

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy - Tel: (+39) 06 57051 - E-mail: codex@fao.org - www.codexalimentarius.org

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Use and Impact of Codex Texts: Codex Survey 2022

Survey Report

Codex Secretariat

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List of Acronyms

Acronym	Definition
AFRICA	Africa region
ASIA	Asia region
CAC	Codex Alimentarius Commission
CC	Coordinating Committee
CCEXEC	Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission
CCP	Codex Contact Point
EU	European Union
EURO	Europe region
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
HIC	High Income Country
IPPC	International Plant Protection Convention
LAC	Latin America and the Caribbean region
LMIC	Low and Middle Income Country
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NASWP	North America and the South West Pacific region
NE	Near East region
NFCS	National Food Control Systems
RCC	Regional Coordinating Committee
UN	United Nations
WHO	World Health Organization
WOAH	World Organisation for Animal Health
WTO	World Trade Organization

Executive Summary

Context

The Codex Secretariat, in collaboration with FAO and WHO evaluation offices, started work in 2021 on developing a mechanism to measure the use and impact of Codex standards. A monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework to provide data about the use and impact of Codex texts was developed with a view to obtaining information that can help Members and Observers better understand the impact, or potential for impact, of Codex texts.

CCEXEC81 and CAC44 endorsed the proposed approach to building the mechanism, and one recommendation was to undertake a pilot of a revamped Member survey in 2022. The purpose of the Codex Survey 2022 was to examine the reach, usefulness, and use of Codex texts as estimates for their impact. The survey targeted Codex Members and its scope included a selection of the following adopted Codex texts:

- *General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed* (CXS 193-1995);
- *General Principles of Food Hygiene* (CXC 1-1969);
- *General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods* (CXS 1-1985); and
- *General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods* (CXG 9-1987).

The Codex Member survey was comprised of questions related to Codex texts in general, and questions related to the selected Codex texts to facilitate a more in-depth analysis and identification of trends over time. The Codex Member survey on the use and impact of Codex texts was developed with the intent to implement it on an annual basis.

Survey Workplan and Participation

The Codex Secretariat launched the Codex Survey 2022 on September 20, 2022, with a deadline of November 4, 2022. The survey consisted of 20 succinct questions on the reach, usefulness and use of Codex texts, and responses were managed with confidentiality. One survey response per Codex Member was submitted by Codex Contact Points. The information gathered from the survey is reported at the aggregate level, and individual Member responses are not attributed in any report. The survey was delivered electronically in all six UN languages. There were 98 responses from Members, as outlined in the table below, for an overall survey response rate of 52%:

CODEX Region	Number of Codex Members in the Region	Number of Member Survey Responses	Response Rate
AFRICA	49	18	37%
ASIA	24	11	46%
EURO	52	34	65%
LAC	33	13	39%
NASWP	14	14	100%
NE	17	8	47%
Total	189	98	52%

Survey responses were further analysed by disaggregating by level of income. Of the total of 98 total survey respondents, 46 were from High Income Countries (HICs) and 52 were from Low and Middle Income Countries (LMICs).

Of the four Codex texts selected for in-depth analysis, Members were asked to select the Codex texts that their country was most familiar with. As outlined in the table below, more than 74% of members chose to respond to survey questions related to *General Principles of Food Hygiene* (CXC 1-1969) and to *General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods* (CXS 1-1985). The Survey questions for *General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods* (CXG 9-1987) had the fewest survey respondents with 48 out of 98 members choosing to reply to those questions.

Codex Text	Number of Member Survey Responses	Response Rate (out of 98)
<i>General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CXS 193-1995)</i>	73	74%
<i>General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969)</i>	86	88%
<i>General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods (CXS 1-1985)</i>	79	81%
<i>General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods (CXG 9-1987)</i>	48	49%
Unfamiliar with any of the selected Codex Text	4	4%

Analysis and Conclusions

Based on an analysis of Codex Survey 2022, it is evident that Codex texts play a significant role in ensuring food safety and quality worldwide. The survey results show that the large majority of Codex Members (that replied to the survey) are satisfied with the reach, usefulness, and use of Codex texts. There are not any significant regional differences related to satisfaction.

The survey revealed that Codex texts appear to be fairly well used as a baseline to inform food legislation, policies, regulations, programs, and practices on a global scale, which demonstrates the important role Codex texts play in global food trade and consumer health protection. Furthermore, Codex texts are being used to facilitate communication among Codex Members and other stakeholders, and to establish a common understanding of food safety and quality.

While the large majority of answers are not surprising and are in line with the experience of the Secretariat and Members on the use and impact of Codex text, this is the first time responses are collected on a systematic and consolidated way, providing solid evidence on the use and impact of Codex texts.

Overall, Codex texts are found to be extremely or mostly useful for Members. Codex Members commented that they found Codex texts to be most useful when new knowledge is gained in the country and the texts can be used as a standard baseline. Members from all regions are found to have good familiarity with the selected Codex texts and were able to provide feedback on the reach, usefulness, use of each, except for the *General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods (CXG 9-1987)* where Members were found to have less familiarity.

The survey also indicates that in LMICs, Codex texts have a greater use and impact, and are used more frequently to support legislation, policies, national food control systems (NFCS), university curricula, training, awareness raising, compared to HICs. In contrast, HICs generally have more established food control systems, greater resources, and advanced technical expertise. They often have the capacity to develop and enforce their own food safety regulations, tailored to their specific contexts. While they may still reference international standards, HICs have more autonomy and flexibility in designing and implementing their NFCS.

Recommendations

At the global level, lack of awareness of Codex provisions by national stakeholders, challenges to catch up with changes in Codex texts, language issues, lack of resources, and duration of Codex text development are the five most prominent barriers. In light of the survey findings, the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Increase efforts to raise awareness of Codex texts by National Stakeholders.** Members, with the support of the Codex Secretariat, FAO and WHO, should increase efforts to raise awareness of Codex texts by national stakeholders and advocate for their use.
- **Prioritize the provision of capacity building and training:** Members are encouraged to request FAO and WHO to provide training and capacity building programs to assist Codex Members, particularly LMICs, in the implementation and utilization of Codex texts, with support of the Codex Secretariat.
- **Improve dissemination of Codex texts:** The Secretariat should continue its efforts in improving the dissemination of Codex texts, in particular through the digitalization project currently underway.

- **Continue communication and collaboration:** The Codex Secretariat should continue to facilitate communication and collaboration among Codex Members and other stakeholders to ensure that Codex texts are being utilized effectively and efficiently.
- **Increase resources:** Members should increase resources either at national level or at the international level to support FAO and WHO to provide timely scientific advice through the appropriate joint expert committees in order to decrease the response time; and Codex to address barriers such as language issues, lack of resources, and duration of Codex text development.

An underlying purpose of the Codex Survey 2022 was to undertake a pilot of a re-designed Member survey. The following recommendations for future surveys are proposed related to lessons drawn during the course of the Codex Survey 2022 process:

- **Validation of the survey framework:** The size and complexity of the Codex Survey 2022 approach was found to meet Members' expectations and should be maintained. Where possible, questions should be maintained in future surveys to ensure ongoing analysis comparability and to support future longitudinal studies.
- **Effective stakeholder communications:** The Codex Secretariat should ensure that future Codex text surveys are accompanied by a similar communications plan that includes key activities such as an official launch event, stakeholder webinars, FAQs, and outreach material.
- **Measuring impact on trade:** The Codex Secretariat should consider adapting future surveys to further delineate the impact on trade, both internally and internationally.
- **Strengthening monitoring and evaluation partnerships:** The Codex Secretariat should seek complementary performance data to that of the Codex Survey by strengthening partnerships with other international organizations and stakeholders, such as the WTO, WOA, and IPPC.

1.0 Introduction and Background

1.1 Context

The 42nd Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC42) adopted the Codex Strategic Plan 2020-2025. An important change from the previous Codex Strategic plans was the inclusion of a new goal: Goal 3 “Increase impact through the recognition and use of Codex standards. This goal has three objectives, of which objective 3.3 “Recognise and promote the impact of Codex standards” includes as an outcome “Having a mechanism/tool to measure the impact of Codex standards developed and piloted”.

The Codex Secretariat, in collaboration with FAO and WHO evaluation offices, started work in 2021 on developing a mechanism to measure the use and impact of Codex standards. A monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework to provide data about the use and impact of Codex texts was developed with a view to obtaining information that can help Members and Observers better understand the impact, or potential for impact, of Codex texts. The theory of change for the Codex M&E Framework is summarized in the Logic Model presented in **Figure 1** and identifies five broad measurement areas (i.e., Outputs, Reach, Usefulness, Use, and Contribution to Intended Long-Term Outcomes) that serve as the basis of performance planning, monitoring, and reporting.

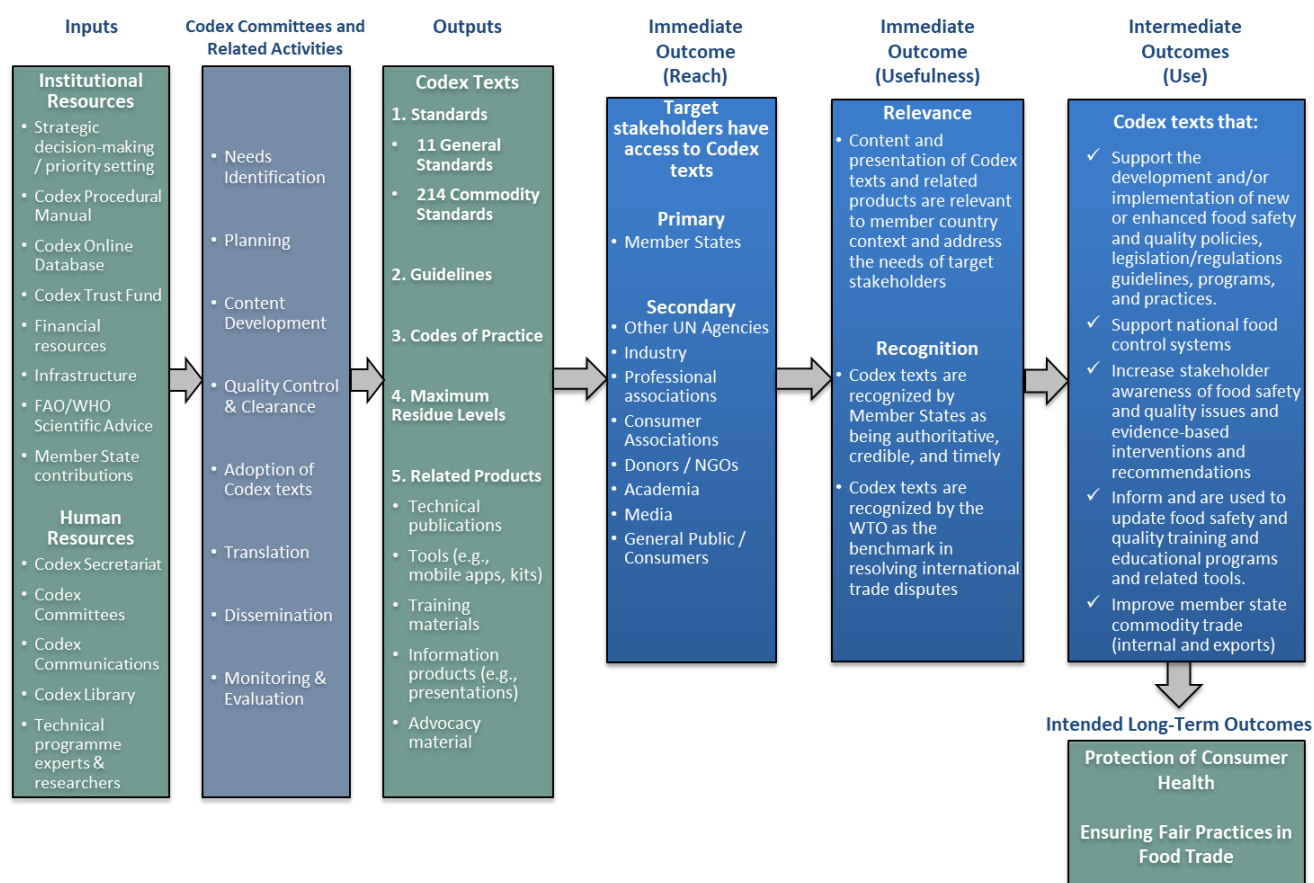


Figure 1. Logic Model - Use and Impact of Codex Texts

The first phase of the development of the mechanism focused on several options for data gathering and analysis. Based on the results of the options’ analysis, recommendations were made on the way forward. CCEXEC81 and CAC44 endorsed the proposed approach¹ to building the mechanism, and one recommendation was to undertake a pilot of a revamped Member survey in 2022 with the preliminary results being reported to CCEXEC83 and CAC45. This report presents an overview of the survey approach together with a summary and analysis of the results of its implementation, and recommendations for the further work in this area.

¹ CX/EXEC 22/82/8

1.2 Pilot Survey Objective and Scope

The purpose of the Codex Survey 2022 was to examine the reach, usefulness, and use of a sample of Codex texts as estimates for their impact. The survey targeted Codex Members and its scope included a selection of Codex texts adopted (including revisions or amendments) by CAC from 2015 to 2020. The 2022 survey was implemented as a pilot in order to not only get results on use and impact, but also input on the process.

The Codex Survey 2022 pilot was intended to address the following high-level questions:

1. To what extent do target stakeholders have access to Codex texts?
2. To what extent are the content and presentation of Codex texts relevant to Members' context and address the needs of target stakeholders?
3. To what extent are Codex texts recognized as being authoritative, credible, and timely?
4. To what extent is the knowledge gained from Codex texts applied by target stakeholders?

The Codex Member survey on the use and impact of Codex texts has been developed with the intent to implement it on an annual basis. The survey is comprised of questions related to Codex texts in general, and questions related to specific Codex texts to facilitate a more in-depth analysis and identification of trends over time.

Given the vast number of guidelines, codes of practices, standards and maximum levels, maximum residue limits), it was important to establish agreed-upon criteria for selecting specific Codex texts to be surveyed. The survey is structured such that three to four texts be included each year, and repeated every three years, as per the criteria set out below:

1. That selected Codex texts should be general in nature and adopted globally (so called "horizontal texts") and cover the range of Codex General Subject Committees or Task Forces.
2. That selected Codex texts should be relatively recent in their issuance and adoption by Member States. Ideally, a Codex Text would have been developed or modified in the last five years.
3. That Codex's most "popular" Codex texts be surveyed and be assessed over time.

Based on these criteria, the Codex texts selected for this pilot were:

- *General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed* (CXS 193-1995);
- *General Principles of Food Hygiene* (CXC 1-1969);
- *General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods* (CXS 1-1985); and
- *General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods* (CXG 9-1987).

The envisaged three year cycle of standards to be surveyed will allow the use and impact of the same Codex texts to be measured over time. In 2023, the four Codex texts to be assessed will be:

- *General Standard for Food Additives* (CXS 192-1995);
- *Guidelines on Nutrition Labelling* (CXG 2-1985);
- *Recommended Methods of Analysis and Sampling* (CXS 234-1999); and
- *Guidelines on Performance Criteria for Methods of Analysis for the Determination of Pesticide Residues in Food and Feed* (CXG 90-2017).

1.3 Approach and Methodology

1.3.1 Survey Workplan

The Codex Secretariat launched the Codex Survey 2022 on September 20, 2022, with a deadline of October 22, 2022, later postponed to November 4, 2022, to accommodate several Members' requests for additional time to complete the survey. The survey consisted of 20 succinct questions on the reach, usefulness and use of Codex texts, and responses were managed with confidentiality. The Codex Survey 2022 is attached at **Annex A**.

One survey response per Codex Member was submitted by Codex Contact Points (CCP). Feedback from past surveys has shown a strong desire from Members for a streamlined process for providing survey responses. The survey pilot was therefore undertaken primarily using a Likert Scale Approach (See **Annex B** for Likert Scale Backgrounder). All qualitative responses provided by survey respondents are reported by survey question and region in **Annex C**.

A fundamental element of the survey roll-out was the engagement with the FAO/WHO Regional Coordinating Committees (RCCs) to raise awareness of the survey, encourage Members to respond and address any queries related to the survey. The months of July and August were also used to create awareness of the survey pilot through other means such as the Codex webpage with a September 2022 survey launch. It was recognised that CCPs may lack the detailed knowledge to fully answer a complete Member survey. As such, CCPs were encouraged to consult/hold a meeting with the National Codex Committee to respond together to the survey and were afforded sufficient time to consult with national colleagues, as required.

The information gathered from the survey is reported at the aggregate level, and individual Member responses are not attributed in any report. The survey was delivered electronically in all six UN languages.

The following chart shows the major pilot activities, starting with survey preparatory work in April 2022 to a presentation of preliminary findings at CAC45 in December 2022.

Month (2022)	Activity
Phase 1: Planning and Survey Design (April 2022 to June 2022)	
April – June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Conducted meeting with Codex Secretariat to discuss and confirm Codex Survey 2022 direction; ○ Engaged Codex Communications to develop communications strategy and prepare outreach campaign and material; ○ Conducted focus group with Codex Food Standards Officers to discuss survey and identify potential challenges and mitigations; and ○ Determined survey instrument and rollout considerations. • Approvals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reached agreement on Codex texts to be surveyed, including multi-year survey plan. ○ Approved Survey Methodology Report (including proposed survey narrative report structure for Codex Secretariat)
Phase 2: Data Collection, Analysis and Reporting (July 2022 to January 2023)	
July - August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducted Survey 2022 Testing (internal and select stakeholders); • Translated Survey 2022; and • Conducted awareness building and deliver outreach campaign for Survey 2022.
September – November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launched Codex Survey 2022 across all regions; • Closed Survey 2022 and commence data analysis;
December – January 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed CAC 2022 Summary Report of Codex Survey 2022 Pilot preliminary findings; • Presented to CAC45 on Codex Survey 2022 preliminary analysis and state of monitoring and evaluation in Codex; and • Conducted focus groups with Codex Food Standards Officers and CCEXEC Members to discuss Codex Survey preliminary findings and key conclusions and recommendations.

1.3.2 Demographics and Participation

There were 98 responses from Members, as outlined in the table below, for an overall survey response rate of 52%:

CODEX Region	Number of Codex Members in the Region	Number of Member Survey Responses	Response Rate
AFRICA	49	18	37%
ASIA	24	11	46%
EURO	52	34	65%
LAC	33	13	39%
NASWP	14	14	100%
NE	17	8	47%
Total	189	98	52%

Survey responses were further analysed by disaggregating by level of income. Using 2023 income levels as defined by the World Bank, survey respondents were either labelled as 'High Income' (HIC) or 'Low and Middle Income' (LMIC). LMIC respondents include 'Low Income', 'Lower Middle Income', and 'Higher Middle Income' World Bank income levels. Of the total of 98 total survey respondents, 46 were from HICs and 52 were from LMICs.

1.3.3 Selected Codex Texts

Of the four Codex texts selected for in-depth analysis, Members were asked to select the Codex texts that their country was most familiar with. As outlined in the table below, more than 74% of members chose to respond to survey questions related to *General Principles of Food Hygiene* (CXC 1-1969) and to *General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods* (CXS 1-1985). The Survey questions for *General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods* (CXG 9-1987) had the fewest survey respondents with 48 out of 98 members choosing to reply to those questions.

Codex Text	Number of Member Survey Responses	Response Rate (out of 98)
<i>General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed</i> (CXS 193-1995)	73	74%
<i>General Principles of Food Hygiene</i> (CXC 1-1969)	86	88%
<i>General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods</i> (CXS 1-1985)	79	81%
<i>General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods</i> (CXG 9-1987)	48	49%
Unfamiliar with any of the selected Codex Text	4	4%

1.3.4 Limits of Analysis

A number of limits to the survey analysis should be noted.

First, there were variable response rates across Codex regions, where the response rate was as high as 100% for NASWP and as low as 37% and 39% for AFRICA and LAC, respectively. This presents a limitation regarding varying levels of representations when disaggregating response data by region (i.e., as opposed to a selection of national responses when there is a low regional response rate).

Another limitation includes the European Union replying on behalf of Members that did not submit an individual Codex Member response. This resulted in 20 of 34 EURO responses being identical, discrete submissions included alongside national responses from EU and non-EU countries in the region during the analysis stage. Accordingly, there were few responses from Russian speaking countries.

A final limitation includes variable text-specific response rates. As many as 88% of global respondents recognized and answered text-specific question prompts regarding the *General Principles of Food Hygiene* (CXC 1-1969), whereas only 49% of global respondents recognized and answered text-specific question prompts regarding *General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods* (CXG 9-1987). As such, text-specific response trends are not equally representative of the global Codex membership base when directly comparing text-specific responses (i.e., excluding the proportion of Members who did not recognize or did not respond to the specific text).

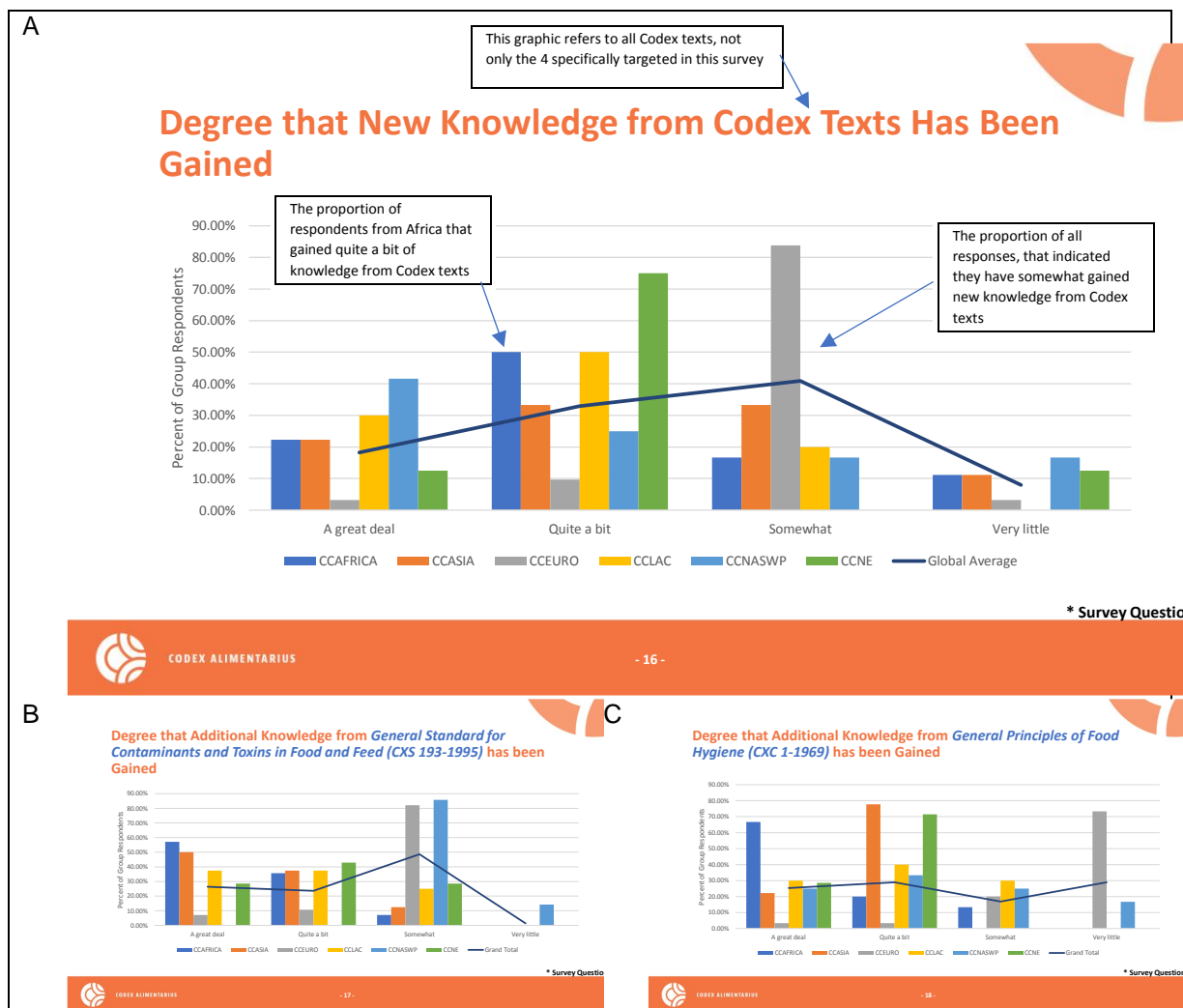
1.4 How to Read This Report

Survey findings were analysed first to observe global and Codex region response trends and then income-disaggregated response trends regarding general question prompts and text-specific question prompts. Income-disaggregated responses were categorized according to their respective World Bank income level.

Responses were analysed and presented as percentages of group response. For example, in **Figure 2** below, the bars reflect the proportion of responses from each Codex region relative to the number of Members in that region. Reporting responses relative to the number of Codex Members in the region, allows for better comparison of regional responses, accounting for the difference in regional sizes. The global trendline reflects the proportion of global responses, which includes all regional responses. Income-disaggregated analyses are similarly analysed relative to their respective total income group.

Figures throughout the report were constructed to reflect general and text-specific question prompts in the following order: (A) general Codex text question prompt (this is a generic question that relates to the respondent’s opinion regarding ALL Codex texts), (B) question prompt regarding *General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed* (CXS 193-1995), (C) question prompt regarding *General Principles of Food Hygiene* (CXC 1-1969), (D) question prompt regarding *General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods* (CXS 1-1985), and (E) question prompt regarding *General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods* (CXG 9-1987).

As an example, **Figure 2** below presents the degree that new knowledge from Codex texts has been gained in general (i.e., chart A) and with specific texts (i.e., charts B, C, D, and E) and illustrates how survey results are presented in this report.



