



JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

Forty-seventh Session

STRATEGIC PLAN 2020-2025: IMPLEMENTATION REPORT 2022-2023

(Prepared by the Codex Secretariat in collaboration with FAO and WHO)

BACKGROUND

1. The 42nd Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC42) adopted the Codex Strategic Plan 2020-2025 as proposed by the 77th Session of the Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CCEXEC77).¹
2. At CCEXEC81², the Codex Secretariat presented an in-depth review of the monitoring framework of the Codex Strategic Plan 2020-2025, with a view to providing complete, objective, and reliable information to the Membership on its implementation. As several indicators that were included in the Codex Strategic Plan 2020-2025 were not readily amenable to monitoring and evaluation, clarification on the way the indicators should be measured as well as streamlining of the whole framework were proposed. CCEXEC81 recommended adoption by CAC44 of the amended monitoring framework, which was also endorsed by CAC44.³
3. In reviewing the first implementation report (2020-2021 biennium)⁴, CAC45 noted the continuing evolution of the monitoring framework and requested the Codex Secretariat to further review it with the intent to reduce the number of indicators to those where the most useful information was collected.⁵
4. The Codex Secretariat presented a further revised monitoring framework to CCEXEC84.⁶ CCEXEC84 suggested adjustments to the proposal made and invited CCEXEC Members to provide any further detailed comments on the revised monitoring framework directly to the Secretariat as soon as possible so that they could be taken into account for the preparation of the next report on the Strategic Plan 2020-2025.⁷ Comments were received from one Regional Coordinator while finalizing the monitoring framework. CAC46 endorsed CCEXEC84 conclusions and recommendations.⁸ For ease of reference, the revised monitoring framework for the Codex Strategic Plan 2020-2025, as amended by CCEXEC81 and CCEXEC84, is presented in Annex I.
5. This comprehensive implementation report focuses on achievements in the 2022-23 biennium. It reports against the indicators set out in the monitoring framework to the best extent possible. Where data were available for previous biennia, a comparison is presented, otherwise a narrative is included. Several indicators are measured through the survey on use and impact of Codex texts. Under a few indicators, additional information on differences between high income countries (HICs) and low and middle-income countries (LMICs) stemming from the survey reports were added. Members can refer to the 2022 and 2023 survey reports available on the Codex website for additional information, including on regional results.⁹
6. The experiences learned from the application of this monitoring framework that will be used in proposing a monitoring framework for the next Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031, once the formulation of its strategic goals and outcomes is completed.

¹ REP19/CAC

² CX/EXEC 21/81/5 Add.1 and REP21/EXEC2 (paragraphs 86-91)

³ REP21/CAC (paragraph 11)

⁴ CX/CAC 22/45/14

⁵ REP22/CAC (paragraph 187)

⁶ CX/EXEC 23/84/4

⁷ REP23/EXEC1

⁸ REP23/CAC (paragraph 16)

⁹ <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/publications/en/>

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CODEX STRATEGIC PLAN 2020-2025

Goal 1. Address current, emerging and critical issues in a timely manner

Objective 1.1 Identify needs and emerging issues

Outcome 1.1.1 Improved ability of Codex to develop standards relevant to the needs of its Members

Indicator 1.1.1 Extent that Codex Members recognize Codex texts as meeting Members' priority food safety and quality needs

7. Regarding indicator 1.1.1 (Extent that Codex Members recognize Codex texts as meeting Members' priority food safety and quality needs), CCEXEC84 agreed to draw this information from the related questions in the Codex survey on the use and impact of Codex texts. As shown in table 1, in 2022 and in 2023, over 80% of Members considered Codex texts extremely or mostly useful in meeting their priority food safety and quality needs.

Table 1: Extent that Codex Members recognize Codex texts as meeting Members' priority food safety and quality needs

	2022 survey	2023 survey
Extremely useful	21.2%	14.3%
Mostly useful	67.1%	71.4%
Somewhat useful	8.2%	12.5%
Marginally useful	3.5%	1.8%
Grand Total	100.0%	100.0%

Objective 1.2 Prioritize needs and emerging issues

Outcome 1.2.1 Timely Codex response to emerging issues and the needs of Members

Indicator 1.2.1 Time taken from the identification of new issues to the submission of proposals for new work to CCEXEC

8. As shown in Table 2, during this period, except for 2021 and 2023, new issues were submitted to CCEXEC and approved by CAC as new work proposals within 2 years.

