

Improving Access to Regional Information on Markets, Trade Data, and Analysis

The Opportunity

A desire by country, regional, and international stakeholders to establish a regional network that integrates Agricultural Management Information Systems (AMISs) data and analysis into a regional report, and maintains an open-access database.

The Goal

To have a sustainable regional network that produces timely, high-quality products (analyses, reports, and data bases) for enhanced action planning and policy making.

The Network

Network members include the eight AMISs of the Central American Integration System (SICA) countries, organized under the Market Information Organization of the Americas (MIOA). It is backed by a group of partners that support its development financially and technically: Secretariat of Economic Integration for Central America (SIECA), USDA, FEWS NET, FAO, Mesoamerican Project of Fruits (PROMEFrut).

Key Areas of Intervention

- Support to institutionalization of the network at a high level under the Regional Agriculture Committee (CAC).
- Support improvements in the technical analysis and report writing capacity of the regional markets and trade network.
- Support the consolidation of a harmonized regional database (Regional Agricultural Markets Intelligence and Monitoring System [SIMMAGRO]) within a permanent regional host.

Factors that have Enhanced Success

- Political and technical buy-in facilitated identification of a lead by a regional host and coordinator.
- Involvement of partners in capacity-building activities, including the empowerment of the CAC network coordinator.
- Commitment of the network members to institutionalize processes including all network products.
- Signing a memorandum of understanding that clearly articulates the responsibilities of each individual partner.

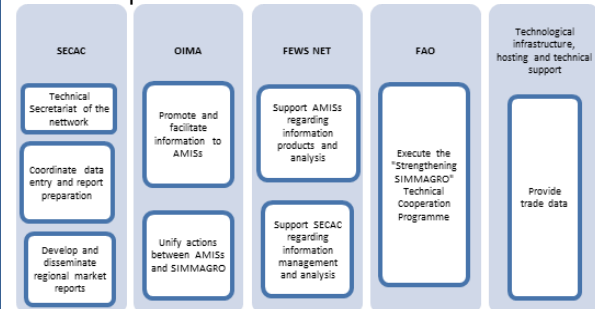
Factors that have Hindered Success

- Lack of trained staff and high turn-over within participating institutions.

Factors that Make this a Sustainable Network Development Effort

- The Ministers of Agriculture signed an agreement to institutionalize the effort and instructed CAC to manage the network.
- Effective coordination among network partners through annual work planning and regular meetings with partners.
- This produce demand driven products such as the regional database, agreement in the products, reports, documentation, trainings, etc.

Partner Responsibilities



Source : FEWS NET, 2018

Members and Map of the Network Coverage



Source: Market & Trade Network, 2015