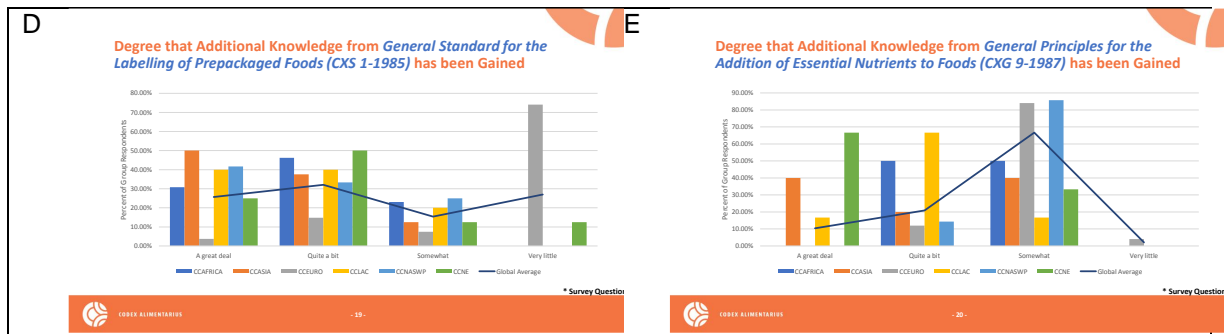


Figure 2. Example: Degree that new knowledge from Codex texts have been gained (A) generally, (B) from General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CXS 193-1995), (C) from General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969), (D) from General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods (CXS 1-1985), and (E) General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods (CXG 9-1987).

2.0 Survey Analysis

The theory of change for the Codex M&E Framework is summarized in the Logic Model presented in **Figure 1** and identifies five broad measurement areas (i.e., Outputs, Reach, Usefulness, Use, and Contribution to Intended Long-Term Outcomes) that serve as the basis of performance planning, monitoring, and reporting. The survey reporting and reporting and analysis is divided into four sections (i.e., Reach, Relevance, Use and Impact, and Satisfaction) that align with the Codex M&E Framework Logic Model. Each section provides an overview of the replies to the relevant question and the key findings.

2.1 Reach

2.1.1 Extent Codex Texts are Disseminated to Stakeholders by Countries

Overall, dissemination of Codex texts to stakeholders by countries is observed to be mostly ‘well’ and ‘fair’ (**Figure 3**). Responses from Members in the ASIA region are the most positive in this regard, followed by those from the NE and NASWP. AFRICA and EURO respondents mostly indicated that Codex texts were ‘fairly’ disseminated to stakeholders. LAC responses were highly distributed but followed the global trendline.

“The functionalities of the Codex website are quite limited: Codex texts should be accessible in a dynamic digital format and not only in PDF. Also, there is still no electronic record management system implemented to allow access to successive older versions of Codex texts. Finally, there is no direct way of knowing if a given text is under revision when downloading it, which can be misleading for anyone who does not follow closely Codex work.”

Respondent in EURO region

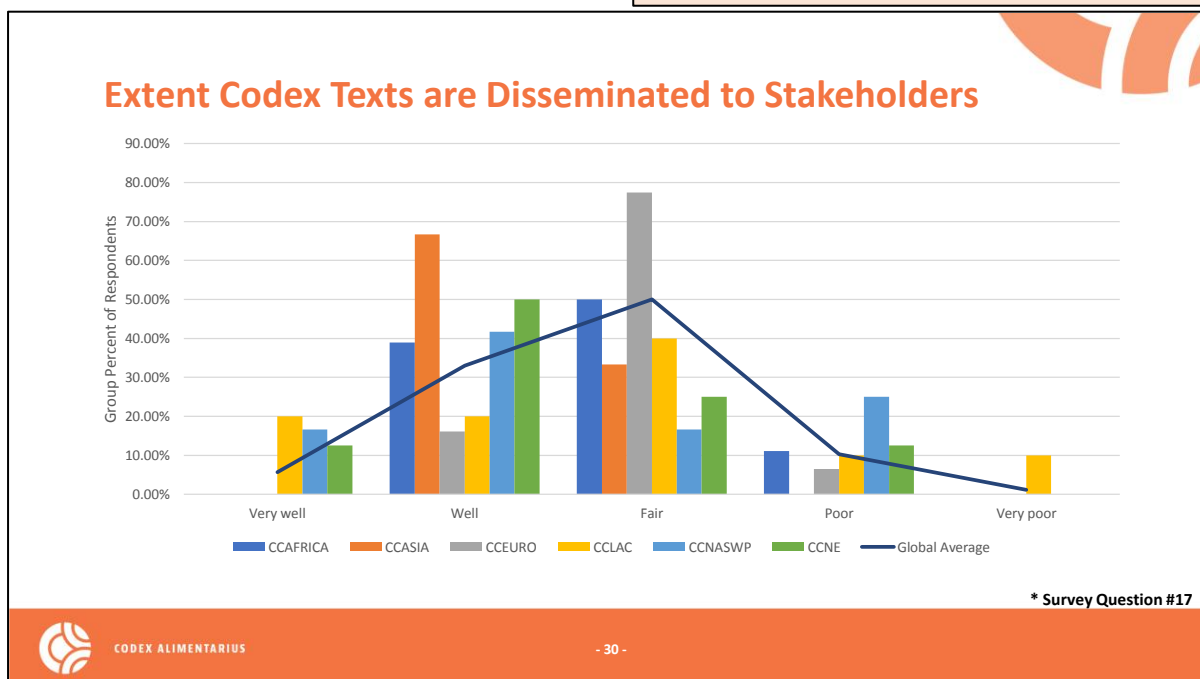


Figure 3. Global and regional extent to which Codex texts are disseminated to stakeholders.

Across both income level groups, Codex texts appear to be well to fairly disseminated amongst stakeholders by countries, with most LMIC respondents indicating texts being disseminated ‘well’, and HIC respondents indicating ‘fair’ dissemination (**Figure 4**). There are few responses across both groups reporting dissemination being implemented ‘very well’ or ‘very poorly’, but LMIC responses are more distributed than HIC responses. The variance in responses may reflect different types of dissemination and therefore access to Codex texts in countries. Of note is the poorer scoring of HIC that should have more effective dissemination mechanisms than LIMC.

“Ensure an easy online access to Codex texts providing usability but keeping transparency and traceability to the development process of the texts.”

Respondent in EURO region

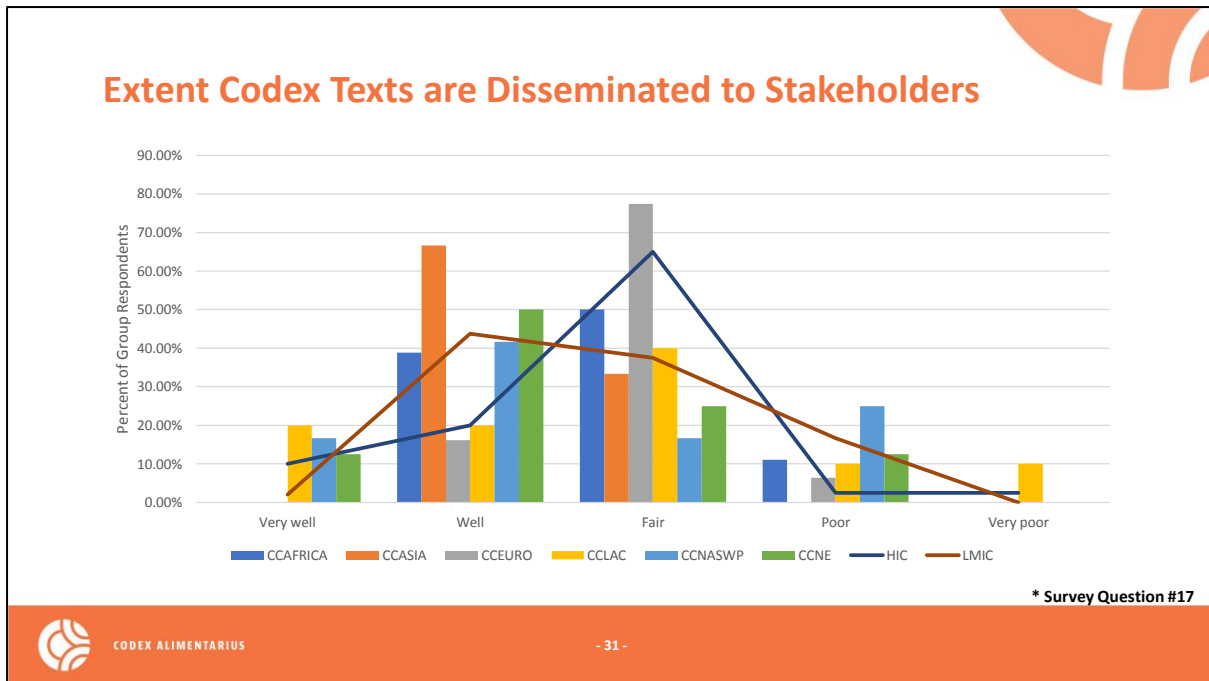


Figure 4. Degree that Codex texts are disseminated to stakeholders, with income-disaggregated trendlines

2.1.2 Level of Satisfaction with Codex Text Features

Globally and across regions, respondents were generally satisfied with the format and structure, language, and method of dissemination (by the Secretariat) of Codex texts generally and across selected texts. (Figure 5A). Regional trends varied across specific texts (Figures 5B-E); however, Members from AFRICA and ASIA appear to be the most consistently satisfied with Codex text format and structure, language, and method of dissemination. There is relatively less satisfaction with the method of dissemination of Codex texts compared to format and language; this is clearly reflected across global trendlines.

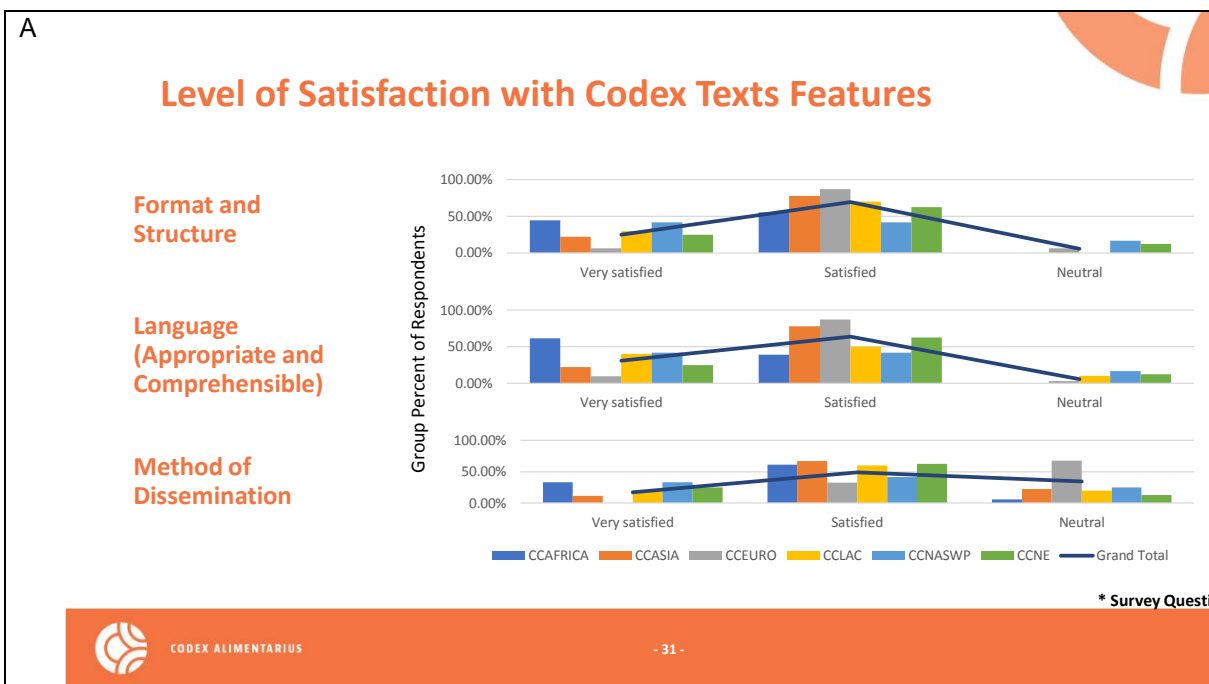


Figure 5. Level of satisfaction with Codex text features



Figure 5. Level of satisfaction with features of (A) general Codex texts, (B) General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CXS 193-1995), (C) General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969), (D) General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods (CXS 1-1985), and (E) General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods (CXG 9-1987).

Respondents across both income levels were satisfied with the format and structure, language, and method of dissemination of Codex texts generally. (Figure 6).

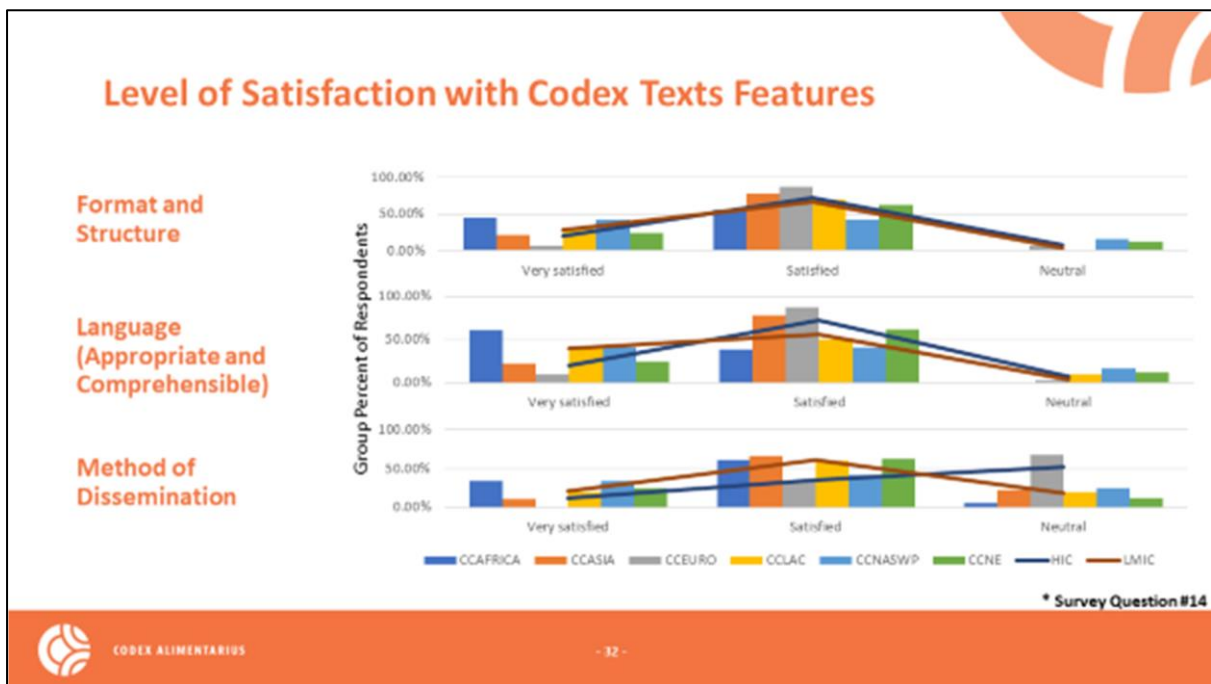


Figure 6. Level of satisfaction with Codex texts features, with income-disaggregated trendlines.

2.2 Relevance

2.2.1 Extent that Codex Texts Meet Priority Food Safety and Quality Needs

In general, Codex texts are found to be meeting respondents' food safety and quality needs (Figure 7A). With regard to the four named texts surveyed, respondents overall indicated 'mostly useful', with the exception of the *General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed* (CXS 193-1995) (Figure 7B), where global responses had greater variability. Here respondents from the ASIA and LAC regions in particular appear to find the standard to be more relevant ("extremely useful").

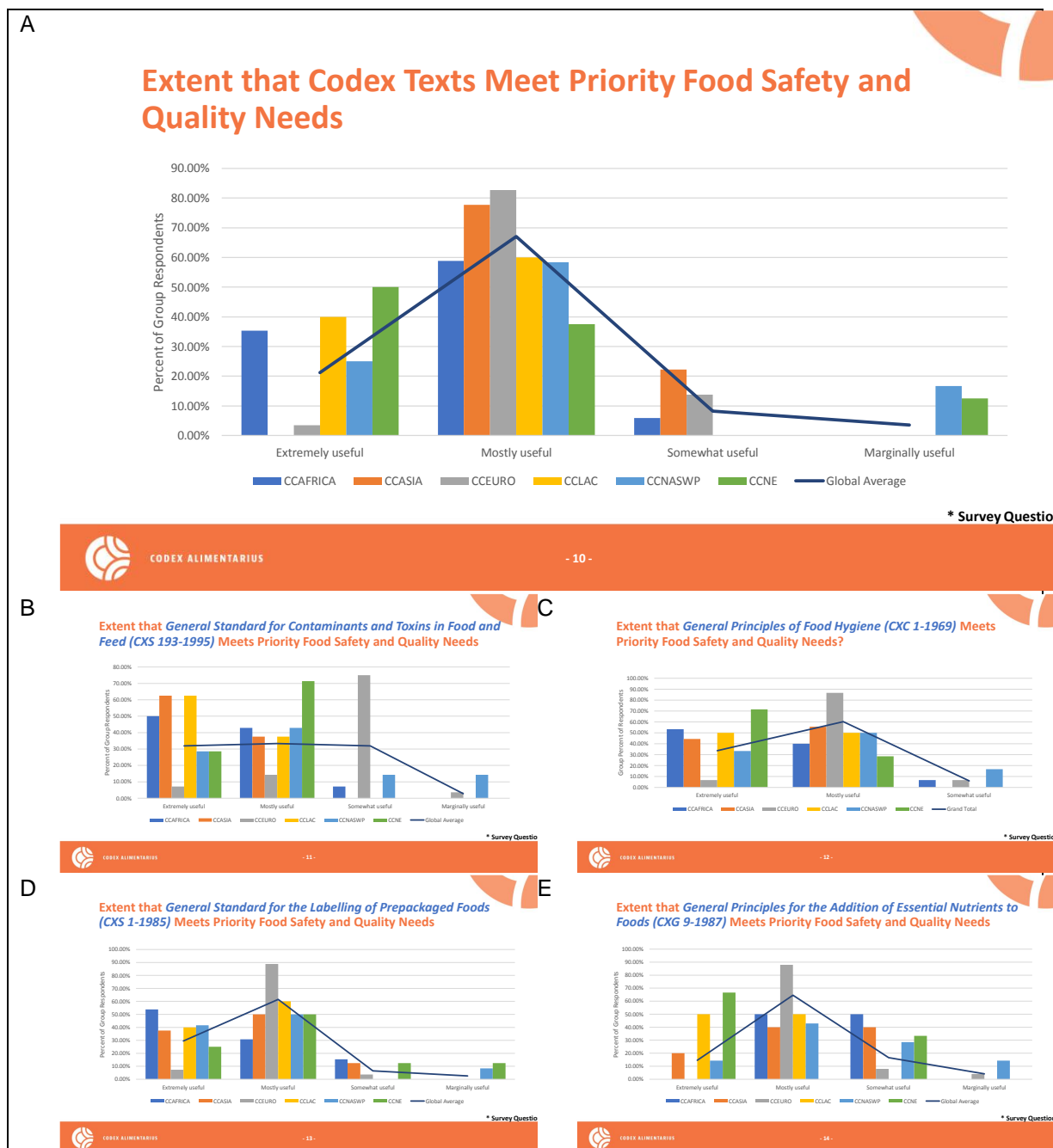


Figure 7. Extent that (A) general Codex texts, (B) *General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed* (CXS 193-1995), (C) *General Principles of Food Hygiene* (CXC 1-1969), (D) *General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods* (CXS 1-1985), and (E) *General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods* (CXG 9-1987) meet priority food safety and quality needs.

There are no significant differences between LMIC and HIC, with respondents expressing that Codex texts were of high relevance. **(Figure 8)**. Approximately 90% from both groups of respondents found that Codex texts mostly or extremely met priority food safety and quality needs for their country.

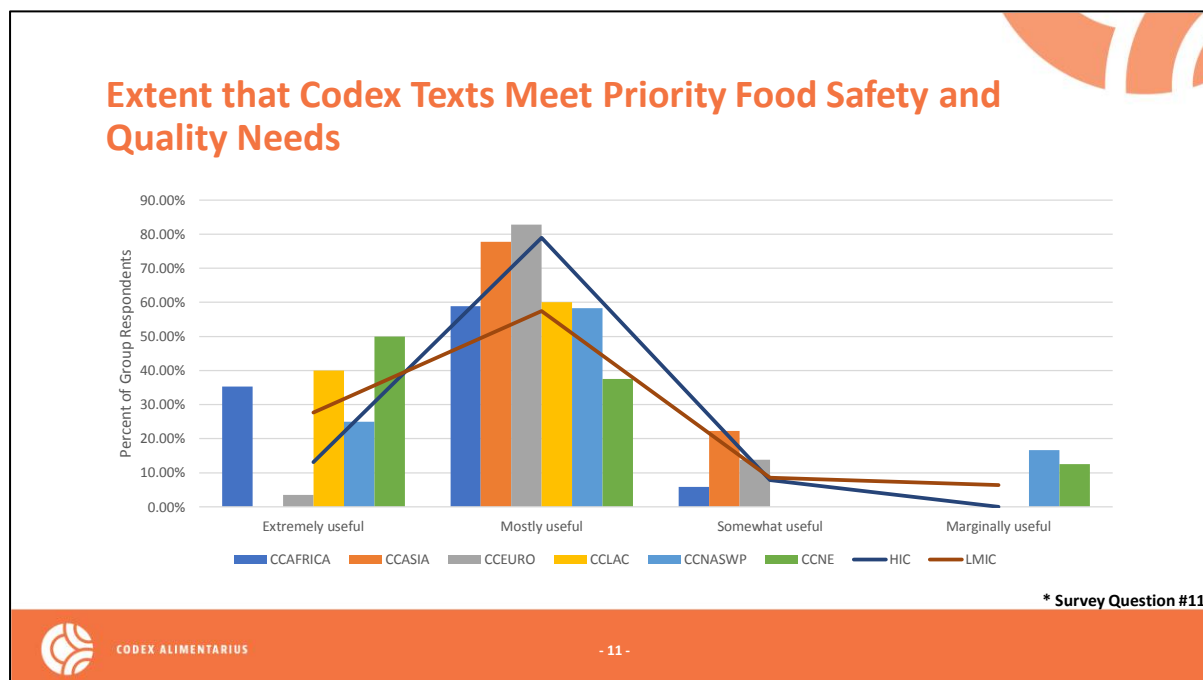


Figure 8. Extent that Codex texts meet priority food safety and quality needs, with income-disaggregated trendlines.

2.2.2 Degree that New Knowledge from Codex Texts has been Gained

In general, Members found that new knowledge was somewhat gained from Codex texts **(Figure 9A)**. Additional knowledge gained from four named Codex texts varied greatly across Codex regions, resulting in a highly distributed global response. **(Figures 9B-E)**. The *General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods* (CXG 9-1987) had a lower global relevance response, where almost 70% of global respondents indicated that the standard only 'somewhat' lent additional knowledge **(Figure 9E)**. EURO respondents indicated that the *General Principles of Food Hygiene* (CXC 1-1969) and *General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods* (CXS 1-1985) contributed very little additional knowledge **(Figure 9C-D)**. Otherwise, most responses across Codex regions are quite distributed.

"Our national legislation is fully harmonized with the EU legislation since 1994. However, the Codex process (discussions and sharing of knowledge and expertise) and the final standards are considered. To us Codex is important to promote and strengthen effective rules-based multilateral cooperation and to facilitate international trade."

Respondent in EURO region

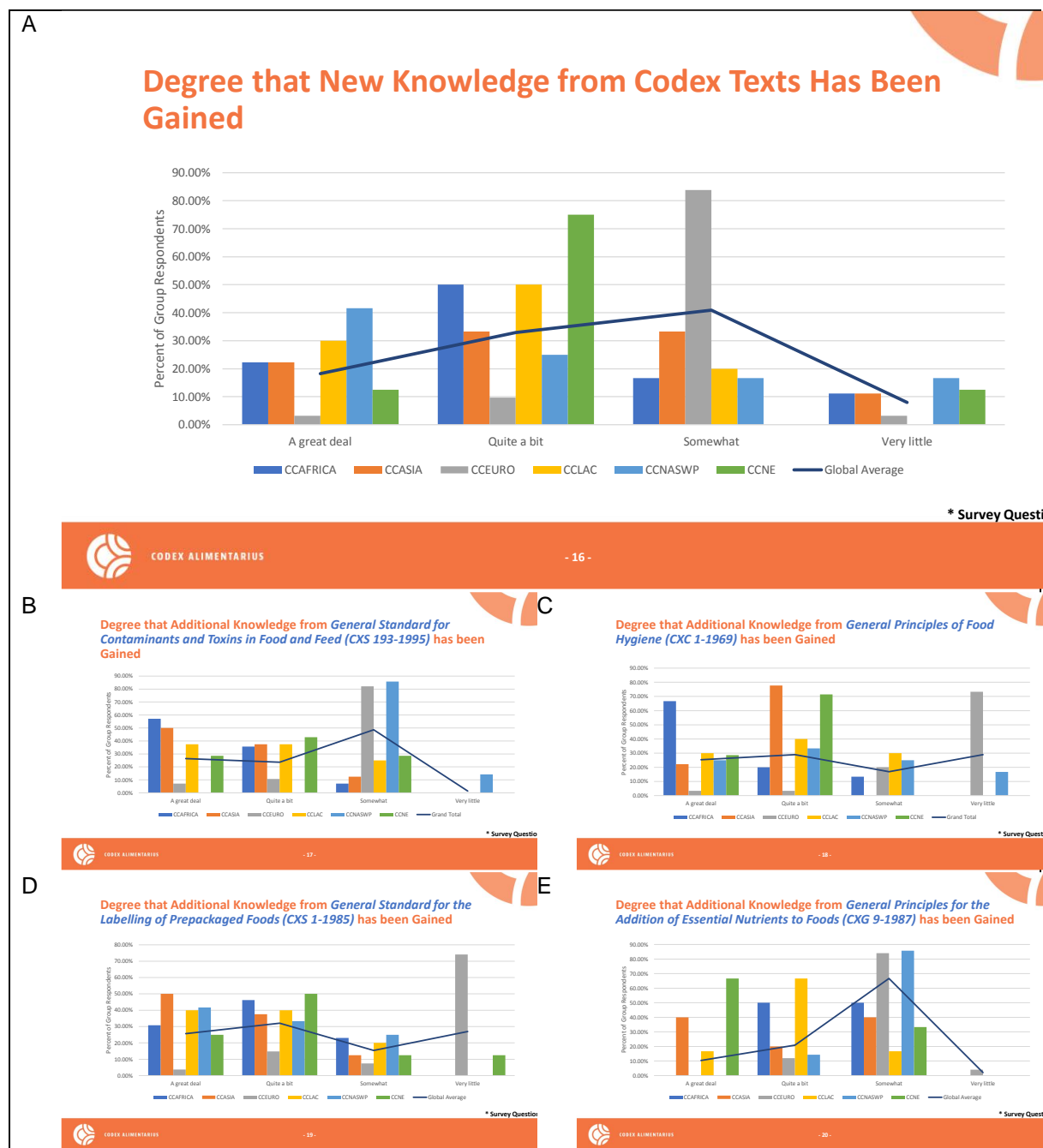


Figure 9. Degree that new knowledge from Codex texts have been gained (A) generally, (B) from General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CXs 193-1995), (C) from General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969), (D) from General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods (CXs 1-1985), and (E) General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods (CXG 9-1987).