9. CAC44 (2021) was held virtually, and time dedicated to new work was limited. The three new work proposals that were approved at CAC46 in 2023 more than two years after their identification, had been delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. These were: (i) the amendments to the *General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods* (CXS 1-1985): Labelling of pre-packaged foods in joint presentation and multipack formats, that was first presented at CCFL44 (2017); (ii) the development of Guidance for monitoring the stability and purity of reference materials and related stock solutions of pesticides during prolonged storage, that was first presented at CCPR 51 in 2019; and (iii) the revision of the *Guidelines on the Application of the General Principles of Food Hygiene to the Control of Pathogenic Vibrio Species in Seafood* (CXG 73-2010) that were first proposed at CCFH51 in 2019.

10. It is important to note the valuable role of discussion papers in scoping work from the point of first identification to presentation of a project proposal, particularly on complex issues, which facilitates the following work on developing or revising the proposed Codex text.

Table 2: Time taken from the identification of new issues to the submission of proposals for new work to CCEXEC

Year	CAC Session	Number of new work approved within 1 year from identification of new issue	Number of new work approved within 2 years from identification of new issue	Number of new work approved in more than 2 years from identification of new issue	% of new work approved within 2 years from identification of new issue
2018	CAC41	3	0	0	100%
2019	CAC42	4	3	0	100%
2020	CAC43	1	1	0	100%

2021	CAC44	1	0	3	25%
2022	CAC45	2	0	0	100%
2023	CAC46	2	2	3	57%

Indicator 1.2.2 Time taken for prioritized emerging issues to result in revised or new Codex texts

11. Table 3 below shows the percentage of non-numerical standards and revisions adopted between 2018 and 2023 within 5 years' time.¹⁰ The majority of final texts was adopted within 5 years.

Table 3: Time taken for prioritized emerging issues to result in revised or new Codex texts

Year	CAC Session adopting new texts	Percentage of Codex texts adopted within 5 years
2018	CAC41	86%
2019	CAC42	100%
2020	CAC43	76%
2021	CAC44	94%
2022	CAC45	79%
2023	CAC46	70%

12. Table 3 does not capture extensive work ongoing in some committees to revise and/or restructure existing standards e.g. Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS) and Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA). Given the differences in the standard setting mechanism, the numbers of standards set and their complexity, it is therefore not possible to give a complete picture of the rate of standards development with a single methodology. While some of the standards adopted by CAC46 took more than 5 years (e.g. revision of the standard on follow-up formula), it is noteworthy that work on these items was of a complex nature and revision was conducted in a stepwise manner, and was successfully concluded in 2023.

Goal 2. Develop standards based on science and Codex risk-analysis principles

Objective 2.1 Use scientific advice consistently in line with Codex risk analysis principles

Outcome 2.1.1 Scientific advice is taken into account consistently and in line with Codex risk analysis principles by all relevant committees during the standard setting process

Indicator 2.1.1 Proportion of texts considered by CCEXEC, as part of its work to monitor the progress of standards development, for which reports by subsidiary body Chairs indicate how scientific advice was used and any other legitimate factors were considered in developing Codex texts

13. The critical review process includes comments by the Codex Secretariat and the Committee Chairpersons on the use of or need for scientific advice for the different topics under consideration by the various committees. For CCFA and Codex Committee on Contaminants in Food (CCCF) there is a well-defined and well-established mechanism in place for obtaining scientific advice, as need be, from the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA), for the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR) from the Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR), for Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH) from the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meetings on Microbiological Risk (JEMRA), and for Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU) from the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meetings on Nutrition (JEMNU).

14. The role of science and other legitimate factors have been extensively discussed during the biennium with regard to establishing MRLs for zilpaterol hydrochloride in cattle muscle, liver and kidney. During those discussions, Members on several occasions confirmed their appreciation of and the value of the scientific advice provided. CAC46 in 2023 adopted the proposed MRLs.

¹⁰ This is based on Codex texts that were adopted following submission and approval of new work proposals. Standards without a job number such as ongoing work and amendments were excluded from the scope of this study. Numerical standards such as maximum residue limits (MRLs), food additive provisions and maximum levels for contaminants that are developed following approval of priority lists for scientific advice were also excluded.

