating and increasing intraregional trade Moderator: P.Rabczuk, FAO
11:00 to 11:30	Break
11:00 to 12:30	Conclusions of the work sessions and summary Moderator: D.Rodríguez, IICA Rapporteurs of the work sessions S1: V.Piñeiro, IFPRI S2: P.Giordano, IDB S3: P.Rabczuk, FAO S4: J.Durán, ECLAC
12:30 to 13:00	Close
13:00 to 14:00	Lunch