Responses concerning additional knowledge gained clearly show that LMIC gained more knowledge from Codex texts than HIC (Figure 10). Approximately 70% of LMIC respondents found that they gained a great deal of knowledge or quite a bit of knowledge from Codex texts. In contrast, approximately 70% of HIC respondents indicated that they only somewhat gained new knowledge from Codex texts.

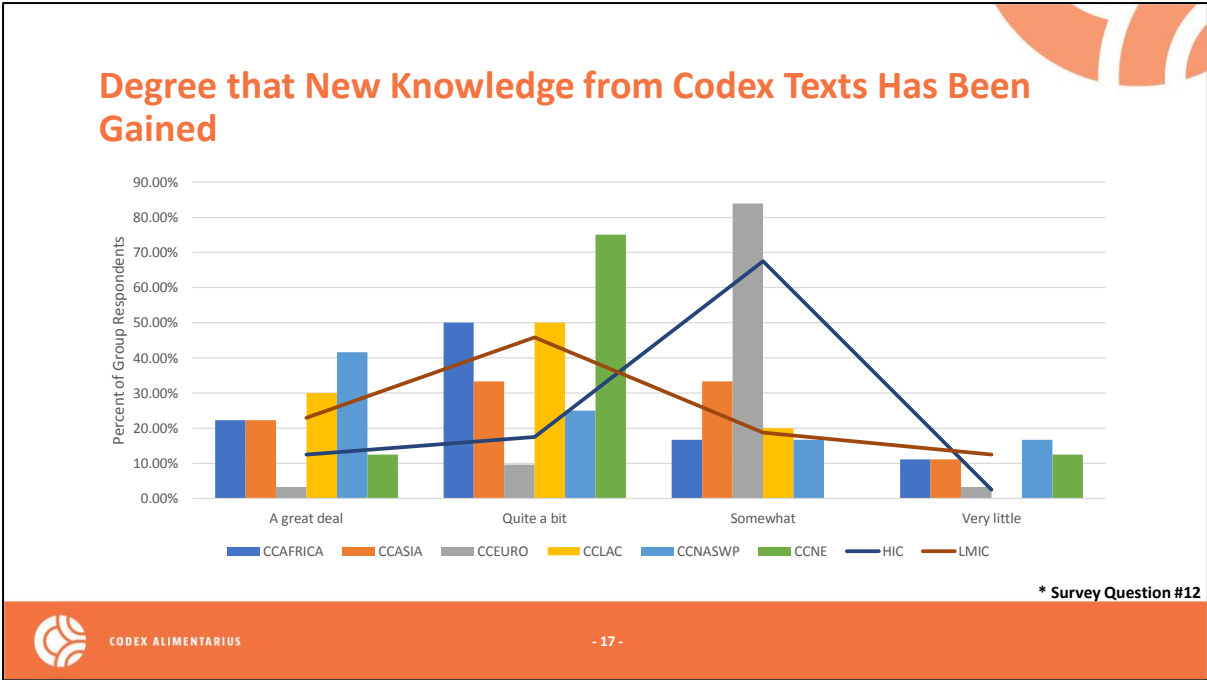


Figure 10. Degree that new knowledge from Codex texts has been gained.

2.2.3 Degree that Codex Texts are Recognized as being Authoritative, Credible and Timely

Global respondents find Codex texts to be ‘mostly’ authoritative, credible, and timely, however there are more distributed responses concerning authority (Figure 11A). The degrees to which respondents find Codex texts authoritative, credible, and timely also vary across specific texts (Figure 11B-E). Across several specific texts, it may be observed that there is relatively less satisfaction concerning timeliness compared to authority and credibility (Figures 11B, 11D, and 11E).

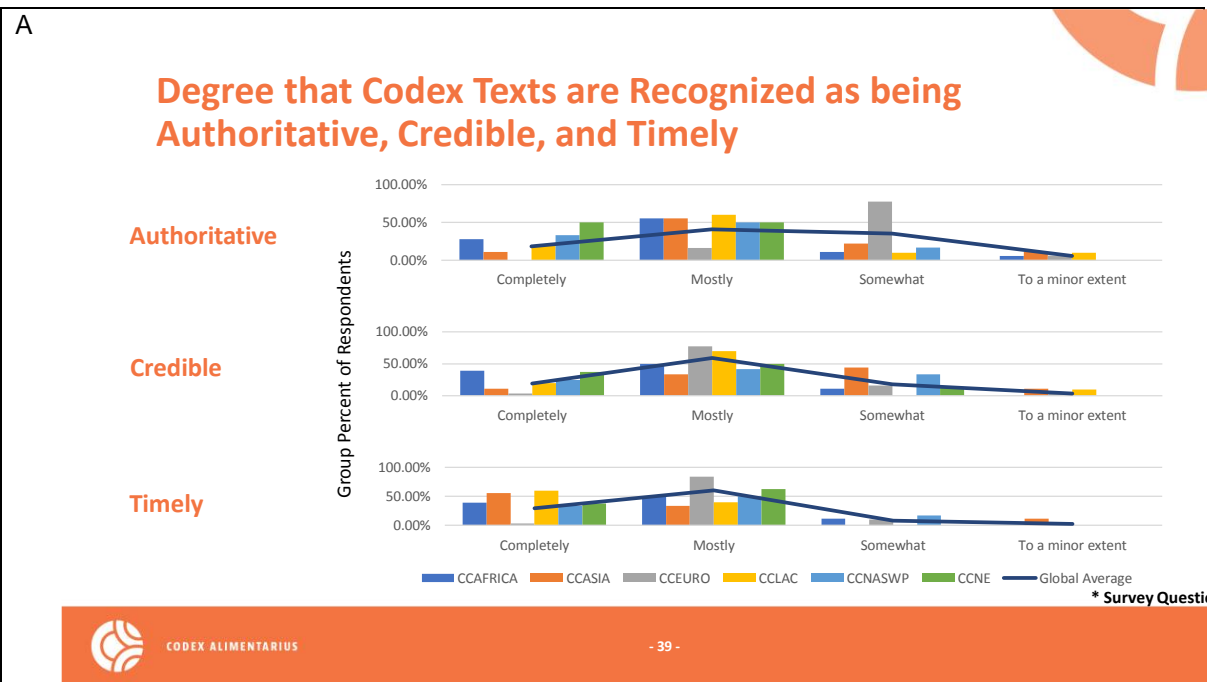




Figure 11. Degree that (A) general Codex texts, (B) General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CXS 193-1995), (C) General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969), (D) General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods (CXS 1-1985), and (E) General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods (CXG 9-1987) are recognized as being authoritative, credible, and timely.

Most respondents consider Codex texts to be either completely or mostly authoritative or credible. LMIC respondents tend to find Codex texts generally more authoritative at the national level, which tracks with their relatively positive responses concerning Codex text relevance (Figure 12). Responses concerning timeliness had greater variability, particularly across LMIC respondents.

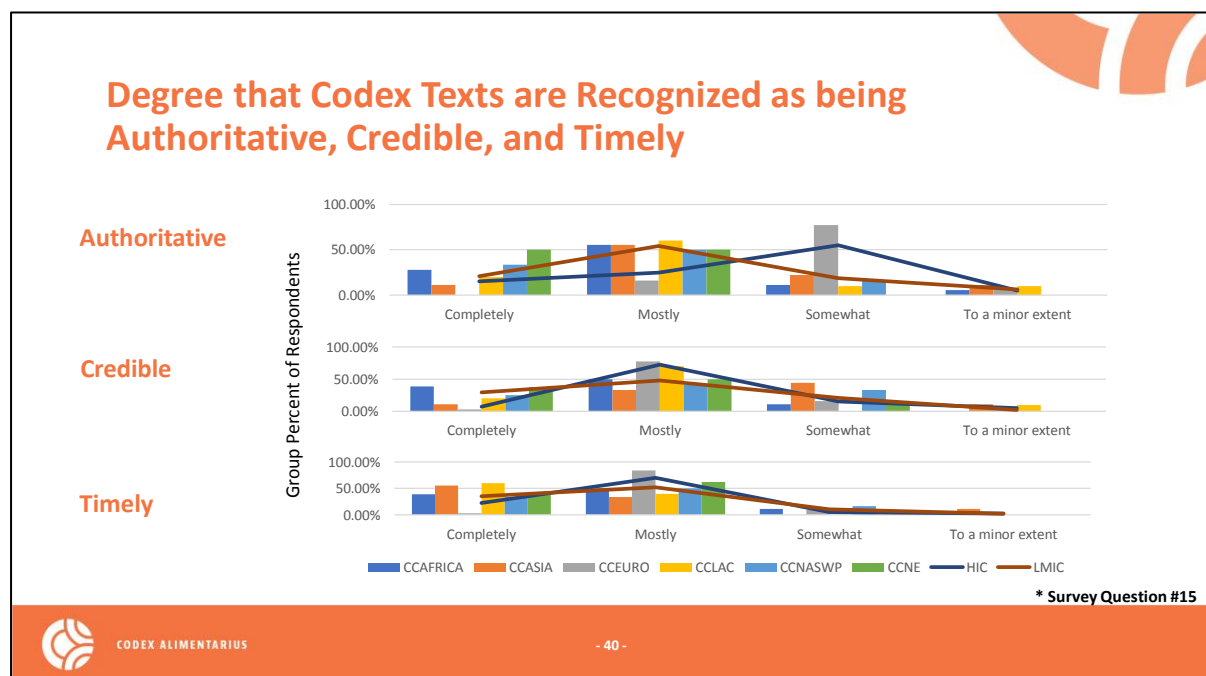


Figure 12. Degree that Codex texts are recognized as being authoritative, credible, and timely, with income-disaggregated trendlines.

2.2.4 Level of Satisfaction with Codex Texts

Global respondents are generally satisfied with Codex texts (**Figure 13A**). This level of satisfaction has little variation across text-specific prompts (**Figures 13B-E**), with the exception of *General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods* (CXG 9-1987) having more 'somewhat' responses compared to other texts (**Figure 13E**). This may be due to the lesser familiarity and use of this text expressed by Members.

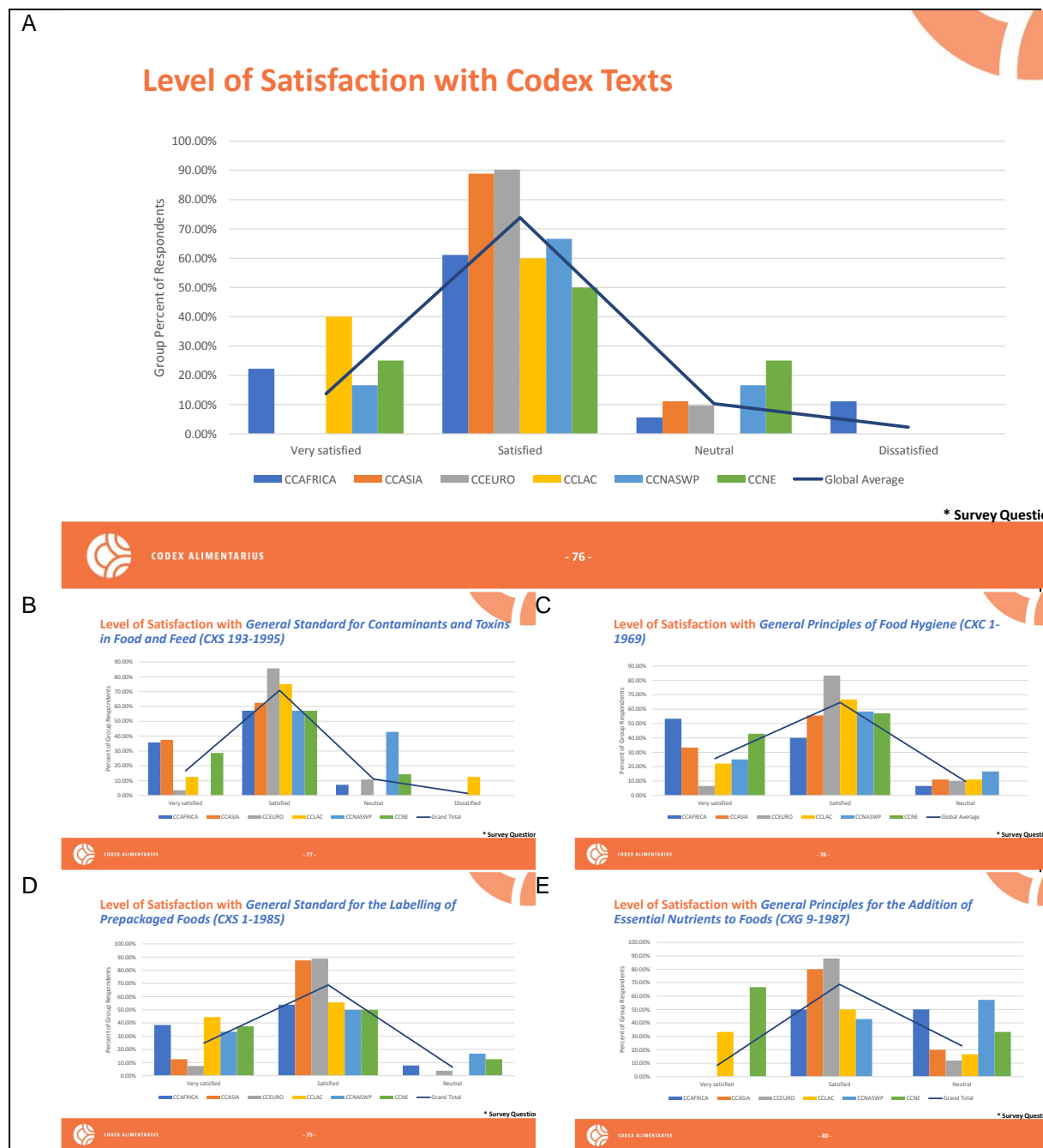


Figure 13. Level of satisfaction with (A) general Codex texts, (B) *General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CXS 193-1995)*, (C) *General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969)*, (D) *General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods (CXS 1-1985)*, and (E) *General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods (CXG 9-1987)*.

Overall, both LMIC and HIC respondents are generally satisfied with Codex texts (**Figure 14**). Over 80% from both groups of respondents are either satisfied or very satisfied with Codex texts. Additional Member comments to improve the reach, usefulness, or use of Codex texts in their specific countries can be found at **Annex C**.

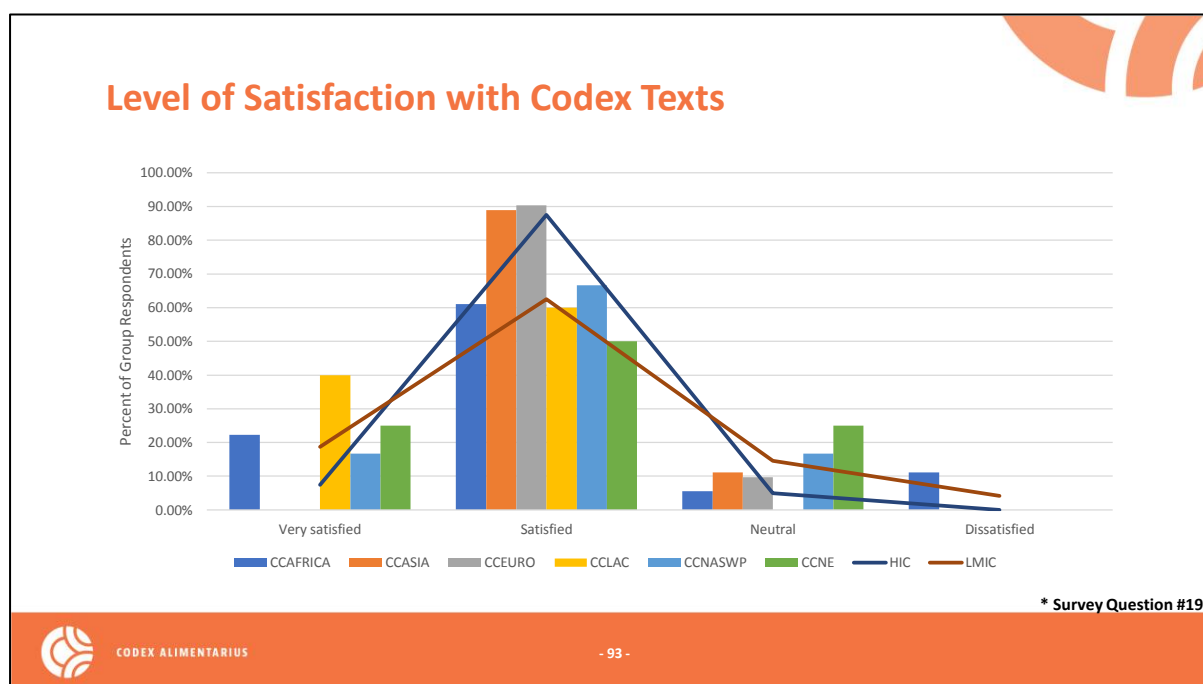


Figure 14. Level of satisfaction with Codex texts, with income-disaggregated trendlines.

2.3 Use and Impact

2.3.1 Extent that Codex Texts are used as a Baseline to Inform Food Legislation, Policies, Regulations, Programs and/or Practices

Codex texts appear to be fairly well used as a baseline to inform food legislation, policies, regulations, programs, and practices on a global scale, except for the EURO region where their use appears to be limited (**Figure 15A**). This may be due to the fact that the majority of EURO respondents are EU Members.

For the four specific texts surveyed, there also is variability in responses across regions with increased response variations for EURO. Of note is 100% of AFRICA respondents indicating that *General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods* (CXG 9-1987) is only somewhat used as a baseline at the national level, whereas almost 70% of NE respondents indicate that the standard is used 'a great deal' (**Figure 15E**). This may also be related to the low familiarity with the text, reflected by the low response rate for this specific text.

"In our standards/regulations have been finalized prior to work in Codex, so the Codex text is not used as a baseline. However, efforts are made to ensure consistency/harmonization, where possible.

Respondent in NASWP region

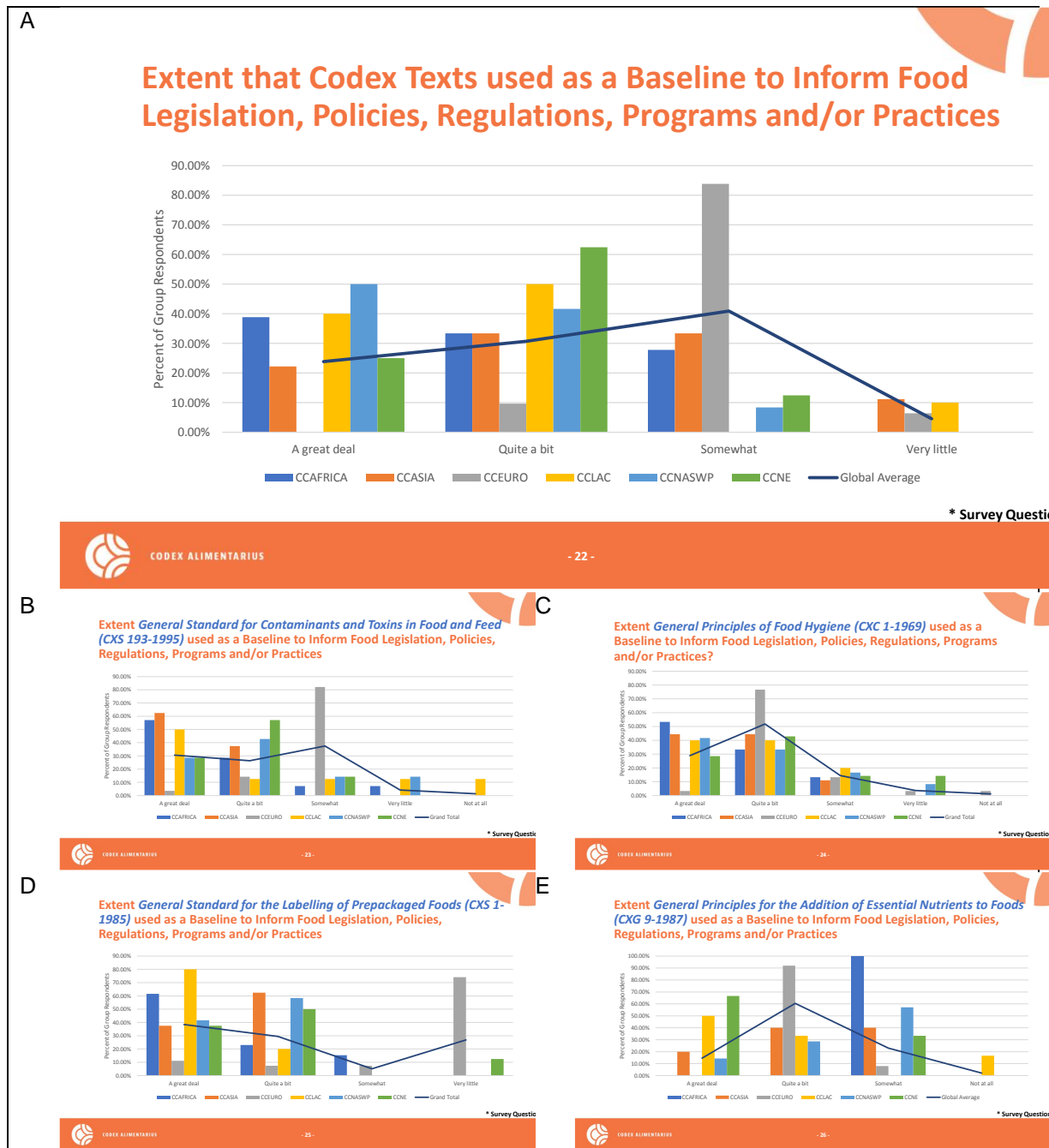


Figure 15. Degree that (A) general Codex texts, (B) *General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CXS 193-1995)*, (C) *General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969)*, (D) *General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods (CXS 1-1985)*, and (E) *General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods (CXG 9-1987)* are used as a baseline to inform food legislation, policies, regulations, programs, and/or practices

Responses concerning the extent that Codex texts are used as a baseline to inform food legislation, policies, regulations, programs, and/or practices clearly indicate that LMIC use Codex texts as a baseline more than HIC (**Figure 16**). Approximately 70% of LMIC respondents expressed that they use Codex texts, a great deal or quite a bit, as a baseline to inform food legislation, policies, regulations, programs, and/or practices. In contrast, over 60% of HIC respondents indicated that they use Codex texts somewhat or very little as a baseline. This is in line with anecdotal evidence and experience of the Codex Secretariat, where LMIC are seen as having less resources available to build their own food safety legislation and policies from scratch and use more often than HIC, Codex texts as a baseline.

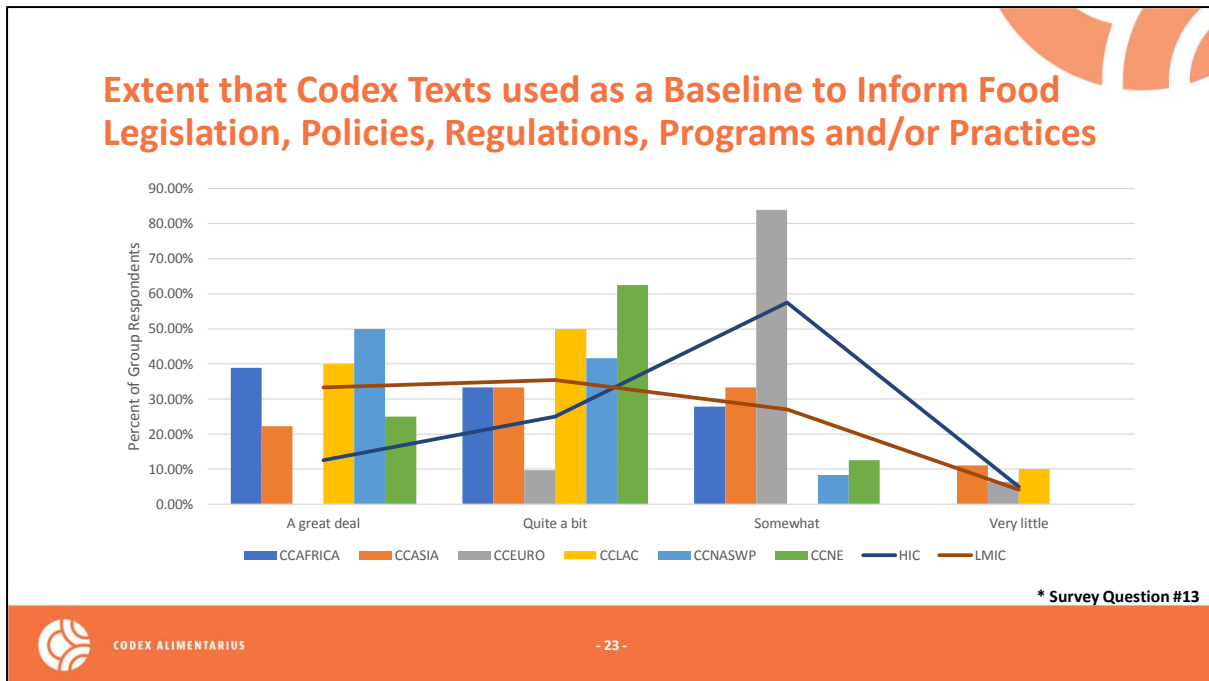


Figure 16. Extent that Codex texts are used as a baseline to inform food legislation, policies, regulations, programs, and/or practices, with income-disaggregated trendlines.