15. CCFH52 (March 2022) made several requests for scientific advice to JEMRA and the interlinkage between the availability of scientific advice and the work of the committee was well recognized. CCFH52 requested the additional scientific advice from JEMRA to support the work related to the development of the guidelines for the safe use and reuse of water in food production; and to support the revision of the existing Codex texts on *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter* in chicken meat and *Listeria monocytogenes* in foods. CCFH53 (December 2022) requested JEMRA to provide scientific advice on viruses in foods.

16. With regard to CCPR, risk management work on setting MRL for pesticides is based on the provisions of scientific advice by JMPR. This is based on the reports provided annually by regular meetings of JMPR based on the priority list of pesticides for evaluation by JMPR agreed by CCPR and approved by CAC. Subject to availability of resources JMPR has organized extraordinary meetings to address recommendations for additional MRLs for existing compounds. Although there were no extraordinary meetings organized in 2022 and 2023, these meetings are organized to reduce the JMPR backlog of pesticide evaluation and consequently increased availability of Codex MRLs for pesticides for international trade. Extraordinary meetings do not address periodic reviews or new compounds that require full residue and toxicological evaluation but additional uses for existing compounds that have been fully evaluated by JMPR. The organization of additional (extraordinary) JMPR meetings is part of the ongoing discussion on short-term approach to enhance the operational capacity of JMPR and CCPR.

17. In the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRVDF), the priority list of veterinary drugs for evaluation or re-evaluation by JECFA is the foundation for its work. CAC46 (November 2023) approved the priority list of veterinary drugs forwarded by CCRVDF26 (February 2023). One area of risk management work on setting MRLs for veterinary drugs is based on the reports provided annually by regular meetings of JECFA. In addition, CCRVDF conducts extrapolation of existing MRLs for veterinary drugs in foods to one or more species. Although these MRLs are recommended by CCRVDF, this can only be done on the basis of the outcomes of JECFA evaluations available from JMPR reports. The procedure for CCRVDF to extrapolate MRLs is described in the Risk Analysis Principles applied by CCRVDF in the Procedural Manual, and it does not allow extrapolation of MRLs for veterinary drugs to one or more species if the compound has not been previously assessed by JECFA.

18. In CCFA, the priority list of substances proposed for evaluation by JECFA is an important pillar of its work. More and more substances have been put on the priority list which need to be further prioritized considering the limited resources of JECFA. With the confirmation from sponsors regarding data availability, these priority-listed substances can ensure that the necessary data are obtained to support the evaluation process. CAC46 (November 2023) approved the priority list of substances proposed for evaluation by JECFA as forwarded by CCFA53 (2023).

19. In CCCF, the Priority list of contaminants for evaluation by JECFA is a standing item on the agenda to provide the scientific basis for the establishment of maximum levels for contaminants in food and feed. In addition, FAO and WHO can also provide scientific advice through *ad hoc* expert meetings/ consultations that can assist CCCF with the establishment of MLs or development of codes of practice. For the period 2022-2023, CAC45 (2022) adopted, amongst others, MLs for aflatoxins for several food categories based upon JECFA risk assessments. CAC46 (2023) approved new work on developing a Code of practice/Guidelines for the prevention or reduction of ciguatera poisoning as proposed by CCCF16 (2023). The CoP is proposed by final adoption by CAC47. The needed expert scientific advice was available through the FAO/WHO Report of the Expert Meeting on Ciguatera Poisoning, published in 2020.

20. At CCNFSDU43 (March 2023) the revision of the *Standard for Follow-up Formula* (CXS 156-1987), which had been in development for over 10 years was finalized. The revised Standard for Follow-up Formula for Older Infants and Product for Young Children was adopted by CAC46 (2023). This work had amongst others taken into account two scientific reports from FAO and one from the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meetings on Nutrition (JEMNU) on protein quality and nitrogen conversion factors.

21. CCNFSDU44 continued discussions on the General Principles for establishing Nutrient Reference Values – Requirement (NRVs-R) for persons aged 6 to 36 months and on the associated NRVs, which took into account the FAO scientific report on Review of derivation methods for dietary intake reference values for older infants and young children as well as the more recent Joint FAO/WHO scientific advice on the update of nutrient intake values (NIVs) for infants and young children from birth through three years of age.