2.3.2 Extent that Codex Texts are Used to Support National Food Control Systems

The majority of respondents believe that Codex texts in general “completely” or “mostly” support National Food Control Systems (NFCS) (Figure 17A). Regarding the four surveyed Codex texts support to NFCS (Figure 17B-E), regions that answered very positively included AFRICA, ASIA, NASWP, and NE. EURO had a homogenous ‘somewhat response’. LAC had a more distributed response, where some respondents in this group felt that the *General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods* (CXG 9-1987) did “not at all” have use or impact supporting their NFCS.

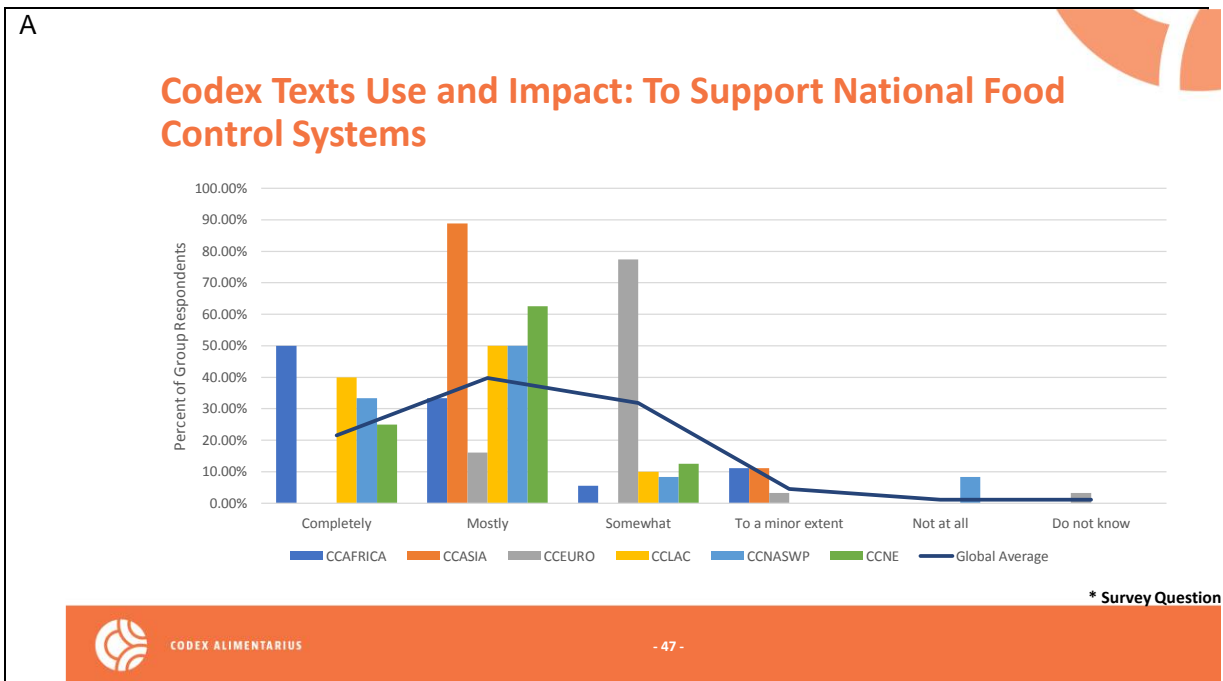




Figure 17. Use and impact of (A) Codex texts in general, (B) General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CXS 193-1995), (C) General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969), (D) General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods (CXS 1-1985), and (E) General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods (CXG 9-1987) to support national food control systems.

Responses concerning the extent that Codex texts are used to support NFCS clearly indicate that LMIC used Codex texts more than HIC (**Figure 18**). Almost 80% of LMIC respondents expressed that they use Codex texts, completely or mostly, to support NFCS. In contrast, almost 60% of HIC respondents indicated that they used Codex texts somewhat to support NFCS. This may be due to the fact that HIC tend to have the necessary resources to build their own NFCS whereas LMIC are more reliant on Codex texts to support their NFCS.

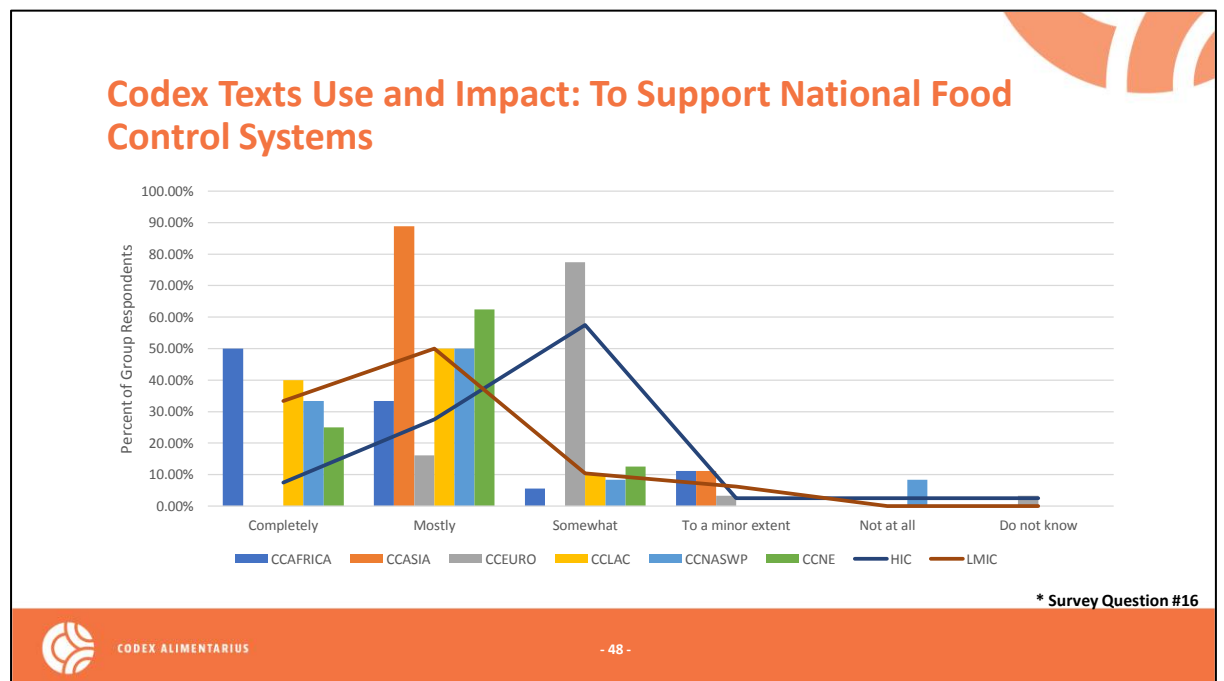


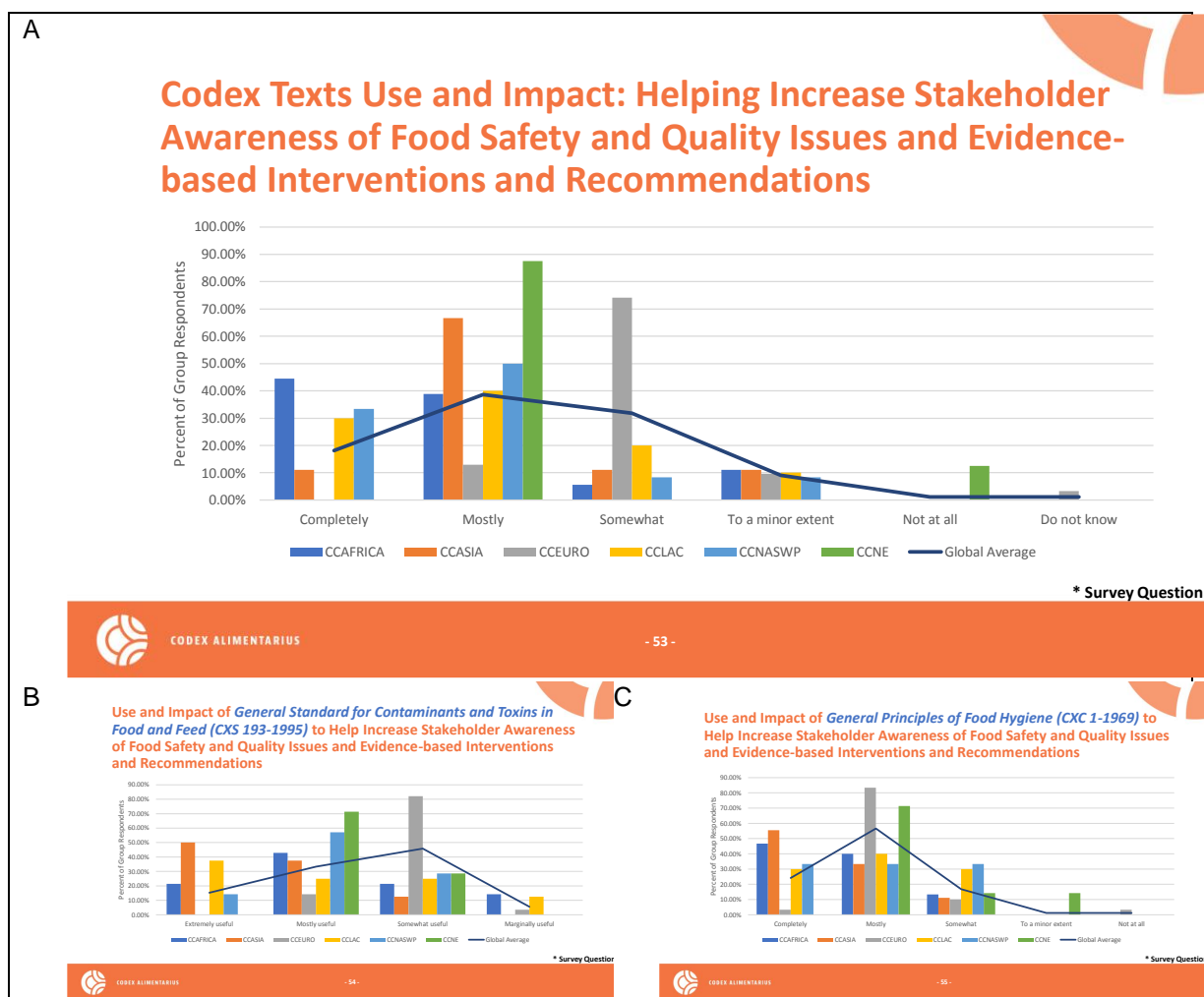
Figure 18. Use and impact of Codex text to support national food control systems, with income-disaggregated trendlines.

2.3.3 Extent that Codex Texts are Used as to Help Increase Stakeholder Awareness of Food Safety and Quality Issues and Evidence-based Interventions and Recommendations

With the exception of EURO region, survey respondents reported that Codex texts ‘completely’ or ‘mostly’ helped increasing stakeholder awareness of food safety and quality issues and evidence-based interventions and recommendations (Figure 19A). There is some text-specific variation (Figures 19B-E). Of the text-specific prompts, global respondents found the *General Principles of Food Hygiene* (CXC 1-1969) to have the most use and impact in this regard (Figure 19C). Most regions had a substantial ‘completely’ response for this question, except for respondents from the NE and EURO, who mostly responded ‘mostly’ and ‘somewhat’, respectively. NE responses also included those that felt that *General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods* (CXG 9-1987) did not at all have use or impact on helping increase stakeholder awareness in this respect (Figure 19E). As for other replies, this may be due to the lack of familiarity and use of this particular text.

Lack of awareness among policymakers of the importance of the provisions of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and the food safety system in [Country XXX].

Respondent in NE region



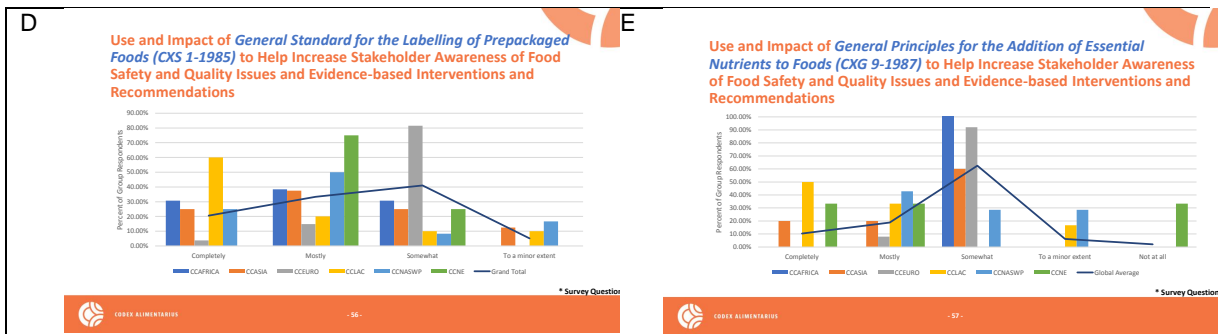


Figure 19. Use and impact of (A) general Codex texts, (B) General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CXS 193-1995), (C) General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods (CXS 1-1985), and (D) General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods (CXG 9-1987), and (E) General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969) to help increase stakeholder awareness of food safety and quality issues and evidence-based interventions and recommendations.

Almost 80% of LMIC respondents found Codex texts ‘mostly’ or ‘completely’ helpful (Figure 20) in increasing stakeholder awareness of food safety and quality issues and evidence-based interventions and recommendations. Overall, approximately 60% of HIC respondents considered Codex texts somewhat helpful in this regard. These replies seem to indicate again the disparity of financial resources and technical expertise between HIC and LMIC.

“We need national mobilization on the awareness amongst stakeholders on the Codex text and its dissemination at the national level. Education on Codex amongst stakeholders is very important in this case.”

Respondent in AFRICA region

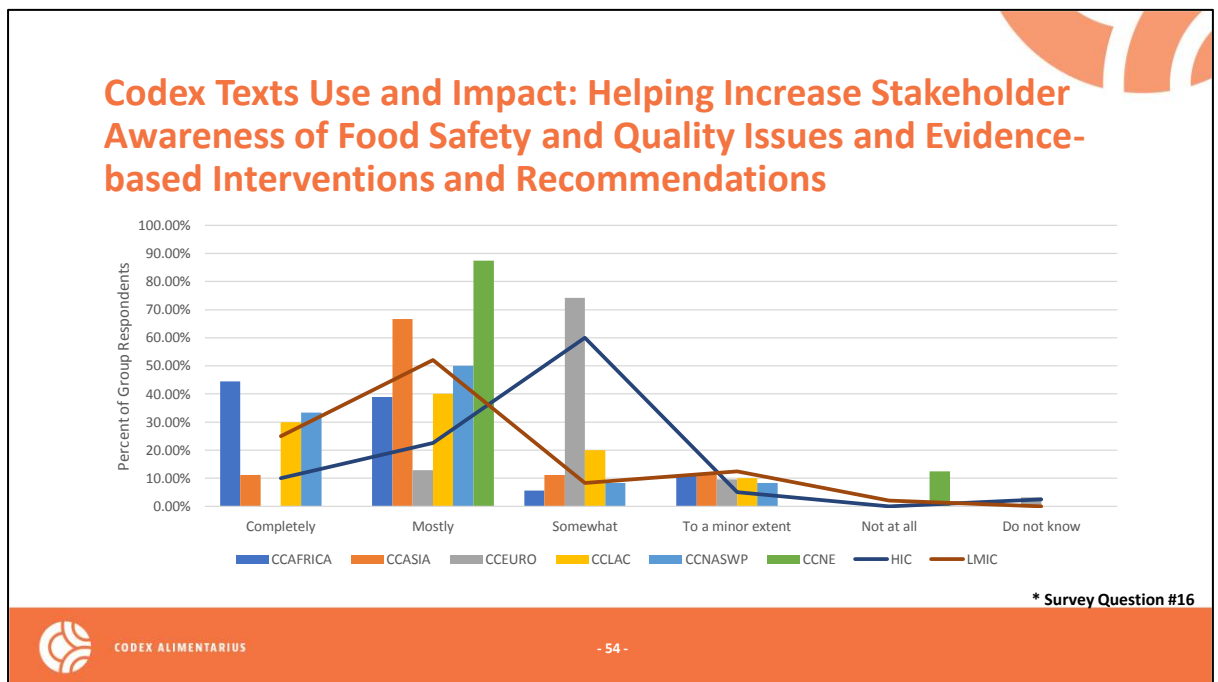


Figure 20. Use and impact of Codex texts to help increase stakeholder awareness of food safety and quality issues and evidence-based interventions and recommendations, with income-disaggregated trendlines.

2.3.4 Extent that Codex Texts are Used to Inform and Update Food Safety and Quality Training and Educational Programs and Related Tools

Although generally positive, global responses are distributed with regard to use and impact of Codex texts towards informing and updating food safety and quality training and educational programs and related tools (Figures 21A). The large and homogenous volume of EURO responses appears to influence the global trendline across text-specific global responses, contrasting slightly against other, more distributed regional response trends. Of note is the global trendline indicating *General Principles*

for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods (CXG 9-1987) is somewhat to minimally used or impactful in this regard (**Figure 21E**). As in previous sections, this may be due to the lack of familiarity and use of this particular Codex text.

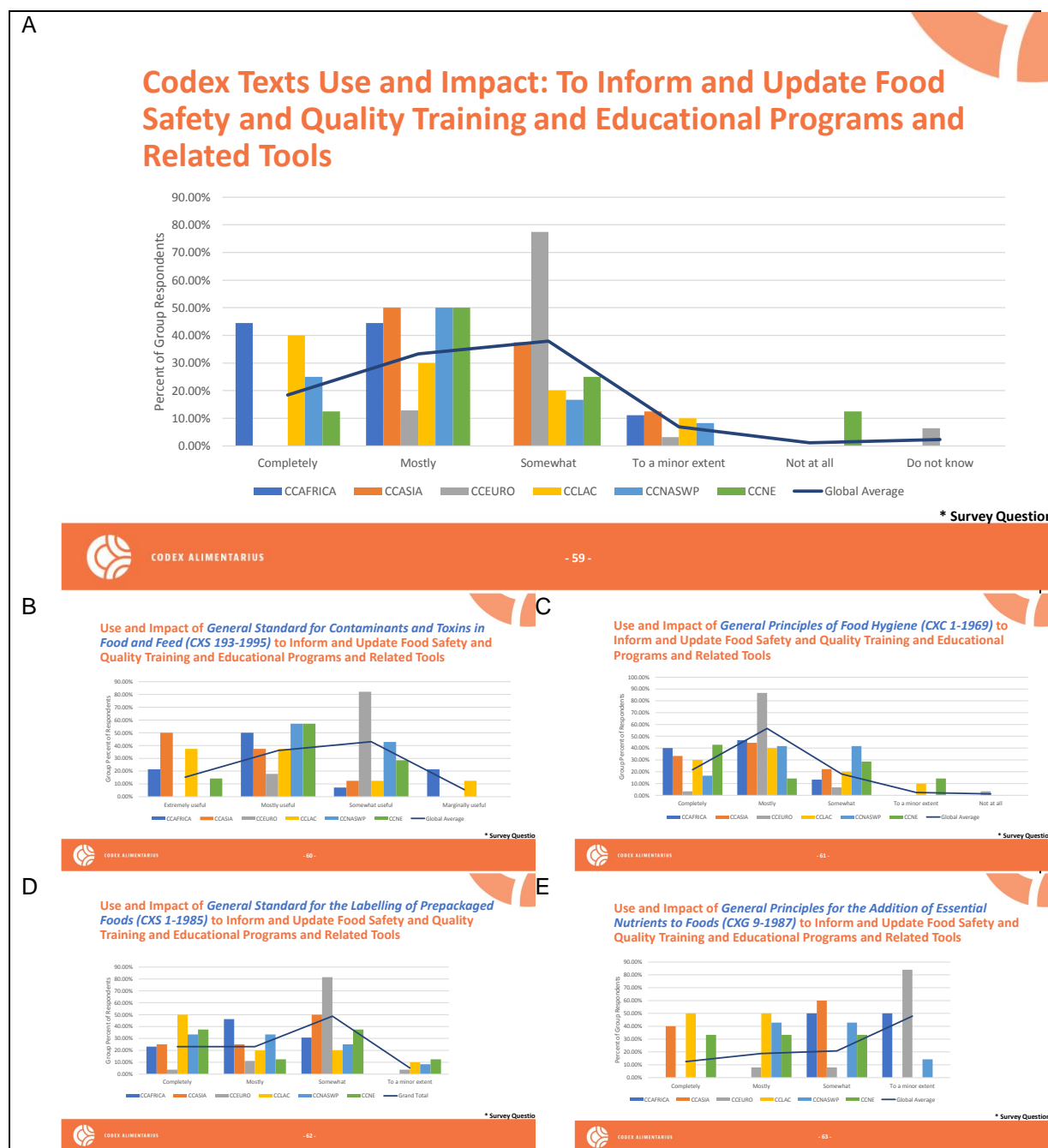


Figure 21. Use and impact of (A) general Codex texts, (B) General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CXS 193-1995), (C) General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969), (D) General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods (CXS 1-1985), and (E) General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods (CXG 9-1987) to inform and update food safety and quality training and educational programs and related tools.

Across both income groups, most respondents reported Codex texts, ranging from 'somewhat' to 'completely', are used to inform and update food safety and quality training and educational programs and related tools (**Figure 22**). Over 70% of LMIC respondents found Codex texts are 'mostly' or 'completely' used to inform and update food safety and quality training and educational programs and related tools, while over 60% of HIC respondents somewhat used Codex texts. These replies seem to indicate again the disparity of financial resources and technical expertise between HIC and LMIC.

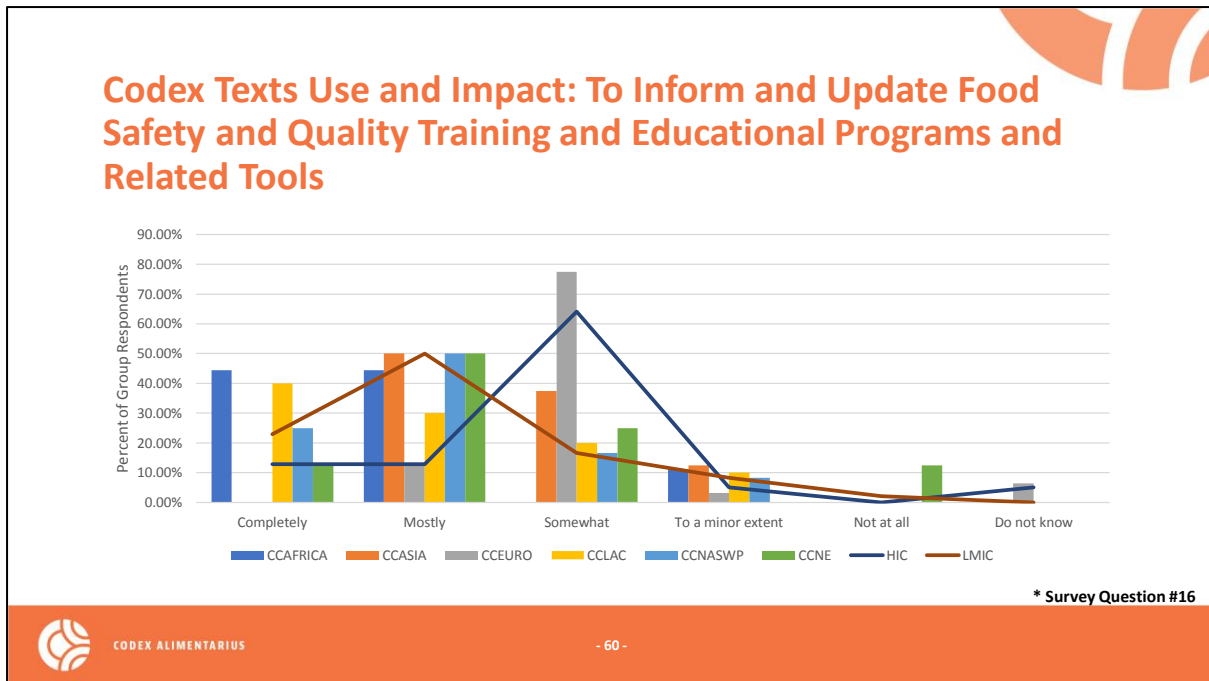


Figure 22. Use and impact of Codex texts on informing and updating food safety and quality training and educational programs and related tools, with income-disaggregated trendlines.

2.3.5 Extent that Codex Texts are Used to Improve Member State Commodity Trade (Internal and External)

Generally, respondents found Codex texts impactful in improving Members’ commodity trade, with most responses being distributed from ‘completely’ to ‘somewhat’ (Figure 23A). Across text-specific prompts, global trendlines greatly varied (Figures 23B-E).

“To us Codex is important to promote and strengthen effective rules-based multilateral cooperation and to facilitate international trade.”

Respondent in EURO region

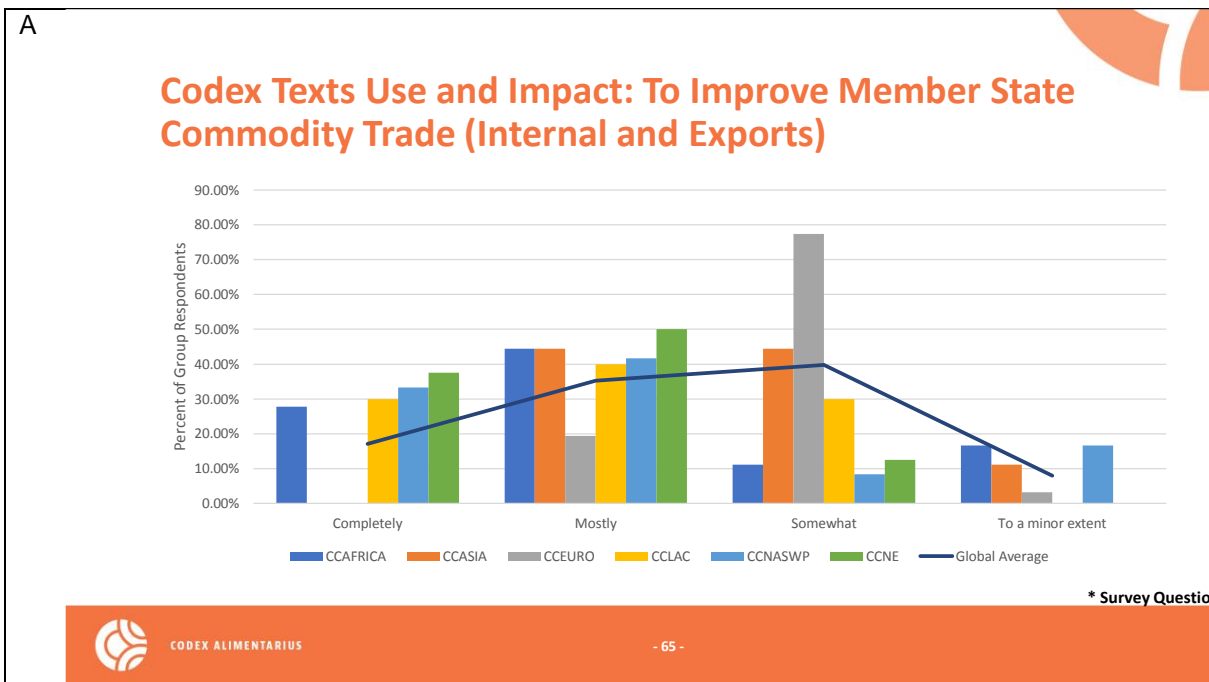




Figure 23. Use and impact of (A) general Codex texts, (B) General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CXS 193-1995), (C) General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969), (D) General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods (CXS 1-1985), and (E) General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods (CXG 9-1987) to improve Member State commodity trade (internal and exports).

Responses concerning the use and impact of Codex texts on Members’ internal and external trade clearly show that LMIC commodity trade is more impacted through the use of Codex texts than for HIC commodity trade (**Figure 24**). Approximately 70% of LMIC respondents found that the use of Codex texts ‘completely’ or ‘mostly’ helped improve Members’ commodity trade. In contrast, more than 60% of HIC respondents indicated that Codex texts ‘somewhat’ helped improve Members’ commodity trade.

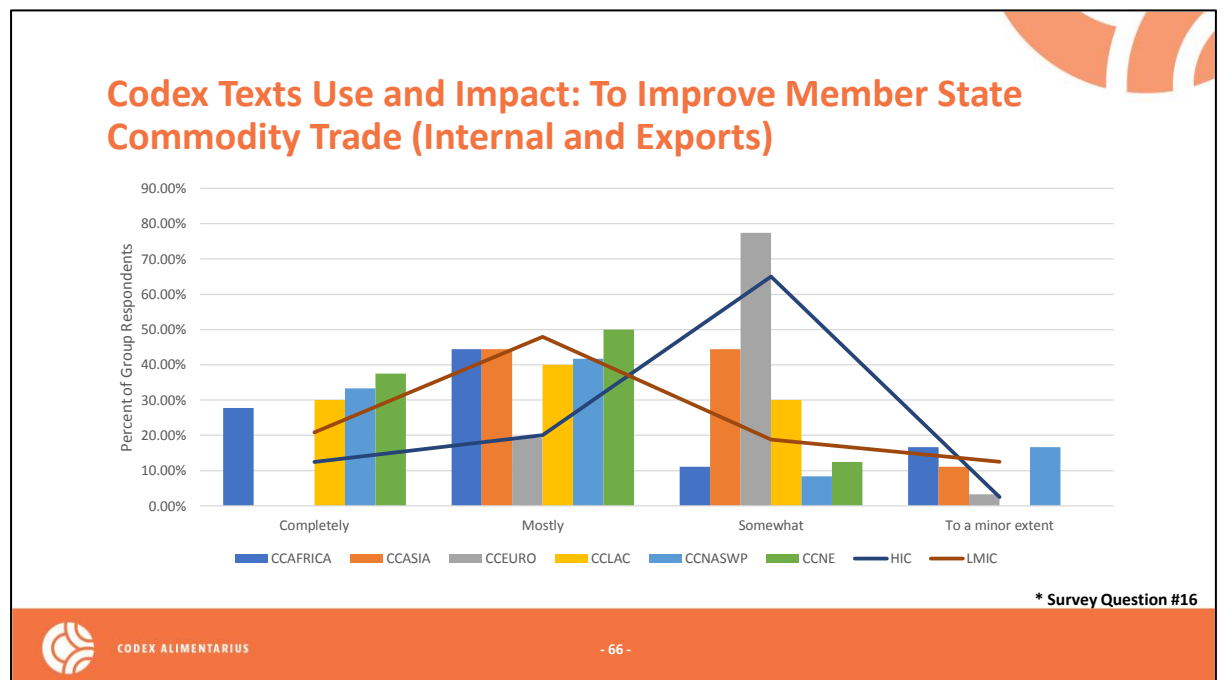


Figure 24. Use and impact of Codex texts on improving member state commodity trade (internal and exports), with income-disaggregated trendlines.

2.4 Barriers Impeding the Use of Codex Texts

It is important to acknowledge that each Member operates within its own specific environment with unique challenges and opportunities that affect the successful implementation and subsequent use of Codex texts. The survey sought to quantify the extent (i.e., Completely, Mostly, Somewhat, To a minor extent, or Not at all) that 9 pre-selected barriers are impeding the use of Codex texts in each country. Below is a summary of identified barriers, first at a global level, then at regional level, and finally by income level.

2.4.1 Global Perspective

Globally, responses are distributed, with very few responses indicating that any given barrier is 'completely' impeding the use of Codex texts. Of the presented responses regarding global barriers (**Figure 25**), it may be observed that lack of awareness of Codex provisions by national stakeholders, challenges to catch up with changes in Codex texts, language issues, lack of resources, and duration of Codex text development are the five most prominent barriers. These barriers have the least 'to a minor extent' and 'not at all' responses, and the most 'completely' and 'mostly' responses.

To a lesser extent, lack of local implementation capacity and lack of national food safety laws present moderate barriers, with little 'not at all' responses. Irrelevance of Codex texts and duration of national implementation processes appear to be the least impeding barriers towards Codex text use as a result of the large proportion of 'not at all' responses (over 50% of global responses).

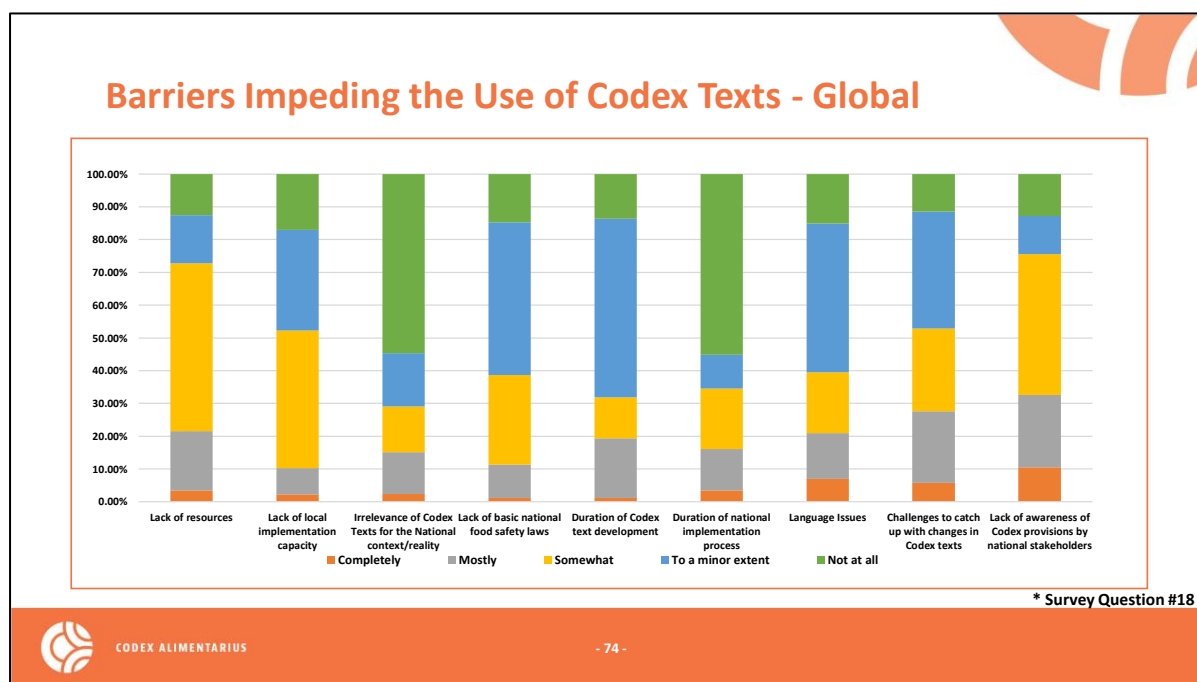


Figure 25. Barriers impeding global use of Codex texts.

2.4.2 Regional Perspective

AFRICA

Responses from Members in the African region indicate that use of Codex texts is being 'mostly', or 'completely' impeded by challenges to catch up with changes in Codex texts (41%), and lack of awareness of Codex provisions by national stakeholders (39%), lack of resources (39%), duration of Codex text development (28%) (**Figure 26**). In contrast to global responses, Members in the African region identified irrelevance of Codex texts for national context/reality (35%) to be 'mostly' or 'completely' a barrier to Codex texts use.

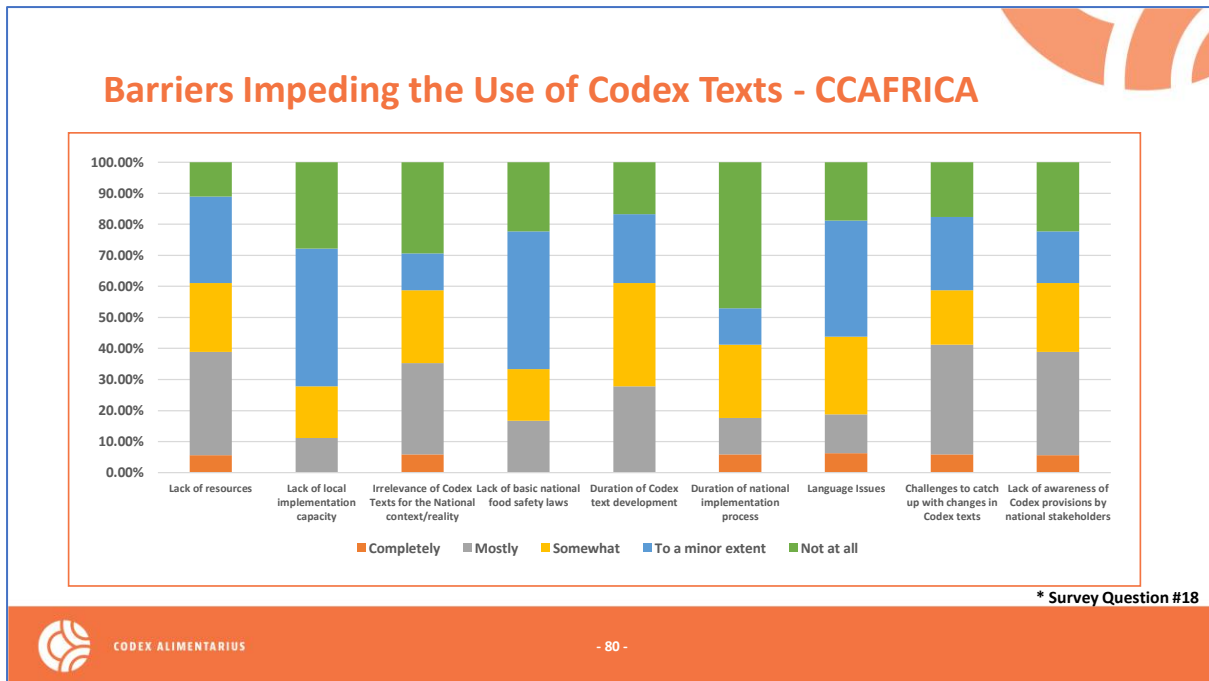


Figure 26. Barriers Impeding the Use of Codex Texts in AFRICA Region.

ASIA

Respondents from the Asia region (Figure 27) reported lack of basic food safety laws as a prominent barrier to use of the Codex text (33% ‘mostly’ or ‘completely’ impeded), which was not observed to be as strong of an impediment at the global level. Similar to global trends, lack of awareness of Codex provisions by national stakeholders (33% ‘mostly’ or ‘completely’) was similarly observed to be a prominent barrier.

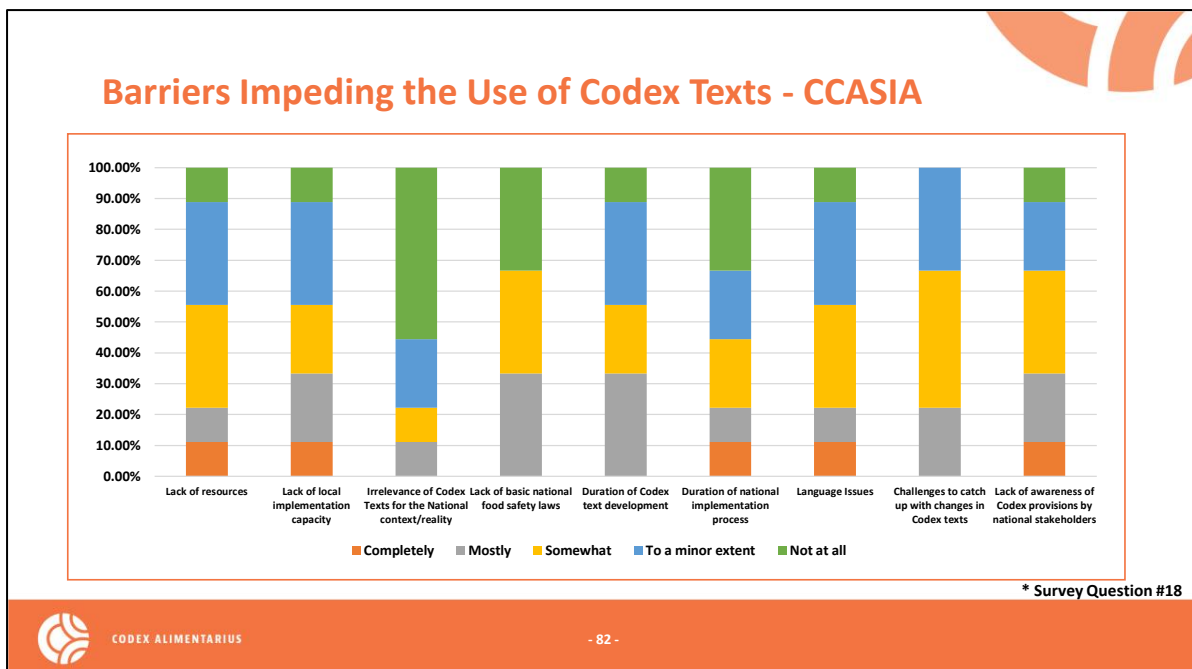


Figure 27. Barriers Impeding the Use of Codex Texts in ASIA Region.

EURO

Responses from the European region largely indicated barriers to be ‘somewhat’ or ‘to a minor extent’ affecting the use of Codex texts. Respondents strongly identified irrelevance of Codex texts for the national context/reality (‘to a minor extent’ and ‘not at all’ total 100%), lack of basic national food safety

laws (84%), duration of national implementation process (84%), language issues (90%), challenges to catch up with changes in Codex texts (81%) to be not at all, or to a minor extent, a barrier to Codex use in the region. As the majority of EURO replies came from EU Members, this may be partially due, at least for language issues, to the few Russian-speaking countries that responded to the survey as anecdotal evidence shows that language is a prominent barrier for several European countries.

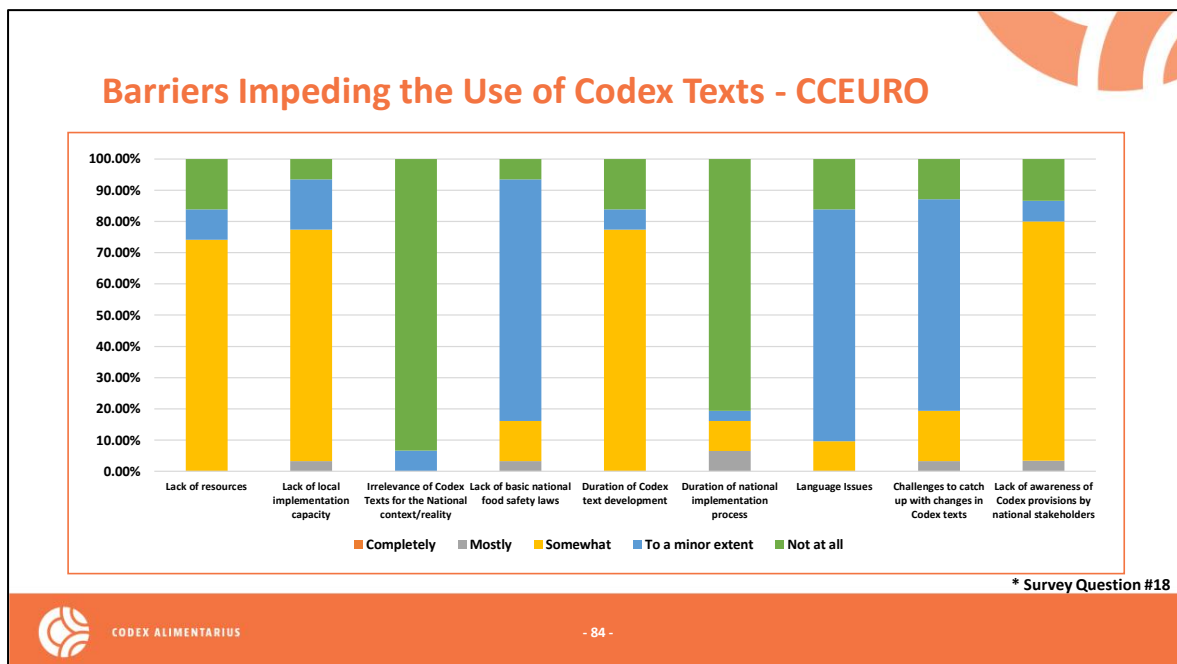


Figure 28. Barriers Impeding the Use of Codex Texts in EURO Region.

LAC

Respondents from the LAC region identified barriers to use of Codex texts in line with global trends. Many respondents indicated use being ‘mostly’ or ‘completely’ impeded by lack of awareness of Codex provisions by national stakeholders (60%), duration of Codex text development (50%), language issues (50%) challenges to catch up with changes in Codex texts (50%), and lack of resources (40%) (Figure 29). Respondents appear to be affected more strongly (more ‘completely’ and ‘mostly’ replies) by the identified barriers, with higher levels of consensus, compared to global responses.

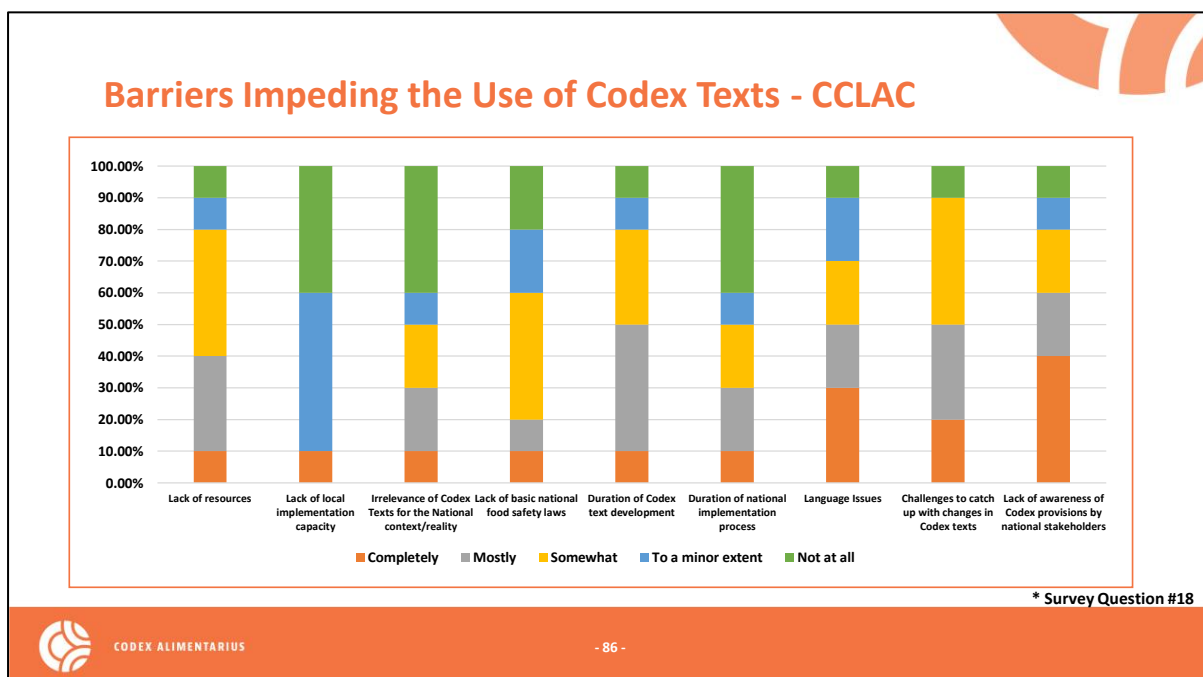


Figure 29. Barriers Impeding the Use of Codex Texts in LAC Region.

NASWP

Respondents from the NSAWP region identified barriers to use of Codex texts in line with global trends. Many respondents indicated use being mostly, or completely impeded by lack of awareness of Codex provisions by national stakeholders (55%), lack of resources (42%) and challenges to catch up with changes in Codex texts (42%) (Figure 30). Similar to respondents from the LAC region, NASWP respondents appear to be affected more strongly by the identified barriers, with higher levels of consensus, compared to global responses.

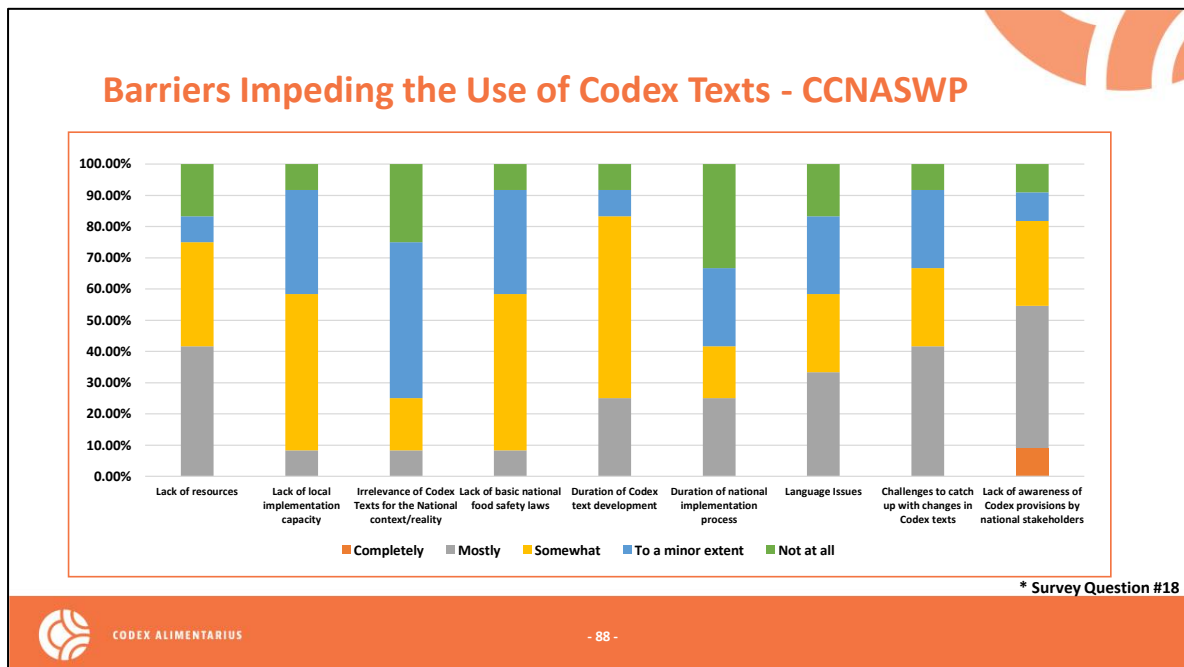


Figure 30. Barriers Impeding the Use of Codex Texts in NASWP Region

NE

Respondents from the Near East region indicated that lack of awareness of Codex provisions by national stakeholders (63%), language issues (50%), and challenges to catch up with changes in Codex texts (50%) 'mostly' or 'completely' impeded use of Codex texts (Figure 31). Similar to respondents from the LAC and NASWP regions, NE respondents appear to be affected strongly by select barriers, with higher levels of consensus, compared to global responses.

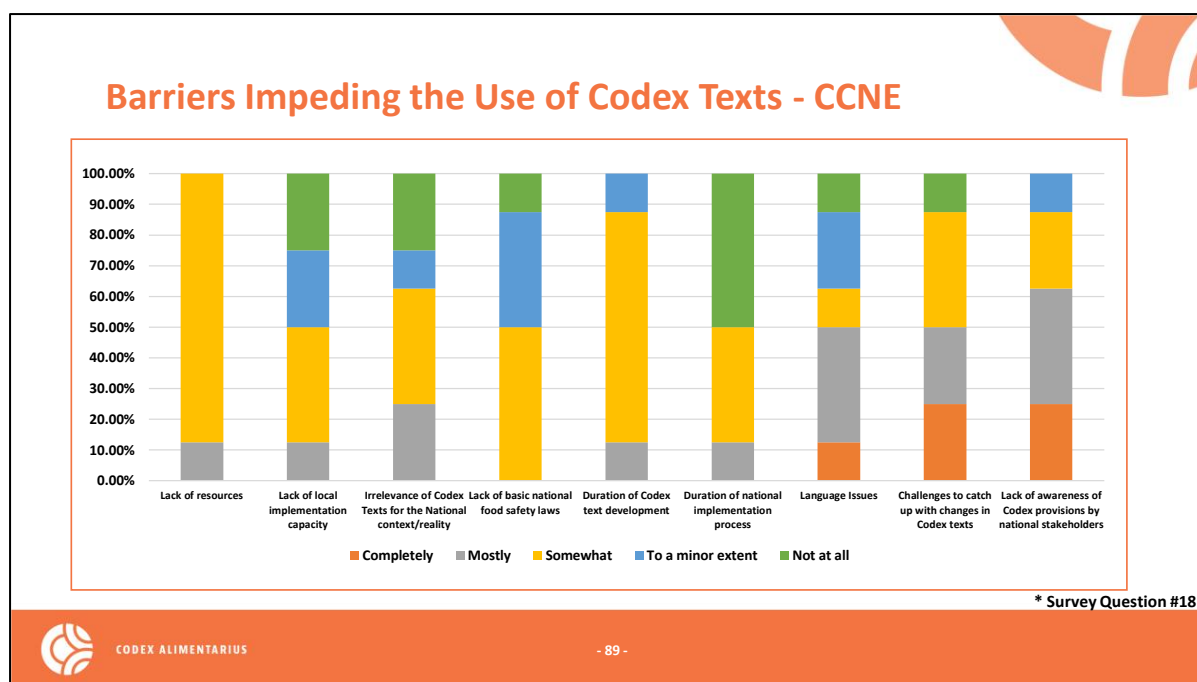


Figure 31. Barriers Impeding the Use of Codex Texts in NE Region

Though not as prominent as global trends would indicate, the survey identifies language issues impeding the use of Codex texts throughout multiple Codex regions. Respondents from the LAC region, as well as NE, NASWP and ASIA regions to lesser extents confirmed issues with language which may impede use and impact of the texts. Russian-speaking countries also raised language issues several times in the past.