22. The Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL) at its 45th session in 2019 had requested scientific advice from FAO and WHO to support its work on developing allergen labelling. CCFL46 (2021) had noted that the delay in the expert meetings and publication of the final reports of the *ad hoc* Joint FAO/WHO Expert Consultation on Risk Assessment of Food Allergens due to the COVID-19 pandemic which had impacted progress on work on food allergen labelling. At CCFL47 (May 2023) the revision of allergen provisions in the *General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods* (CXS 1-1985) progressed to Step 5, awaiting

further progress once the two outstanding full reports (Part 3 and Part 4) of the Ad hoc Joint FAO/WHO Expert Consultation on Risk Assessment of Food Allergens were made available later in 2023. The delay of the Part 3 report also impacted the progress on the proposed draft annex to the CXS 1-1985 – Guidelines on the use of precautionary allergen labelling, which was returned to Step 2 for further drafting.

Objective 2.2 Promote the submission and use of globally representative data in developing and reviewing Codex standards

Outcome 2.2.1 Codex standards are developed with reference to globally representative data

Indicator 2.2.1 Proportion and regional distribution of Codex Members who contribute to calls for data from working groups and Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committees/Meetings

23. FAO continues to develop Members' capacity to participate in and submit data to FAO/WHO Expert Committees. In the 2022-2023 biennium, FAO started implementing a project to develop a toolbox for Veterinary Drug Residues Risk Assessment. The aim was to strengthen the understanding of JECFA procedures by stakeholders interested in veterinary drug residues in food, such as regulatory agencies responsible for veterinary drug approval or food safety standards, the pharmaceutical industry, producers in animal agriculture, and veterinary associations. The toolbox was also designed for use by potential JECFA experts to broaden the pool of experts available for the JECFA roster and to ensure greater geographical representation, particularly from regions with previously low representation in FAO/WHO expert bodies.

24. FAO continued to support countries on the use of individual-level quantitative dietary data shared through the FAO/WHO Global Individual Food Consumption Data Tool (FAO/WHO GIFT) to improve the consistency and reliability of dietary exposure assessments, a critical step in establishing suitably protective limits for microbiological or chemical agents in food. Promoting dietary data and its importance for food safety continued as a part of regular capacity building and advocacy activities carried out by FAO. For example, a webinar on the use of dietary data in exposure risk assessment was delivered in 2022 through the Community of Practice (COP) for Dietary Assessment in LMICs.

25. A series of Codex e-learning courses, comprising of 11 lessons of self-paced learning, was completed and made available in English, French and Spanish on the FAO eLearning academy¹¹. The courses offer an introduction to Codex, explain the role of science and risk analysis in Codex and provide guidance on how to engage effectively in Codex at national, regional and international levels. All courses are offered free of charge as a public good. A digital badge certificate is issued upon successful completion of a final test at the end of each course. A fifth course on risk assessment in the framework of Codex is currently under development.

26. WHO facilitated submissions received by the Global Environment Monitoring System - Food Contamination Monitoring and Assessment Programme (GEMS/Food) in response to calls for data by CCCF to support the setting of MLs. WHO conducted a series of training workshops on generating and submitting data for Codex work, including exposure assessments for JECFA and the establishment of maximum limits (MLs). This program was initiated in the summer of 2023 with a workshop in the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) region. Additional training sessions on exposure assessment for chemical and biological hazards, including the introduction of tools for data collection, management, and analysis, were scheduled for 2024-2025.

Objective 2.3 Promote sufficient and sustainable funding for expert bodies that deliver scientific advice

Outcome 2.3.1 FAO and WHO expert bodies are providing scientific advice within timeframes agreed between committees and FAO/WHO, and these timeframes allow standard development to progress in a timely manner

Indicator 2.3.1 Extent of and any changes in core funding for scientific advice within FAO and WHO

27. FAO and WHO continued assigning high importance to the scientific advice programme to provide a strong scientific foundation for all Codex standards. The delivery of scientific advice continued at an accelerated level. This was made possible through the highly appreciated contributions of Canada, the European Union, Japan, Republic of Korea, and the United States of America.

28. While Codex remained the primary beneficiary of the joint FAO/WHO scientific advice programme, other UN agencies (for example, the World Food Programme) also requested scientific advice, and outputs of the programme were also used directly by FAO and WHO members to strengthen their science-based decision making on food safety and nutrition issues at national and regional levels.