Additional context for barriers to use of Codex texts can be found in the Qualitative Responses from Codex Survey 2022 in **Annex C**.

2.4.3 Income-Disaggregated Perspective

It is noteworthy that a number of barriers identified by HIC respondents are largely indicated by 'somewhat' responses (**Figure 32**). The most significant barrier is the lack of awareness of Codex provisions by national stakeholders, as 18% of HIC respondents indicated that it mostly, or completely prevented Codex text use. In contrast, over 67% of HIC respondents considered irrelevance of Codex texts for national context/reality, duration of national implementation process, language issues, and challenges to catch up with changes in Codex texts to 'not at all', or 'to a minor extent', impede national use of Codex texts.

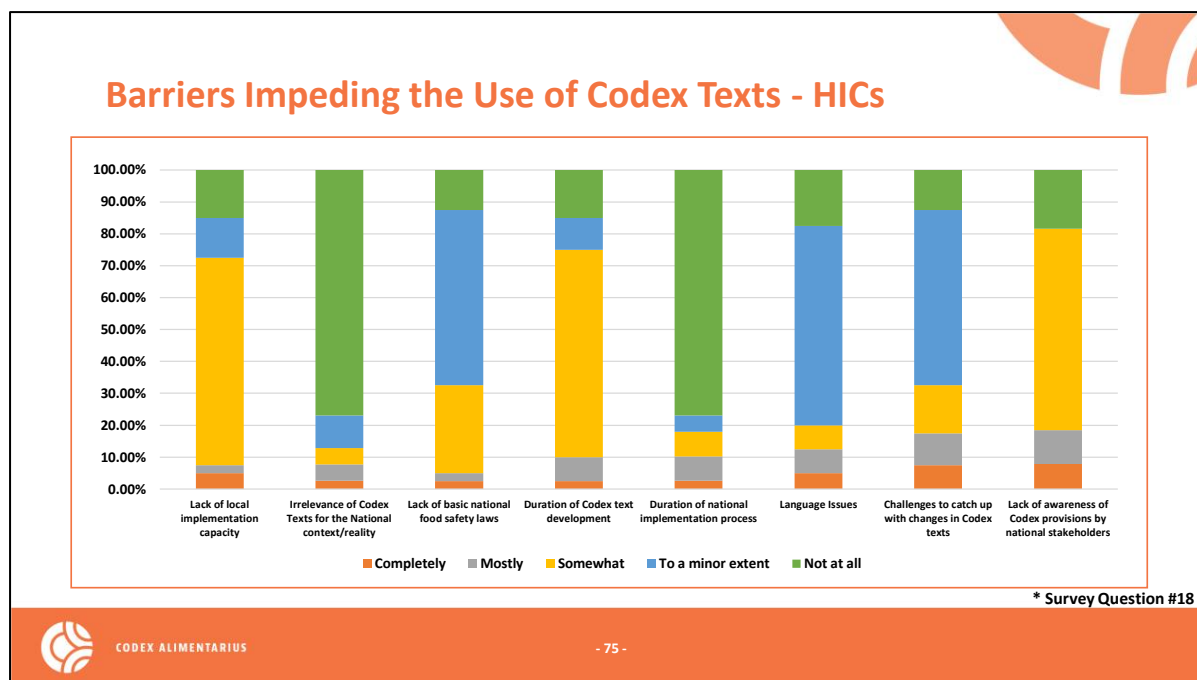


Figure 32. Barriers impeding the use of Codex texts, as reported by high-income countries.

In contrast, many LMIC respondents indicated that lack of awareness of Codex provisions by national stakeholders (44%), challenges to catch up with changes in Codex texts (36%), and lack of resources (31%) ‘mostly’ or ‘completely’ prevented use of Codex texts (**Figure 33**). In contrast, it is noted that a majority of LMIC respondents indicated that a lack of local implementation capacity (65%), irrelevance of Codex texts for the national context/reality (57%), lack of basic national food safety laws (56%) and duration of national implementation process (52%) are to a lesser extent impediments to national use of Codex texts.

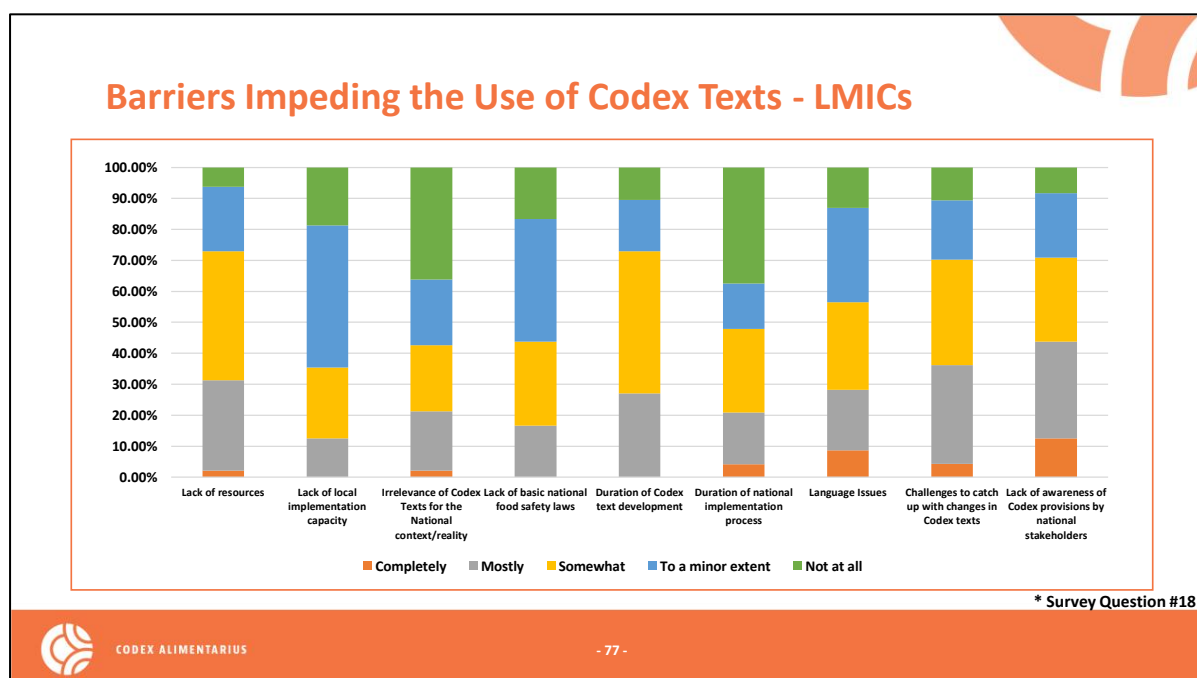


Figure 33. Barriers impeding the use of Codex texts, as reported by low- and middle-income countries.

3.0 Conclusions and Recommendations

3.1 Conclusions

Based on an analysis of Codex Survey 2022 on the use and impact of Codex texts, it is evident that Codex texts play a significant role in ensuring food safety and quality worldwide. The survey results show that the large majority of Codex Members (that replied to the survey) are satisfied with the reach, usefulness, and use of Codex texts. There are not any significant regional differences related to satisfaction.

The survey revealed that Codex texts appear to be fairly well used as a baseline to inform food legislation, policies, regulations, programs, and practices on a global scale (**Figure 15A**), which demonstrates the important role Codex texts play in global food trade and consumer health protection. Furthermore, Codex texts are being used to facilitate communication among Codex Members and other stakeholders, and to establish a common understanding of food safety and quality (**Figure 19A and Figure 23A**).

While the large majority of answers are not surprising and are in line with the experience of the Secretariat and Members on the use and impact of Codex text, this is the first time responses are collected on a systematic and consolidated way, providing solid evidence on the use and impact of Codex texts. In the next sections a series of conclusions are drawn from the analysis, together with select recommendations to the Secretariat, FAO and WHO and Members.

The majority of EURO answers came from EU Member States. Throughout the survey, they show less relevance and use of the Codex texts surveyed, compared to other regions. However, comments provided show that these texts are used more extensively in the past as a basis for legislation, policies, and guidelines.

3.1.1 Use and Impact of Codex Texts

Codex texts are found to be extremely or mostly useful for Members. Codex Members commented that they found Codex texts to be most useful when new knowledge is gained in the country and the texts can be used as a standard baseline. Summary conclusions that can be drawn from the survey data are outlined in the table below.

Use/Impact of Codex Texts	Key Conclusions
Intermediate Outcome (Reach)	
Extent Codex Texts are Disseminated to Stakeholders by Countries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is relatively less satisfaction with method of dissemination of Codex texts compared to format and language; this is clearly reflected across global trendlines.
Level of Satisfaction with Codex Text Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Survey respondents are satisfied with the format and structure, language, and dissemination of Codex texts generally and across selected texts. Though not as prominent as global trends would indicate, the survey indicate that language issues impede the use of Codex texts throughout multiple Codex regions. Respondents from LAC, as well as NE, NASWP and ASIA to lesser extents confirmed issues with language which may impede use and impact of the texts. Russian-speaking countries also raised language issues several times in the past.
Intermediate Outcome (Usefulness/Relevance)	
Codex Texts Meeting National Priorities and Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Survey respondents indicated that the texts' utilities largely ranged from extremely useful to somewhat useful (with limited 'marginally useful' responses). Overall, they are 'mostly useful.'

Use/Impact of Codex Texts	Key Conclusions
Additional Knowledge Gained from Codex Texts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Survey respondents indicated that at least 'some' additional knowledge was gained through general and selected Codex texts.
Degree that Codex Texts are Recognized as being Authoritative, Credible, and Timely	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most survey respondents consider Codex texts to be either completely or mostly authoritative or credible. There is more variability in survey responses concerning the timeliness of Codex texts compared to their authority and credibility.
Level of Satisfaction with Codex Texts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global respondents are generally satisfied with Codex texts. Over 80% of LMIC and HIC respondents are either satisfied or very satisfied with Codex texts.
Intermediate Outcome (Use)	
Extent that Codex Texts used as a Baseline to Inform Food Legislation, Policies, Regulations, Programs and/or Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is more variability in responses regarding Codex texts being used as baselines for technical documents and best practices at the national level.
Codex Texts Use and Impact to support National Food Control Systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Survey respondents indicate that Codex texts are completely or mostly supporting National Food Control Systems (NFCS). Responses concerning the extent that Codex texts are used to support NFCS clearly indicate that LMIC used Codex texts more than HIC. This may be due to the fact that HIC tend to have the necessary resources to build their own NFCS whereas LMIC are more reliant on Codex texts to support their NFCS.
Codex Texts Use and Impact to Help Increase National Stakeholder Awareness of Food Safety and Quality Issues and Evidence-based Interventions and Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Survey respondents indicated that Codex texts mostly or somewhat helped increase awareness of food safety and quality issues and evidence-based interventions and recommendations. However, across Regions and Income groups, this was listed as the top barrier to the use and impact of Codex texts.
Codex Texts Use and Impact to Inform and Update Food Safety and Quality Training and Educational Programs and Related Tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most survey respondents reported Codex texts, ranging from somewhat to completely, inform and update food safety and quality training and educational programs and related tools. Over 70% of LMIC respondents found Codex texts are 'mostly' or 'completely' used to inform and update food safety and quality training and educational programs and related tools, while over 60% of HIC respondents somewhat used Codex texts. These replies seem to indicate again the disparity of financial resources and technical expertise between HIC and LMIC.
Codex Texts Use and Impact to Improve Member State Commodity Trade (Internal and Exports)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Survey respondents considered Codex texts mostly or somewhat useful to the improvement of Member State commodity trade. Approximately 70% of LMIC respondents found that the use of Codex texts 'completely' or 'mostly' helped improve

Use/Impact of Codex Texts	Key Conclusions
	Members' commodity trade. In contrast, more than 60% of HIC respondents indicated that Codex texts 'somewhat' helped improve Members' commodity trade.

3.1.2 Select Codex Texts

Members from all regions are found to have good familiarity with the selected Codex texts and were able to provide feedback on the reach, usefulness, use of each, except for the *General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods* (CXG 9-1987) where Members were found to have less familiarity. Conclusions drawn that are related to specific Codex texts are included in the table below.

Select Codex Text	Key Conclusions Regarding Use and Impact of Specific Text
<i>General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CXS 193-1995)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relative to other individual Codex texts, there appears to be higher general level of satisfaction with this standard concerning format and structure, language, and method of dissemination of the standard. Globally, this standard had an average rating of 'extremely useful' for level of satisfaction with format and structure, language, and dissemination of Codex texts. When comparing texts, Member responses are more variable when considering usefulness of this standards when meeting their respective countries' priority food safety and quality needs. Relatively, there was a higher degree of additional knowledge gained from this standard.
<i>General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Of the four texts surveyed, the <i>General Principles of Food Hygiene</i> was indicated as being used the most as a baseline to inform food legislation, policies, regulations, programs and/or practices. While HIC tended to note that 'very little' additional knowledge was gained from this text, LMIC responses trended towards 'quite a bit' and 'a great deal' of knowledge gained. A significant majority of respondents indicated that this general principle contributed to their national training and education programs and tools.
<i>General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods (CXS 1-1985)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most regions found the standard extremely or mostly useful. Most responses indicated that the standard has been used 'a great deal' or 'quite a bit' across Codex Regions. While HIC tended to note that 'very little' additional knowledge was gained from this standard, LMIC responses trended towards 'quite a bit' and 'a great deal' of knowledge gained.
<i>General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods (CXG 9-1987)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relative to other standards, respondents marked lower degrees of authoritativeness, credibility, and timeliness for this general principle. Responses vary across selected texts, however, 50% of global responses concerning this principle indicated that the text only 'somewhat' supports national food control systems. The role of sampled Codex texts on the improvement of members' commodity trade varies. Only 50% of global respondents noted that this principle improved commodity trade to a minor extent.

3.1.3 Differences between HIC and LMIC

The survey also indicates that in LMIC, Codex texts have a greater use and impact, and are used more frequently to support legislation, policies, NFCS, university curricula, training, awareness raising, compared to HIC. This may be due to several reasons:

1. **Resource Constraints:** LMICs often face limited resources, including financial, technical, and human resources, for developing and implementing comprehensive food safety regulations. Codex texts therefore provide a valuable reference point to establish national standards without having to invest heavily in research and development.
2. **Technical Expertise:** LMICs may have limited expertise and infrastructure to conduct extensive research and risk assessments to establish their national food safety regulations. Codex provides scientifically based texts which can serve as a reliable foundation for LMICs.
3. **Trade Facilitation:** Adhering to internationally recognized standards helps ensure the safety and quality of food products in compliance with global trade regulations. It facilitates smoother trade negotiations and reduces trade barriers, allowing LMICs to access international markets more easily.
4. **Consumer Protection:** Foodborne illnesses can pose significant public health risks due to limited access to healthcare and weaker sanitation infrastructure. By adopting international food standards, LMICs aim to enhance consumer protection and minimize health hazards associated with unsafe food. Aligning national regulations with global standards helps ensure that food safety measures are in place to protect the health of the population.
5. **Capacity Building:** Codex texts, in particular guidelines and codes of practice, can be used by LMICs to enhance the capacity of their regulatory agencies, food control authorities, and other relevant stakeholders. This support enables LMICs to improve their food control systems, strengthen inspection and surveillance mechanisms, and enhance their overall regulatory frameworks.

In contrast, HICs generally have more established food control systems, greater resources, and advanced technical expertise. They often have the capacity to develop and enforce their own food safety regulations, tailored to their specific contexts. While they may still reference international standards, HICs have more autonomy and flexibility in designing and implementing their NFCS.

3.2 Recommendations

At the global level, lack of awareness of Codex provisions by national stakeholders, challenges to catch up with changes in Codex texts, language issues, lack of resources, and duration of Codex text development are the five most prominent barriers.

LMIC respondents indicated that lack of awareness of Codex provisions by national stakeholders (44%), challenges to catch up with changes in Codex texts (36%), and lack of resources (31%) 'mostly' or 'completely' prevented use of Codex texts.

In light of the survey findings, the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Increase efforts to raise awareness of Codex texts by National Stakeholders.** Lack of awareness of Codex provisions by national stakeholders is the first barrier to the use of Codex texts identified at global level, by LMIC, LAC, NASWL, NE and the second for AFRICA. Members, with the support of the Codex Secretariat, FAO and WHO, should increase efforts to raise awareness of Codex texts by national stakeholders and advocate for their use. This would improve the use and impact of Codex texts at the national level. This can be done through the provision of capacity development opportunities, communication activities, improved dissemination of Codex texts. This is also in line with Goal 3 of the Codex Strategic Plan (Increase impact through the recognition and use of Codex texts). FAO/WHO Coordinating Committees are a key venue in this regard and should reflect these efforts in the regional work plans.
- **Prioritize the provision of capacity building and training:** Members are encouraged to request FAO and WHO to provide training and capacity building programs to assist Codex Members, particularly LMICs, in the implementation and utilization of Codex texts, with support of the Codex Secretariat. This should include mobilizing more resources, including financial, technical, and human resources, to support the development of national Codex structures

through mechanisms such as the FAO/WHO Codex Trust Fund, and rolling out capacity development programmes aiming at the implementation and enforcement of Codex texts at national levels.

- **Improve dissemination of Codex texts:** The Secretariat should continue its efforts in improving the dissemination of Codex texts, in particular through the digitalization project currently underway.
- **Continue communication and collaboration:** The Codex Secretariat should continue to facilitate communication and collaboration among Codex Members and other stakeholders to ensure that Codex texts are being utilized effectively and efficiently. This could include the development of news stories, videos, lessons learned and case studies for Codex Members to share experiences and best practices. WHO, FAO and the Codex Secretariat should continue to prioritize awareness-raising initiatives about Codex and Codex texts to relevant stakeholders at national and regional levels.
- **Increase resources:** Members should increase resources either at national level or at the international level to support FAO and WHO to provide timely scientific advice through the appropriate joint expert committees in order to decrease the response time; and Codex to address barriers such as language issues, lack of resources, and duration of Codex text development.

An underlying purpose of the Codex Survey 2022 was to undertake a pilot of a re-designed Member survey. This survey was the first phase of the development of a M&E mechanism focused on data gathering and analysis. The following recommendations for future surveys are proposed related to lessons drawn during the course of the Codex Survey 2022 process:

- **Validation of the survey framework:** The size and complexity of the Codex Survey 2022 approach was found to meet Members' expectations and should be maintained. Where possible, questions should be maintained in future surveys to ensure ongoing analysis comparability and to support future longitudinal studies. The free text options in the survey provide important insights for contextualising the results and Members should be encouraged to use the provide supporting information to the extent possible
- **Effective stakeholder communications:** Communications support of Codex Survey 2022 was an important enabler for ensuring a reasonably high Member response rate to the pilot survey (51%). The Codex Secretariat should ensure that future Codex text surveys are accompanied by a similar communications plan that includes key activities such as an official launch event, stakeholder webinars, FAQs, and outreach material. As Members get more acquainted with the survey methodology, it is expected that the response rate will increase as well as accuracy of answers. This will lead to improved survey results in the future.
- **Measuring impact on trade:** Many Codex Members seek to implement Codex texts for the role they play in supporting the national, regional, and global food trade. The Codex Secretariat should consider adapting future surveys to further delineate the impact on trade, both internally and internationally.
- **Strengthening monitoring and evaluation partnerships:** The Codex Secretariat should seek complementary performance data to that of the Codex Survey by strengthening partnerships with other international organizations and stakeholders, such as the WTO, WOH, and IPPC, to leverage resources and expertise to support the monitoring of the implementation and use of Codex texts.

In conclusion, the survey results demonstrate the significant impact Codex texts have had on global food safety and quality. However, the findings also highlight the need for continued efforts to monitor and address the challenges faced by Codex Members in the implementation and utilization of Codex texts. The recommendations proposed above aim to address the survey findings and improve the effectiveness of future surveys on the use and impact of Codex texts.

Annex A: Survey 2022 – Use and Impact of Codex Texts

Survey Specifications:

- Streamlined process for providing survey responses;
- One survey response per Member. Survey to be submitted by Codex Contact Point (CCP). CCPs are provided sufficient time to consult with national colleagues, as required;
- Work with Regional Coordinating Committees, as a means to engage national codex committees and ensure relevant stakeholders are consulted;
- Target as many completed Member surveys as possible. Survey results are not attributed to specific countries, but are reported at the aggregated level (either globally and/or regionally);
- Available in all UN languages; and
- Survey to be piloted and delivered using CAC available survey technologies.

Sample Introduction Letter:

Dear Codex Contact Point,

Thank you for your country's participation in this survey. The Secretariat of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) has commissioned a member survey to support the implementation of a monitoring framework to measure the use and impact of Codex texts.

The survey will be piloted during 2022 and will address the following high-level questions:

- 1 To what extent do target stakeholders have access to Codex texts?
- 2 To what extent are the content and presentation of Codex texts relevant to member country context and address the needs of target stakeholders?
- 3 To what extent are Codex texts recognized as being authoritative, credible, and timely?
- 4 To what extent is the knowledge gained from Codex texts applied by target stakeholders?

The survey purpose is to examine the reach, usefulness, and use of a sample of Codex texts as estimates for their impact. The survey scope involves Codex texts adopted or revised by CAC from 2015 to 2020. This survey is aimed at the member audience most familiar with Codex texts to help provide input into this process. One survey response, submitted by the Codex Contact Point (CCP) is expected per Member. A streamlined survey design will allow for survey responses to be inputted in a timely manner. Sufficient time before the survey is closed will allow CCPs to consult with the relevant in-country stakeholders.

Please be assured that members responses will be managed with confidentiality. The information gathered from the survey will be reported at the aggregate level, and individual Member responses will not be attributed in any report.

In order for your country's responses to be included in the survey analysis, please complete the survey by **XXXX**. If you prefer, you can obtain an electronic copy of the survey in MS Word format by e-mail request to codex@fao.org. If you are experiencing technical problems to access the survey, please contact us at codex@fao.org.

1. You are responding to this survey on behalf of which Member State?**2. Please select your region**

- Africa
- Asia
- Europe
- Latin America and the Caribbean
- North America and South West Pacific
- Near East
- Other (please specify) _____

3. What language(s) does your country speak at the national level? (Please select all that apply)

- Arabic
- Chinese
- English
- French
- Russian
- Spanish
- Other (please specify) _____

4. In what language does your country work with Codex? (Please select all that apply)

- Arabic
- Chinese
- English
- French
- Russian
- Spanish
- Other (please specify) _____

5. For what type of institution does your country's lead for Codex work? (Please select all that apply)

- Food Safety Authority
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Agriculture
- Ministry of Industry
- Other Ministries or governmental institution (other than above)
- Other (please specify) _____

6. A sample of Codex texts was selected for more in-depth analysis. Please select the Codex texts that your country is most familiar with: (Please select as many as you can)

- General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CXS 193-1995) (Go to Q7)
- General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969) (Go to Q8)
- General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods (CXS 1-1985) (Go to Q9)
- General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods (CXG 9-1987) (Go to Q10)
- Unfamiliar with any of the selected Codex Text (Go to Q11)

7 a) To what extent does the Codex text entitled General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CXS 193-1995) meet your country's priority food safety and quality needs?

5 = Extremely useful 4 = Mostly useful 3 = Somewhat useful 2 = Marginally useful 1 = Not at all useful

7. b) To what degree has your country gained additional knowledge from the Codex text entitled General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CXS 193-1995)?

5 = A great deal 4 = Quite a bit 3 = Somewhat 2 = Very little 1 = Not at all

7. c) To what extent has the Codex text entitled General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CXS 193-1995) been used as a baseline to inform your country's food legislation, policies, regulations, programs and/or practices?

5 = A great deal 4 = Quite a bit 3 = Somewhat 2 = Very little 1 = Not at all

If you would like to further elaborate on this, please use the space below.

_____ (open text)

7. d) Please rank your country's level of satisfaction with the following features of the Codex text entitled General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CXS 193-1995).

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
Format and structure	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Language (appropriate and comprehensible)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Method of dissemination	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you would like to provide further comments on the Codex text features, please use the space below.

_____ (open text)

7. e) Please rank the degree that your country recognizes the Codex text entitled General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CXS 193-1995) as being:

	5 = Completely	4 = Mostly	3 = Somewhat	2 = To a minor extent	1 = Not at all
Authoritative	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Credible	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Timely	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you would like to provide further comments on the degree to which the Codex text is recognized, please use the space below. _____ (open text)

7. f) Regarding the use and impact of Codex Texts, to what degree has the Codex text entitled General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CXS 193-1995) been incorporated into your country's practices / procedures for the following interventions:

	5 = Completely	4 = Mostly	3 = Somewhat	2 = To a minor extent	1 = Not at all
Used to support national food control systems	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Helped increase stakeholder awareness of food safety and quality issues and evidence-based interventions and recommendations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Used to inform and to update food safety and quality training and educational programs and related tools	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Helped improve member state commodity trade (internal and exports)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you would like to further elaborate on this, please use the space below.

_____ (open text)

7. g) What is your country's level of satisfaction with the Codex text entitled General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CXS 193-1995)?

5 = Very satisfied 4 = Satisfied 3 = Neutral 2 = Dissatisfied 1 = Very dissatisfied

8. a) To what extent does the Codex text entitled General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969) meets your country's priority food safety and quality needs?

5 = Extremely useful 4 = Mostly useful 3 = Somewhat useful 2 = Marginally useful 1 = Not at all useful

8. b) To what degree has your country you gained additional knowledge from the Codex text entitled General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969)?

5 = A great deal 4 = Quite a bit 3 = Somewhat 2 = Very little 1 = Not at all

8. c) To what extent has the Codex text entitled General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969) been used as a baseline to inform your country's food legislation, policies, regulations, programs and/or practices?

5 = A great deal 4 = Quite a bit 3 = Somewhat 2 = Very little 1 = Not at all

If you would like to further elaborate on this, please use the space below.

_____ (open text)

8. d) Please rank your country's level of satisfaction with the following features of the Codex text General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969).

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
Format and structure	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Language (appropriate and comprehensible)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Method of dissemination	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you would like to provide further comments on the Codex text features, please use the space below.

_____ (open text)

8. e) Please rank the degree that your country recognizes the Codex text entitled General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969) as being:

	5 = Completely	4 = Mostly	3 = Somewhat	2 = To a minor extent	1 = Not at all
Authoritative	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Credible	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Timely	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you would like to provide further comments on the degree to which the Codex text is recognized, please use the space below. _____ (open text)

8. f) Regarding the use and impact of Codex Texts, to what degree has the Codex text entitled General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969) been incorporated into your country's practices / procedures for the following interventions:

	5 = Completely	4 = Mostly	3 = Somewhat	2 = To a minor extent	1 = Not at all
Used to support national food control systems	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Helped increase stakeholder awareness of food safety and quality issues and evidence-based interventions and recommendations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Used to inform and to update food safety and quality training and educational programs and related tools	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Helped improve member state commodity trade (internal and exports)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you would like to further elaborate on this, please use the space below.

_____ (open text)

8. g) What is your country's level of satisfaction with the Codex text entitled General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969)?

5 = Very satisfied 4 = Satisfied 3 = Neutral 2 = Dissatisfied 1 = Very dissatisfied

9. a) To what extent does the Codex text entitled General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods (CXS 1-1985) meet your country's priority food safety and quality needs?

5 = Extremely useful 4 = Mostly useful 3 = Somewhat useful 2 = Marginally useful 1 = Not at all useful

9. b) To what degree has your country gained additional knowledge from the Codex text entitled General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods (CXS 1-1985)?

5 = A great deal 4 = Quite a bit 3 = Somewhat 2 = Very little 1 = Not at all

9. c) To what extent has the Codex text entitled General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods (CXS 1-1985) been used as a baseline to inform your country's food legislation, policies, regulations, programs and/or practices?

5 = A great deal 4 = Quite a bit 3 = Somewhat 2 = Very little 1 = Not at all

If you would like to further elaborate on this, please use the space below.

_____ (open text)

9. d) Please rank your country's level of satisfaction with the following features of the Codex text entitled General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods (CXS 1-1985).

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
Format and structure	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Language (appropriate and comprehensible)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Method of dissemination	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you would like to provide further comments on the Codex text features, please use the space below.

_____ (open text)

9. e) Please rank the degree that your country recognizes the Codex text entitled General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods (CXS 1-1985) as being:

	5 = Completely	4 = Mostly	3 = Somewhat	2 = To a minor extent	1 = Not at all
Authoritative	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Credible	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Timely	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you would like to provide further comments on the degree to which the Codex text is recognized, please use the space below. _____ (open text)

9. f) Regarding the use and impact of Codex Texts, to what degree has the Codex text entitled General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods (CXS 1-1985) been incorporated into your country's practices / procedures for the following interventions:

	5 = Completely	4 = Mostly	3 = Somewhat	2 = To a minor extent	1 = Not at all
Used to support national food control systems	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Helped increase stakeholder awareness of food safety and quality issues and evidence-based interventions and recommendations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Used to inform and to update food safety and quality training and educational programs and related tools	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Helped improve member state commodity trade (internal and exports)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you would like to further elaborate on this, please use the space below.

_____ (open text)

9. g) What is your country's level of satisfaction with the Codex text entitled General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods (CXS 1-1985)?

5 = Very satisfied 4 = Satisfied 3 = Neutral 2 = Dissatisfied 1 = Very dissatisfied

10. a) To what extent does the Codex text entitled General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods (CXG 9-1987) meet your country's priority food safety and quality needs?

5 = Extremely useful 4 = Mostly useful 3 = Somewhat useful 2 = Marginally useful 1 = Not at all useful

10. b) To what degree has your country gained additional knowledge from the Codex text entitled General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods (CXG 9-1987)?

5 = A great deal 4 = Quite a bit 3 = Somewhat 2 = Very little 1 = Not at all

10. c) To what extent has the Codex text entitled General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods (CXG 9-1987) been used as a baseline to inform your country's food legislation, policies, regulations, programs and/or practices?

5 = A great deal 4 = Quite a bit 3 = Somewhat 2 = Very little 1 = Not at all

If you would like to further elaborate on this, please use the space below.

_____ (open text)

10. d) Please rank your country's level of satisfaction with the following features of the Codex text entitled General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods (CXG 9-1987).

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
Format and structure	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Language (appropriate and comprehensible)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Method of dissemination	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you would like to provide further comments on the Codex text features, please use the space below.

_____ (open text)

10. e) Please rank the degree that your country recognizes the Codex text entitled General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods (CXG 9-1987) as being:

	5 = Completely	4 = Mostly	3 = Somewhat	2 = To a minor extent	1 = Not at all
Authoritative	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Credible	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Timely	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you would like to provide further comments on the degree to which the Codex text is recognized, please use the space below. _____ (open text)

10. f) Regarding the use and impact of Codex Texts, to what degree has the Codex text entitled General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods (CXG 9-1987) been incorporated into your country's practices / procedures for the following interventions:

	5 = Completely	4 = Mostly	3 = Somewhat	2 = To a minor extent	1 = Not at all
Used to support national food control systems	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Helped increase stakeholder awareness of food safety and quality issues and evidence-based interventions and recommendations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Used to inform and to update food safety and quality training and educational programs and related tools	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Helped improve member state commodity trade (internal and exports)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you would like to further elaborate on this, please use the space below.

_____ (open text)

10. g) What is your country's level of satisfaction with the Codex text entitled General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods (CXG 9-1987)?

5 = Very satisfied 4 = Satisfied 3 = Neutral 2 = Dissatisfied 1 = Very dissatisfied

11. To what extent do Codex texts meet your country's priority food safety and quality needs?

5 = Extremely useful 4 = Mostly useful 3 = Somewhat useful 2 = Marginally useful 1 = Not at all useful

12. In general, to what degree have new knowledge from Codex texts been gained in your country?

5 = A great deal 4 = Quite a bit 3 = Somewhat 2 = Very little 1 = Not at all

13. To what extent have Codex texts been used as a baseline to inform your country's newly developed food legislation, policies, regulations, programs and/or practices?

5 = A great deal 4 = Quite a bit 3 = Somewhat 2 = Very little 1 = Not at all

If you would like to further elaborate on this, please use the space below.

_____ (open text)

14. Please rank the level of satisfaction in your country with the following features of Codex texts.

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
Format and structure	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Language (appropriate and comprehensible)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Method of dissemination	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you would like to provide further comments on Codex text features, please use the space below.

_____ (open text)

15. Please rank the degree that Codex texts are recognized in your country as being:

	5 = Completely	4 = Mostly	3 = Somewhat	2 = To a minor extent	1 = Not at all
Authoritative	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Credible	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Timely	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you would like to provide further comments on the degree to which the Codex text is recognized, please use the space below. _____ (open text)

16. In general, to what degree are Codex texts used in your country's practices / procedures for the following interventions:

	5 = Completely	4 = Mostly	3 = Somewhat	2 = To a minor extent	1 = Not at all	Do not know
Used to support the harmonization of member state food control systems	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Helped increase stakeholder awareness of food safety and quality issues and evidence-based interventions and recommendations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Used to inform and to update food safety and quality training and educational programs and related tools	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Helped improve member state commodity trade (internal and exports)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you would like to further elaborate on this, please use the space below.

_____ (open text)

17. To what extent are Codex texts disseminated to stakeholders in your country?

5 = Very well 4 = Well 3 = Fair 2 = Poor 1 = Very poor

18. To what extent are the following barriers impeding the use of Codex texts in your country?

	5 = Completely	4 = Mostly	3 = Somewhat	2 = To a minor extent	1 = Not at all
a. Lack of resources	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Lack of local implementation capacity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Irrelevance of Codex texts for the national context/reality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Lack of basic national food safety laws	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Duration of Codex text development	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. Lack of local implementation capacity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g. Duration of national implementation process	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
h. Language issues	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
i. Challenges to catch up with changes in Codex texts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
j. Lack of awareness of Codex provisions by national stakeholders	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you would like to further elaborate on these barriers, please use the space below.

_____ (open text)

19. In general, what is the level of satisfaction in your country with Codex texts?

5 = Very satisfied 4 = Satisfied 3 = Neutral 2 = Dissatisfied 1 = Very dissatisfied

20. Do you have any suggestions to improve the reach, usefulness, or use of Codex texts in your country?

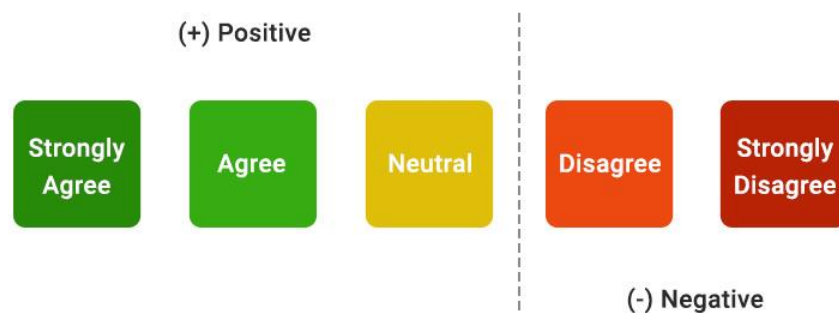
Annex B: Likert Scale Overview

Requirement

Researchers use surveys regularly to measure and analyse the quality of products or services. A straightforward, yet comprehensive survey approach is sought for gauging feedback and information, making it significantly easy to understand and respond. This is a critical requirement to measure informed Member opinion towards the use and impact of Codex texts and will be a significant input into an evolving Codex monitoring and evaluation framework. The Likert scale is a standard classification format for such surveys.

Likert Scale Definition

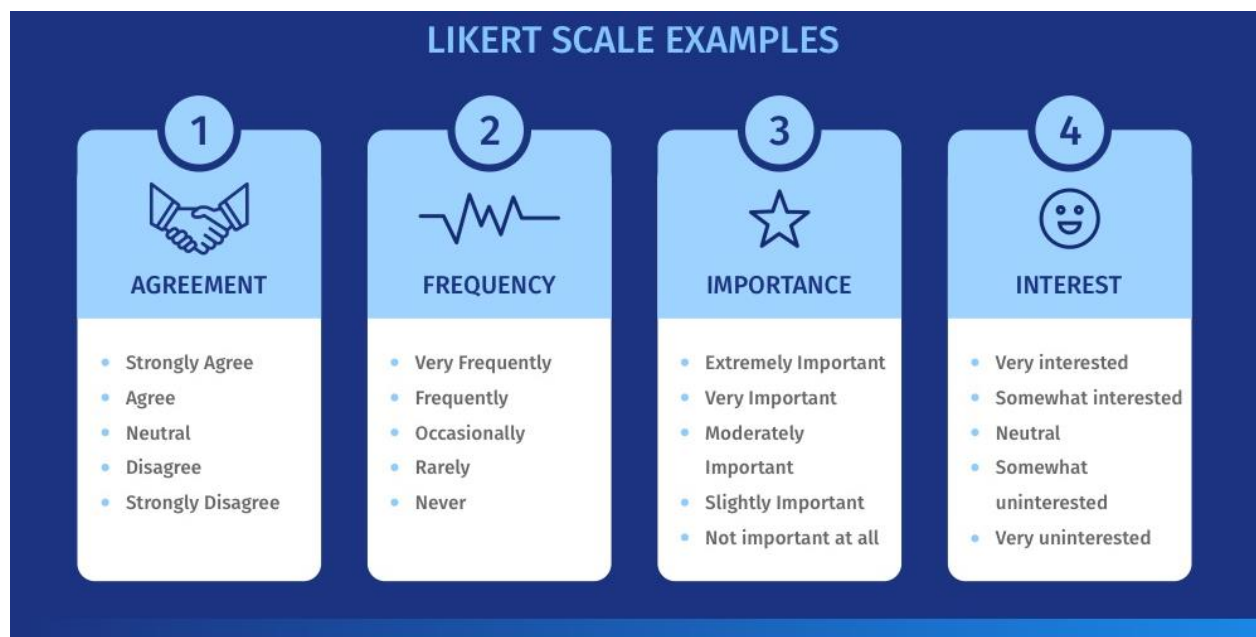
A Likert scale, named after its inventor, the American social scientist Rensis Likert, is a widely used psychometric approach to ask stakeholders about their opinion in survey research using usually 5 or 7 answer options range. Respondents can give a negative, neutral, or positive response to a statement. They are usually used to gauge agreement, importance, or likelihood. Common examples for the Likert scale are when a person selects the number which is considered to reflect the perceived quality of a product.



Likert Scale: How to Use It

Scales are often used in online surveys. Scales are like the improved version of binary “Yes/No” questions and Likert scales are widely used to measure attitudes and opinions with a greater degree of nuance than a simple “yes/no” question.

A Likert scale assumes that the strength/intensity of an attitude is linear, i.e., on a continuum from strongly agree to strongly disagree, and makes the assumption that attitudes can be measured. Likert scales allow quantitative data to be collected hence they can be analysed more easily. The respondents provide their opinion (data) about the quality of a product/service from high to low or better to worse. Likert scale examples are provided in the diagram below.



Advantages and Disadvantages of Likert Scale

Advantages of using a Likert scale in a survey include:

- **Ease of implementation:** This universally accepted scale can be easily understood and applied to various stakeholder satisfaction surveys.
- **Quantifiable answer options:** Quantify Likert items with no apparent relation to the expression and conduct statistical analysis on the received results.
- **Analyse the rank of opinions:** There may be a sample with varied views about a particular topic. Likert scale offers a ranking of the views of these people surveyed.
- **Simple to respond:** Respondents can understand the intent of this scale and quickly answer the question.

However, like all surveys, the validity of the Likert scale attitude measurement can be compromised due to social desirability. This means that stakeholder may lie to put themselves in a positive light. For example, if the Likert scale was measuring implementation and use of a Codex Text, a Member may be reluctant to provide a truthful negative response which may put them in an unfavourable light. This type of question can be designed as an uneven-point scale, e.g., a 5-point or 7-point scale, with a neutral middle option, or as an even-point scale, e.g., a 4-point or 6-point scale, omitting a neutral option and forcing a more positive or more negative response choice.

Annex C: Qualitative Responses from Codex Survey 2022

A1.1 Relevance of General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CXS 193-1995) (Q7a-Q7c)

Region	Comments
AFRICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [Country XXX] in terms of Codex text is not fully covered by all the regulations of Codex Standards, that is to say, by the occasion of lack of means by the government. • [Country XXX] has transposed this standard into a national regulation framed under its Food Act. • Due to lack of advanced instrumentation to analyse heavy metals and mycotoxins over the year, the standards were used to set the limit for these contaminants and referred to an accreditation laboratory. Presently, this equipment has been available, and now the food laboratory is using Codex text methods in their procedures to meet the set limit of the standards in contaminants. • The text has been adopted as a mandatory national standard. • Most referred in national standards. • Currently [Country XXX] is planning on reviewing the Food regulations and a great reference will be made to CXS 193-1995 due to inadequate scientific information on risk assessment on contaminants in food. The standard will provide a basis for [Country XXX] to domesticate the standards into National legislation.
ASIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This standard is used while setting food regulations and formulating national standards.
EURO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The EEC Treaty stipulates that the safety standard must be based either on international standards or on a scientific risk assessment. This standard is also used in scientific and diploma works. • Our national legislation is fully harmonized with the EU legislation since 1994. However, the Codex process (discussions and sharing of knowledge and expertise) and the final standards are considered. To us Codex is important to promote and strengthen effective rules-based multilateral cooperation and to facilitate international trade. • Specific maximum levels established in CXS 193-1995 are considered and in case these maximum levels are ensuring our objective of providing a high level of public health protection, they are taken over in the legislation.
LAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is important to highlight that all national legislations are based on Codex texts. The active participation in Codex has been contributing to the improvement of contaminants risk assessment and risk management processes. • The sanitary regulation of food in [Country XXX] is fundamentally based to a large extent on the guidelines of the Codex Alimentarius for the issue of contaminants.
NASWP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In relation to this issue, in the National Legislation in the first instance it refers to CXS 193-199 in its order of priority. • The new [Country XXX] food regulations are still in its draft form with the codex text embedded in it. • [Country XXX] has its Pure food Regulation 2010 adopted codex text CXS 193-1995. what we need to develop is building capacity (health inspectors, laboratory officers, food processors etc) to effectively implement our food regulation. • Codex GSCTFF MLs are shared with stakeholders for contaminant/commodity combinations for which [Country XXX] does not have published standards. Development of Codex MLs also helps inform/guide [Country XXX] guidance (e.g., see lead in juice draft guidance).
NE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a great deal of reliance on Standard 193 in the work of [Country XXX] standards, legislation, and regulations. It is possible to provide you with the

Region	Comments
	[Country XXX] specifications and legislation approved as [Country XXX] national specifications.

A1.2 Reach of General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CXS 193-1995) (Q7d)

Region	Comments
AFRICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regarding Codex, [Country XXX] is not completely covered by all Codex standards, often due to lack of means from the government. Codex Alimentarius Commission needs to increase the capacity-building on the contaminant so that member countries will be able to collect reliable data to support these standards.
ASIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [Country XXX] collaborates with the Netherlands to prepare a working document for information and use in discussions related to contaminants and toxins in the General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (GSCTFF) for each session of the CCCF. From this experience, the following issues are identified with the current format of the GSCTFF schedule: 1) In all cases, the year of adoption (revision year) of the ML is not stated; 2) In some cases, the portion of the commodity/product to which the ML applies is not stated; 3) In some cases, Codex commodity standards related to the ML are not stated in notes/remarks; and 4) In many cases, a sampling plan related to the ML is not developed. These may lead to inconsistencies in standards in Members when each ML is adopted by each Member country, so the contents in the format of the GSCTFF should be fulfilled in a consistent manner.
EURO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It would be appropriate, besides the standard, to convert all maximum levels established in CXS 193-1995 into a searchable database allowing to extract easily what maximum levels of contaminants are applicable to a certain commodity. It would also be appropriate to be able to provide/link the details on the commodities provided in CXA 4-1989 as updated by CCPR to the commodities listed in CXS 193-1995. Therefore, it is necessary that also CXA 4-1989 is provided as a searchable database and that both databases are interconnected. It would also be appropriate to update the on-line searchable database for GSFA because it seems to be outdated (since 2021) to avoid possible disorder in the trade in case that someone is consulting only this database.
NASWP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a similar version or method could be used to disseminate Codex to countries so it's easier to comprehend and understand the Codex text. The method of dissemination for Codex text is only access by some mostly in city area e.g. [City XXX]. However, for those in the provinces (islands) or further away to remote islands, they won't access to internet access that can access to codex text. not all access to Codex text. We are satisfied that the language in the standard is appropriate and comprehensible but note that the sampling plans are harder to understand. Regarding method of dissemination, we indicated that we are very dissatisfied because the version currently posted on the Codex Website was last updated in 2019, not reflecting MLs adopted in 2021. Faster updates are needed, as referring stakeholders to the CAC or CCCF reports is cumbersome.
NE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please translate all Codex specifications into Arabic to benefit all [Country XXX] and Arab national authorities. Please discuss the issue of translating documents into Arabic in the Secretariat of the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

A1.3 Recognition of General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CXS 193-1995) (Q7e)

Region	Comments
AFRICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is knowledge, but with feeble means to allow for the effective function of Codex Alimentarius standards.
ASIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The GSCTFF should be updated promptly after the CAC every year. In addition, many outdated MLs for contaminants remain in the individual Codex Commodity standards. To prevent confusion, the contaminant provisions in the Commodity standards should be immediately replaced with the reference to the GSCTFF.
EURO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authoritative: Codex texts are by nature voluntary. National legislation (fully harmonized with EU legislation) is the authoritative texts to us. Also, as risk manager Codex is operating only within its narrow mandate, as national risk managers our mandate is broader. So, to better understand what you are looking for here, we would have liked some more explanation from the author of the review. This is an important text; however, we find it difficult to rank it without further explanation. As regards "authoritative", we have put "somewhat" as in the European situation CXS 193-1995 is authoritative only in the cases of commodity/food combinations not regulated at EU level but these are only few cases. In the EU the Codex MLs for contaminants are not nationally regulated (only few combinations), the Codex maximum level is the reference for enforcement. Furthermore the Codex maximum level is also used as a reference to determine the fate of a consignment not compliant with the national level (e.g. in case a consignment is not compliant with the stricter national level, it cannot be placed on the market in the country but in case it complies with the less strict Codex level it can be re-dispatched to any other country) It must be noted that after a JECFA opinion is published highlighting a possible concern for public health, in certain cases it might take several years before Codex MLs are established (if any). As a general comment, we find the term "authoritative" problematic because Codex texts are by nature voluntary. In future surveys, a more appropriate term could be considered.
LAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In general, national legislation is aligned with CODEX as much as possible, but in some cases, considering the characteristics of occurrence and local consumption, we can establish limits for contaminants different from CXS 193-1995. For [Country XXX] the standard established by Codex are very relevant so we need the scientific support but sometimes the process is no so fast as we would like.
NASWP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopted Codex standards are supported by a solid scientific basis, which is why they form a baseline for national legislation. Codex text CXS 193-1995 is developed through science based and our country food regulation 2010 has adopted its content from this text.
NE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the preparation of [Country XXX] national legislation, we rely heavily on Codex legislation.

A1.4 Use and Impact of General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed (CXS 193-1995) (Q7f)

Region	Comments
AFRICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Codex Alimentarius Committee of [Country XXX] does not have the financial means to enable the effective functioning of Codex activities in the country. [Country XXX] is waiting for the transfer of project money from the Codex Trust Fund, having received support since 2021. The standard is used in for example the Food product certification scheme, hence contributing to ensuring production of safe food and facilitation of fair trade.
EURO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In negotiations between exporting and importing countries, the Codex texts are helpful in providing a joint understanding of the frameworks of trade and in

Region	Comments
	providing common guidelines to be adhered to by both parties. Countries involved in trade often have national regulations that differs from one another, and a common ground for discussion is proven necessary for ensuring stable trade.
NASWP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Codex text is useful in accessing our products to markets (international markets). And so, by meeting contaminant limits as prescribed by Codex or being harmonized into our National Food legislation is really important.
NE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [Country XXX] relies very heavily on importing goods from abroad, and the control and inspection of imported goods from abroad is carried out by [Country XXX] legislation adopted by Codex in a large way.

A2.1 Relevance of General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969) (Q8a-Q8c)

Region	Comments
AFRICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All national legislation of my country that deal with food hygiene reference the clause on food hygiene to CXC 1-1969 though sometimes there could be additional requirements as per product/situational needs. The text served as a basis for the development of guides to good hygiene and manufacturing practices to improve the quality of products from priority sectors for [Country XXX]. This food hygiene standard allowed the country to develop national guidelines on food hygiene. Reference has been made in food law on food hygiene to Codex texts.
ASIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
EURO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our national legislation is fully harmonized with the EU legislation since 1994. However, the Codex process (discussions and sharing of knowledge and expertise) and the final standards are considered. To us Codex is important to promote and strengthen effective rules-based multilateral cooperation and to facilitate international trade. Regulations have been developed some years ago. Update. Previous revisions of CXC 1-1969, will have been used as a baseline a great deal. The revised <i>General Principles of Food Hygiene</i>, and in particular its reference to the need for a food safety culture, were the basis for certain amendments in Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 on the hygiene of foodstuffs, introducing such requirement into EU rules (Commission Regulation (EU) 2021/382). Moreover, both Regulation (EC) 852/2004 and CXC 1-1969 rely on the same HACCP principles.
LAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The regulations and legislations are currently under review with a view to revising such. It is important to highlight that all national legislations are based on Codex texts. In a general context, the regulations, and recommendations of the Codex Alimentarius are evaluated in their applicability and harmonization with national regulations. Companies must implement their HACCP system in accordance with the <i>General Hygiene Principles</i>, as appropriate. The inspection team uses it as a reference, the sanctioning team also uses it as a reference. This Standard was adopted as a national standard and is mainly used for the country food inspection programme.
NASWP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Codex text entitled <i>General Principles of Food Hygiene</i> (CXC 1-1969) has been the reference (in its previous version) of the Central American regulation of Good Hygienic Practices for unprocessed and minimally processed foods, as well as for the of Good Manufacturing Practices for the Food Industry. [Country XXX] food safety legislation is based in part on the Codex <i>General Principles for Food Hygiene</i>, i.e., these are taken into account when setting

Region	Comments
	<p>primary and secondary legislation. In [Country XXX] this includes the Food Act 2014, Animal Products Act 1999, and the Wine Act 2033. [Country XXX] has also been an active member in the development of this text.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our food legislations Pure Food regulation 2010 (for general) and Pure food Regulation fishery products 2005 has adopted from this text. Also, our national control plans (fish and fishery products) and our industry standards (fish and fishery products) for the industries. • [Country XXX] uses Codex Alimentarius standards and principles such as the above mentioned to be the basis of covering every aspect that [Country XXX] Food Act 2020 may not have yet to cover. • [Country XXX] is a leader in developing food hygiene and food safety practices. We were co-leaders in developing the revision to the GPFH with the aim of ensuring that it reflected current science and aspects of food safety we have learned through our investigations of foodborne outbreaks and contamination events as a means of transferring knowledge to other countries, especially those with developing economies.
NE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other legislation is used such as internal regulations and systems as well as ISO22000. • It is voluntary in application unless it is expressly stated in the specification of food products and commodities. • [Country XXX] relies heavily on the text of the Codex. General principles of food hygiene in control, inspection, and the HACCP system.

A2.2 Reach of General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969) (Q8d)

Region	Comments
AFRICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The country suggests that Codex Secretariat take lead whenever there are new/revised texts published, to liaise with CCPs encouraging them to disseminate the texts in their countries with a timeline and CCPs to give reports to secretariat of when the dissemination was done. • [Country XXX] requests that French to English translation be improved. • Need capacity-building on food hygiene standard.
EURO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The EU and its Member States commented several times on the draft, indicating that a key principle (central role of the hazard analysis) should be in the core of the text, not in the introduction.
LAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sometimes the Spanish translation uses little-used terms.
NASWP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is a long text, sometimes with information that is repeated, but very useful, its extension adds complexity. • Method of dissemination can be hard to find online. • On the method of dissemination of the Codex text, not all access to internet. Some live on remote islands. • When documents such as this are accepted by the Commission, this should be widely publicized through press releases and social media, including some key points on content.
NE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The [Country XXX] government, represented by the National Committee for Regulating Food Safety Codex in [Country XXX], needs to raise awareness of the importance of the provisions of the Codex Alimentarius Commission for policy makers through the establishment of food safety events. We hope that Codex will support us in this field. The Codex Development Fund project has been submitted for 6 rounds. Unfortunately, we did not get support and approval.

A2.3 Recognition of General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969) (Q8e)

Region	Comments
AFRICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authoritative: the country is alive to the fact that though Codex standards are credible sometimes country needs differ. • Codex text is recognized through reference in the food law.
EURO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authoritative: Codex texts are by nature voluntary. National legislation (fully harmonized with EU legislation) is the authoritative texts to us. Also, as risk manager Codex is operating only within its narrow mandate, as national risk managers our mandate is broader. So, to better understand what you are looking for here, we would have liked some more explanation from the author of the review. This is an important text; however, we find it difficult to rank it without further explanation.
LAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [Country XXX] recognizes all Codex texts as international standards and are used as reference to all national legislations.
NASWP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The text is supported by scientific information recognized worldwide by the countries. • authoritative - 4 credible - 5 timely - 3 It can take a while for Codex texts to be updated. • Readily available on Codex website and is scientifically based.
NE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Credibility stems from the fact that the basic reference for the [Country XXX] food standard is the Codex Alimentarius specifications. • You have been informed by filling out forms and forms for the Codex Development Fund project with all the details in all previous rounds of submission.

A2.4 Use and Impact General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969) (Q8f)

Region	Comments
AFRICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This Code is referenced during development of national legislation which is used in regulating the national trade. Exports are regulated by Codex Standards since the country is a member of WTO. • Further support is still needed for member country to fully grasp the standards. • The guideline has been adapted into a general standard applicable to the entire food industry and enforceable within the Certification of products.
EURO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The substance of this Codex text is retrievable in our regulation; however, we are bound by implementing EU regulations. The basis for guidance documents and other educational programs is our national regulation. In negotiations between exporting and importing countries, the Codex texts are helpful in providing a joint understanding of the frameworks of trade and in providing common guidelines to be adhered to by both parties. Countries involved in trade often have national regulations that differs from one another, and a common ground for discussion is proven necessary for ensuring stable trade. • These interventions have not been revised since the adoption of the General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969), however previous versions will have been used and incorporated into practices and procedures.
LAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It would be suggestive to include specific references, such as the <i>General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed</i>, the Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) and Risk Management Recommendations (RMRs) for residues of veterinary drugs in food.
NASWP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used to support national food control system - 5 increase stakeholder awareness - 3-4 - information from the food control system flows down from the base food safety legislation and then into the education and training (prob 3 for each) helped improve trade - Codex based standards and systems – 4. • From our side, we need to preach or make more awareness, though we have adopted much from this codex text into our food legislations. we are still lacking

Region	Comments
	<p>on awareness and training for our food industries, food handlers on their key roles, measures to be taken during food handling from farm to table application of HACCP principles etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [Country XXX] focuses on its own regulations for trade. That said, we work to ensure that [Country XXX] regulations and Codex texts are consistent to the extent possible. Thus, in most cases, compliance with a Codex Code such as the GPFH should result in general compliance with many [Country XXX] requirements, which generally are more specific and detailed.
NE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Because of the lack of awareness among policy makers of the importance of the texts of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, there are no training and education programs.

A3.1 Relevance of General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods (CXS 1-1985) (Q9a-Q9c)

Region	Comments
AFRICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The country has developed Labelling of Pre-Packaged Foods Regulations guided by the Codex text. • The text was made mandatory by decree. • This standard has been transposed into national legislation framed under the Food Act of 2014. • Capacity is needed to fully understand the standards.
EURO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our national legislation is fully harmonized with the EU legislation since 1994. However, the Codex process (discussions and sharing of knowledge and expertise) and the final standards are considered. To us Codex is important to promote and strengthen effective rules-based multilateral cooperation and to facilitate international trade. • From my knowledge, the (EU) Regulation No 1169/2011 Food Information to Consumers were largely adopted around the GSLPF as a baseline, with the Regulation expanding certain requirements to meet the needs of the EU bloc.
LAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is important to highlight that all national legislations are based on Codex texts. • The standard was used to develop our technical regulation for pre-packaged foods. • This text has been adopted as the primary national standard for labelling pre-packaged goods.
NASWP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 = mostly The Codex Text has been referred to in the development of food policy and regulation regarding labelling of pre-packaged foods. In general, there needs to be clearly justifiable reason to develop policy or regulation for the labelling of pre-packaged foods that would not align with Codex text. (Align doesn't mean match exactly) • Our Pure Food regulation 2010 Part 5 adopted codex text and so our challenge is the implementation parts of it. we need continuous training of health Inspectors understanding BB, minimum durability, Expiry dates, etc. Though our food law's main goal was safe food, but we are still lacking on the implementation or monitoring of labelling on incoming foods. • In [Country XXX], our labelling standards/regulations were finalized prior to work on the Codex text. In general, those standards/regulations are generally in alignment with the GSLPF.
NE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It has been relied upon in [Country XXX] national legislation.

A3.2 Reach of General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods (CXS 1-1985) (Q9d)

Region	Comments
ASIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insertion of hyperlinks when reference to other Codex text is made may be useful and can accommodate readers in reading across different Codex text. For example, in Codex standards that refer to CXS1-1985 under the labelling provision, hyperlink to CXS1-1985 may be inserted.
EURO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very clear, language is appropriate and comprehensible, and all stakeholders are aware of its usage.

A3.3 Recognition of General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods (CXS 1-1985) (Q9e)

Region	Comments
EURO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authoritative: Codex texts are by nature voluntary. National legislation (fully harmonized with EU legislation) is the authoritative texts to us. Also, as risk manager Codex is operating only within its narrow mandate, as national risk managers our mandate is broader. So, to better understand what you are looking for here, we would have liked some more explanation from the author of the review. This is an important text; however, we find it difficult to rank it without further explanation. • Only answered mostly on authoritative as we would use EU legislation as the absolute authority on food regulations, only with free trade agreements and trade disputes would we revert back to GSLPF.
LAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [Country XXX] recognizes all Codex texts as international standards and are used as reference to all national legislations.
NASWP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The process for updating Codex labelling texts has been slowed considerably by the shift to 18 monthly meetings. This affects the timeliness of required updates. For example, updates requiring 2-3 meetings to complete are now 1 year to 18 months slower than they would have been when meetings were held annually. • Codex text CXS-1-1985 is a recognized standard and we are so privileged to adopt much from it. But we should train ourselves (health inspectors, biosecurity officers and others who wish to process food understanding requirements on labelling still have challenges on expiry foods etc.no date marking etc • Because of its general and broad nature, the text is not particularly authoritative. However, we find it to be credible as it is generally aligned with broad-based international labelling standards. It lacked timeliness as it was not established until well after similar regulations had been finalized by many of the Member States.

A3.4 Use and Impact General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods (CXS 1-1985) (Q9f)

Region	Comments
AFRICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More capacity-building. • The text is adopted as national mandatory standard which is widely applied in the food industry.
EURO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The substance of this Codex text is retrievable in our regulation; however, we are bound by implementing EU regulations. The basis for guidance documents and other educational programs is our national regulation. In negotiations between exporting and importing countries, the Codex texts are helpful in providing a joint understanding of the frameworks of trade and in providing common guidelines to be adhered to by both parties. Countries involved in trade often have national regulations that differs from one another, and a common ground for discussion is proven necessary for ensuring stable trade.
NASWP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This Codex standard has facilitated trade at the regional level due to its adoption and harmonization through the RTCA; also, at an international level because it is the reference standard used by our business partners.

Region	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Though we have adopted this codex text, but many are still not aware of it. even there are goods sold with expiry dates or goods with no labels. this is still our issues that we health Inspectors need to continue train ourselves. Shop owners need to aware of expiry dates. So, understanding food labelling is still our challenge or what is the mandatory labelling etc. • As noted earlier, our labelling standards/regulations were finalized prior to work on the Codex text.

A4.1 Relevance of General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods (CXG 9-1987) (Q10a-Q10c)

Region	Comments
EURO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the elaboration of the General Principles for Addition of Nutrients, we proposed including a principle to avoid nutrient addition to energy-dense and nutrient-poor foods. We considered this important to reduce the intake of saturated fat, sugar, and salt and thereby, global risks to health. We would prefer that Codex' guidance on this could have been clearer on this matter. Regarding our national legislation we can inform you that it is fully harmonized with the EU legislation. However, the Codex process (discussions and sharing of knowledge and expertise) and the final standards are considered. We consider Codex important to promote and strengthen effective rules-based multilateral cooperation and to facilitate international trade.
LAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is important to highlight that all national legislations are based on Codex texts. • Our regulation was developed prior to this text of the Codex Alimentarius.
NASWP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 = A great deal The Codex Text has been referred to in the development of food policy and regulation regarding the addition of essential nutrients to food and aligns with the [Country XXX] policy guidelines for the addition of essential nutrients to foods. • Our Pure Food regulation 2010 (first Schedule) adopted CAC/GL 23-1997 (table of contents for nutrient contents) from this text. • Our guidance for addition of essential nutrients to foods was already established prior to the Codex text.

A4.2 Reach of General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods (CXG 9-1987) (Q10d)

Region	Comments
LAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Although we are satisfied in relation to the content of the document, it can still be seen in the document that much of what is expressed is based on principles and not on technical grounds.
NASWP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is unclear what is meant by the question of 'method of dissemination' with regards to this document.

A4.3 Recognition of General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods (CXG 9-1987) (Q10e)

Region	Comments
EURO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authoritative: Codex texts are by nature voluntary. National legislation (fully harmonized with EU legislation) is the authoritative texts to us. Also, as risk manager Codex is operating only within its narrow mandate, as national risk managers our mandate is broader. So, to better understand what you are looking for here, we would have liked some more explanation from the author of the review. This is an important text; however, we find it difficult to rank it without further explanation.

Region	Comments
LAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [Country XXX] recognizes all Codex texts as international standards and are used as reference to all national legislations. • There are differences between English and Spanish versions.
NASWP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The text provides general principles for the addition of essential nutrients and encompass a range of approaches that can be taken by different authoritative bodies. This document is complemented by the WHO/FAO detailed book on Guidelines for fortification which provides a more detailed overview on fortification once the policy guidelines for fortification have been established. • This codex text is being developed and gone through technical reviews (so many processes) and also science base. • Because of its general and broad nature, the text is not particularly authoritative. However, we find it to be credible as it is generally aligned with broad-based international standards for essential nutrient addition. It lacked timeliness as it was not established until well after similar regulations had been finalized by many of the Member States.

A4.4 Use and Impact of General Principles for the Addition of Essential Nutrients to Foods (CXG 9-1987) (Q10f)

Region	Comments
EURO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The substance of this Codex text is retrievable in our regulation; however, we are bound by implementing EU regulations. The basis for guidance documents and other educational programs is our national regulation. In negotiations between exporting and importing countries, the Codex texts are helpful in providing a joint understanding of the frameworks of trade and in providing common guidelines to be adhered to by both parties. Countries involved in trade often have national regulations that differs from one another, and a common ground for discussion is proven necessary for ensuring stable trade.
NASWP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many of our stakeholders are not well informed or even trained. Even us health inspectors were not looking at this area, especially on food inspections. • As noted earlier, our standards/regulations for essential nutrient addition were finalized prior to work on the Codex text.
NE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of awareness of policymakers of the importance of the provisions of the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

A5. Relevance of Codex Texts (Q13)

Region	Comments
AFRICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All national legislation on food safety takes into account Codex texts as the primary reference. This is due to the challenges of high cost of data generation to inform establishment of national policies and legislation. • Capacity-building. • The food law makes reference to Codex Text and regulations will be aligned to Codex standards.
ASIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food regulation also refers to Codex texts. • [Country XXX] recently joined the CAC and became the youngest member since 2018, since then, [Country XXX] National Food Safety Strategy 2020-2025 had been approved, most of the contents were adopted from Codex works.
EURO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [Country XXX] complies with the requirements of the regulatory enactments of the European Union. • Our national legislation is fully harmonized with the EU legislation since 1994. However, the Codex process (discussions and sharing of knowledge and expertise) and the final standards are considered. To us Codex is important to

Region	Comments
	<p>promote and strengthen effective rules-based multilateral cooperation and to facilitate international trade.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The question is a bit odd(grammatically and generally) clicked somewhat box as a middle of the road answer. Codex standards usually work as a baseline for standards in trade, with national legislation going beyond Codex standards to provide more national-specific regulations for food.
LAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As mentioned before, all national legislations are developed based on Codex texts.
NASWP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have answered 'quite a bit' but not 'a great deal'. Our rationale for this response is that in [Country XXX] there is a statutory process under legislation that requires a risk assessment to be conducted when standards are developed and adopted into the Food Standards Code. This requires an assessment of national needs, food consumption data etc. So, while we harmonise as far as practicable with Codex standards, there are local considerations to be incorporated into [Country XXX] food standards. Codex standards however are recognised as the international benchmark, as a WTO signatory, and have utility as a risk management tool. The new draft [Country XXX] Food Regulations is based on Codex text. Codex texts were adopted into our national food legislation. Food safety needs to improve its communication among all stakeholders participated in food production. we have exported fish and fishery products to international markets but we still lacking to communicate to other stakeholders who are striving to export their food products. In many cases, [Country XXX] standards/regulations have been finalized prior to work in Codex, so the Codex text is not used as a baseline. However, efforts are made to ensure consistency/harmonization, where possible. In cases where [Country XXX] does not have a published standard (e.g., certain contaminants), Codex MLs do help inform/guide the [Country XXX] guidance.
NE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulatory authorities depend on the mandatory [Country XXX] standard, most of which are based on the Codex Alimentarius specifications. It has been relied upon in [Country XXX] national legislation and specifications.

A6. Reach of Codex Texts (Q14)

Region	Comments
AFRICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Format: Cross referenced clauses e.g., Contaminants, labelling, methods of analysis, food additives etc makes it difficult to understand the codex texts. Method of dissemination: Publishing texts on the website and ending there may not bear many fruits as compared to encouraging dissemination at national level. Codex Secretariat should follow up with CCPs to ensure newly published texts are disseminated.
ASIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Format and structure of each codex text are different. Insertion of hyperlinks when reference to other Codex text is made may be useful and can accommodate readers in reading across different Codex text. For example, in Codex standards that refer to CXS1-1985 under the labelling provision, hyperlink to CXS1-1985 may be inserted. The unavailability of the document in the Portuguese version which is the national language of [Country XXX], causing dissemination to the national level making it an obstacle.
EURO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In general, we find it important that the text is easy to read and that it is clear on the purpose and scope, this is not always the case. However, it is getting better as old texts are revised. On the downside Codex texts are obviously negotiated text and therefore sometimes not so clear. The functionalities of the Codex website are quite limited: Codex texts should be accessible in a dynamic digital format and not only in PDF. Also, there is still no

Region	Comments
	electronic record management system implemented to allow access to successive older versions of Codex texts. Finally, there is no direct way of knowing if a given text is under revision when downloading it, which can be misleading for anyone who does not follow closely Codex work.
LAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In general, we are satisfied with Codex texts but we recognize that some texts need to be improved specially to consider different realities of countries.
NASWP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> While we are relatively satisfied with the way Codex texts are presented, we have chosen a 'neutral' ranking because there are a couple of shortcomings that we have identified but acknowledge are difficult to address and strike the right balance for. Firstly, there tends to be a lot of repetitive background text. This could be minimised by cross-referencing other documents, noting however, that over reliance on cross-referencing of texts can also result in standards being less user friendly. Secondly, some of the standards are becoming quite lengthy and unwieldy as they are expanded with annexes. An example of this is Codex <i>Guidelines for Nutrition Labelling</i>. Related to this, we wonder whether there could be some consistency around when something should be a standard versus a guideline versus an annex. Information about Codex text are readily available on codex website. only few can access and some are not. It is also our failure to make awareness for others accessing the codex website. In terms of language, some terminology is Eurocentric. For dissemination, not all stakeholders are aware of the Codex website, and for many standards the Codex website needs to be updated.
NE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is relied upon in the preparation of [Country XXX] specifications as a main reference.

A7. Recognition of Codex Texts (Q15)

Region	Comments
AFRICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The country recognizes Codex as credible and are the primary source of information for national consultations. However, country needs differ and sometimes may take precedent over recommendations in Codex texts.
EURO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authoritative: Codex texts are by nature voluntary. National legislation (fully harmonized with EU legislation) is the authoritative texts to us. Also, as risk manager Codex is operating only within its narrow mandate, as national risk managers our mandate is broader. So, to better understand what you are looking for here, we would have liked some more explanation from the author of the review. The ongoing EXEC work on the Future of Codex might prove helpful to improve overall efficiency of Codex. The FAO foresight department will also help Codex to address emerging challenges.
LAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> They are not widely known, requested nor publicized; therefore, many may not be aware of their existence and applications. [Country XXX] recognizes all Codex texts as international standards and are used as reference to all national legislations. The Spanish version indicates "authoritative" and not reliable, so for this item in all the questions it is difficult to understand the query, so you must always see the two versions.
NASWP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> While we have rated Codex texts as being only 'somewhat' timely, we recognise timeliness is to a degree necessarily sacrificed to ensure Codex texts are authoritative and credible. Any efficiency gains in getting Codex texts drafted would need to take into account the paramount importance of the consensus and science-basis of Codex standard setting. One place where efficiency gains could be made while respecting current process would be to improve resourcing of the independent joint WHO/FAO risk assessment bodies.

Region	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These codex texts are internationally recognized, supporting our trade to many other markets or the trade barriers are reduced or unlikely. If we are to develop our own, it means there is likely high in terms of trade barriers. • Because of their general and broad nature, Codex texts are not always particularly authoritative. However, they are generally seen as credible when they are well aligned with the scientific advice of the joint expert bodies. Codex text are not always considered timely, because work is often undertaken after national regulations have been finalized by Member states.

A8. Use and Impact of Codex Texts (Q16)

Region	Comments
AFRICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training/Education programs and stakeholder awareness is mostly done using national legislation which may include additional requirements (other than what is contained in Codex texts).
EURO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The substances of Codex texts are retrievable in our regulation; however, we are bound by implementing EU regulations. The basis for guidance documents and other educational programs is our national regulation. In negotiations between exporting and importing countries, the Codex texts are helpful in providing a joint understanding of the frameworks of trade and in providing common guidelines to be adhered to by both parties. Countries involved in trade often have national regulations that differs from one another, and a common ground for discussion is proven necessary for ensuring stable trade. More specific on food export (as it is not a part of the EEA agreement) we have implemented national regulations on export of food, feed, live animals, and products for breeding. These national regulations are based on Codex texts and incorporate Codex standards.
NASWP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is not clear whether this question is largely aimed at groupings like the European Union. We have taken member states to mean countries rather than states within our country; and that 'internal' refers to intra-bloc trade rather than imports.
NE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of awareness among policymakers of the importance of the provisions of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and the food safety system in [Country XXX].

A9. Barriers to Codex Text Use (Q18)

Region	Comments
AFRICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most national stakeholders are not aware of availability and importance of Codex texts due to low dissemination attributed to lack of enough resources to ensure effective dissemination. • We will rather speak of the insufficiency of sensitization instead of lack of sensitization. • Inadequate finances impede the domestication or aligning the texts to national laws.
ASIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [Country XXX] is on the way to establishing our National Codex Committee in order to contribute more to Codex works, by involving all stake holders and other lines ministries.
EURO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The barriers referred to in this matter are not applicable to the regulated by the regulatory enactments of the European Union.
LAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responses voted 'Minor extent' or "Not at all", due to the lack of publicizing the existence availability, use and implementation of Codex Standards. • Considering the territory extension, it is not so easy to perform local capacity building programs on a regular basis.
NASWP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have answered that irrelevance of Codex texts for the national context/reality is 'somewhat' impeding the use of Codex texts in our country. This reflects the

Region	Comments
	<p>fact that we have a statutory process for standard setting under legislation and there are legitimate reasons to consider country-specific scientific evidence. So, we as far as practicably align our standards with Codex. There is also an element of considering the maturity of the food safety culture of commercial sectors and the maturity of the risk basis of regulators. Noting this, it is appropriate to use outcomes-based standards (perhaps more so than some Codex texts) that recognise the responsibility of industry to demonstrate their ability to meet the outcomes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCP in [Country XXX] is in Food Safety in Environmental health. A staff also carrying out other duties such as inspection of food processing, follow up food complaints, food imports, quarantine etc
NE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of awareness of the importance of the texts of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and food safety.

A10. Suggestions to Improve Reach, Usefulness, or Use of Codex Texts at the National Level (Q20)

Region	Comments
AFRICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure substantial funding for Codex activities (support from partners, Increase advocacy for the inclusion of Codex activities in the national budget). • Codex texts form the basis of most of the food standards in [Country XXX]. Most of them have been adopted as national standards. • National Codex Committee needs financial means to operate or implement Codex standards. • Reach out to all stakeholders involved in the use of Codex texts is key. As a developing economy, political will and support is necessary to support dissemination of Codex texts at national level. • Raising awareness on the usefulness of Codex texts, especially at the levels of authorities, industry, and artisanal processors. • None because we believe that Codex texts are in the right track though we can improve in the duration of developing them .e.g., less than 2 years if data is available. • Through the CTF programme we will be trying to raise awareness on Codex texts through preparation of advocacy materials. • Review the role and the precision of the mandates of the EWGs because most of the time the presidents of the Codex committees rely mainly on the decisions of the EWG to pronounce the decision of the Codex committee, while the EWGs represent only a minority of the member countries. • The national Codex coordination committee needs to be capacitated to understand the Codex work . • Need for our countries to better identify the needs for standards for our local products in order to propose them to Codex work. • We need national mobilization on the awareness amongst stakeholders on the Codex Text and its dissemination at national level. Education on Codex amongst stakeholders is very important in this case. • Capacity building and funding. • It is important to develop Information, Education and Communication materials based on Codex texts which can be interpreted in local languages for wider dissemination. • Documents are available on the website but not all stakeholders are aware of codex website and text are available for free. • Increased capacity building in online commenting system to ensure stakeholders contribute to standards development. awareness on the importance of Codex standards in food and feed safety.
ASIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More stakeholder engagement.

Region	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better and more harmonized translated versions of Codex texts. Improve the dissemination of Codex texts. • Held dissemination report of Codex meeting to stakeholders and involve stakeholder in Codex work. • Expanding online databases which enable everyone to easily search Codex standards would be useful. • Codex texts are very high level, so sometimes it is difficult to know what I should do. Therefore, it would be good for Codex to support countries for its implementation. • Availability of Codex texts in Malay and Tamil to aid understanding among our local industry players. • Capacity development and technical support to establish our NCC.
EURO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve and speed up the terms of the procedure for harmonization of Codex standards. • In order to disseminate the materials of the Codex Alimentarius to food business operators, funding is necessary to translate these materials into the official language. • To increase the national awareness on Codex, the training for officials and other stakeholders can be done. The Codex texts can be translated into [Country XXX] language. • Communication campaign would be beneficial to really get the message across of the importance of Codex. • Strengthen the approval process for new work and capacity for revisions to ensure a high degree of relevance and timeliness of adopted new and revised standards. • Ensure that adopted standards have the consensus-derived support of the Codex Membership. • Ensure that all legitimate factors are duly taken into consideration during the adoption process. • Adopt the One Health approach to Codex standard development. • Ensure that Codex standards contribute to and do not negatively affect progress towards overarching international goals – SDGs, climate action, biodiversity conservation and the transition to more sustainable food systems. • Continue enhancing work management practices and systems (SP Goal 5) to facilitate participation of national experts in the standard development process. • Ensure an easy online access to Codex texts providing usability but keeping transparency and traceability to the development process of the texts. It is important to find the latest changes of a text in a very easy way.
LAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical assistance to develop and implement a National Codex Policy. • Improve engagement of high-level authorities and improve participation of the private sector in the discussions on the development of national positions and as a consequence Codex texts that reflect the country's reality and needs. • Raising awareness of Codex texts and training on how to use the resources uploaded to the webpage. • Improve translation. • 1.- It may be suggested to include a section within the standard that refers to the changes made to it to facilitate the updating of concepts/guidelines; or refer to the link of the history of previously changed rules. 2.-Ensure that the Spanish translation reflects the meaning of what is mentioned in the original (English) version. • We would like to have more investment in scientific support in order to develop faster the standards of limits of contaminants, pesticides etc. or others from the general subject committee's standard.

Region	Comments
NASWP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There could be more done in terms of raising awareness of Codex texts. This may be at the international level but also at the national level. The use of infographics to make messaging digestible and understandable. • Greater dissemination of Codex texts across different sectors in the country. • I would suggest a wider distribution of the text to a broader stakeholder group to raise awareness. • Develop similar text and should be able to be adopted to country context. • Continue to promote the Codex texts during the World Food Safety Day and during other conferences and meetings. • Yes, Food safety (CCP) should prepare budget to make consultations with stakeholders about the importance of using codex texts where we can look for these texts. also, needs training to really understand these texts on their applications by food handlers, food processors or consumers. everyone has duty to play. • Faster posting of documents on the Codex website so that we can link to them. Starting earlier in the process when countries implemented their own standards or legislation. Finalizing standards and reaching consensus faster to ensure the timeliness and usefulness of Codex texts.
NE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raising awareness and training on the importance of Codex standards. • The addition of new Codex standards during annual meetings. • I suggest that updates be done every five years, not for a shorter period, so we may apply. • Please kindly re-update and activate the work of the commodity committees and their specifications because we are in dire need to use them.