¹¹ <https://elearning.fao.org/local/search/?src=eyJ0ZXN0byI6ImNvZGV4Iiwic2VyaWVzIjoilwiwVsZWFzZWRhdGUiOiIiLCJsaW5ndWEiOiJlbiImlzbnV3IjoilwiY2VydCI6IiIml1vYmlsZSI6IiJ9>

29. In FAO, the funds supporting activities and staff costs related to the provision of scientific advice originated from FAOs regular budget and through extra-budgetary resources. Key scientific advice meetings and consultations that supported the standard setting work of Codex (such as JECFA, JEMRA, JMPR) were recognized as Corporate Technical Activities in FAOs Programme of Work and Budget which has ensured budgetary security for these activities in the 2022-2023 biennium.

30. In WHO, the programme for Scientific Advice to the Codex Alimentarius Commission through the expert committees of JECFA, JMPR, JEMRA was mainly funded by voluntary contributions from a small number of Member States. Both regular budget and extra-budgetary contributions to the scientific advice programme were gratefully acknowledged.

Indicator 2.3.2 Proportion of scientific advice provided within established timeframes

31. For several general subjects committees there are well-defined and well-established mechanisms in place for obtaining scientific advice from FAO/WHO expert bodies; for CCFA and CCCF from JECFA, for CCPR from JMPR, for CCFH from JEMRA, and for CCNFSDU from JEMNU. The collaboration between the expert bodies and the relevant Codex committees is generally well coordinated, and the respective meetings scheduled to take into account the workflow between them. However, expert bodies may get more requests than they can respond to which may lead to a backlog of work, which was the case during the COVID-19 pandemic. Prioritization mechanisms that are in place for general subject committees help to identify which work items are most urgent. Additional information on provision of scientific advice can be found in the critical review document.

Goal 3. Increase impact through the recognition and use of Codex standards

Objective 3.1 Raise the awareness of Codex standards

Outcome 3.1 Codex Members are proactively promoting the use of Codex standards

32. Coordinators report regularly on progress of the regional work plans. Information about these indicators is therefore found in the related progress report on regional work plans and regional communication plans.

33. The increase in the number of country contributions in the 2022-2023 biennium continued, as noted in the 2020-2021 biennium, mainly driven by World Food Safety Day and the 60th anniversary of Codex (Codex@60). Work on raising awareness of Codex standards can be assessed in three connected areas: Enhancing visibility of Codex; Accessibility and visibility of Codex texts; and Use of Codex texts.

34. In 2022, the Codex Secretariat began work on reviewing the formatting and layout of Codex texts to ensure consistency, to meet FAO and international publishing standards and to enhance readability. A digital object identifier (DOI) has also been added to standards as they are published, providing a unique reference that can support tracking and citation of each text. The project was part of the Codex Secretariat's contribution to the celebration of Codex@60 and will continue to be implemented in the next biennium, resources permitting.

35. Relevant publications in the period that further enhanced Codex visibility include new case studies, including one on the impact that adoption of science-based food standards can have, namely the Hygienic food, healthy sales: HACCP implementation, and another one which focused on how Codex texts helped Honduras managed a Salmonellosis outbreak, i.e. How Honduras handled the unexpected.

36. The annual magazine, CODEX¹², website news¹³, videos¹⁴, podcasts¹⁵ and social media also supported visibility:

- The Codex Secretariat published over 300 web news stories including for Codex@60 and World Food Safety Day where events were held in over 70 countries in the considered period.
- Codex podcasts have been downloaded over 5 000 times.
- The Codex Twitter account achieved 10 million impressions, gained 5 600 followers and published more than 4 000 tweets in the reporting period.

¹² <https://www.fao.org/3/cc3141en/cc3141en.pdf> and <https://www.fao.org/3/cc8700en/cc8700en.pdf>

¹³ <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/news-and-events/en/>

¹⁴ <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/multimedia/video/en/>

¹⁵ <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/multimedia/podcast/en/>

Indicator 3.1.1 Extent that Codex texts are disseminated to stakeholders by Members

37. As shown in Table 4, approximately 90 percent of Members responded that Codex texts are disseminated to stakeholders by Members in a fair to very well way. The dissemination levels in the 2023 survey are similar with those of the 2022 Codex survey. There is a slight global shift towards more “fair” ratings, with a corresponding decrease in “well” ratings.

Table 4: Extent that Codex texts are disseminated to stakeholders by Members

	2022 survey	2023 survey
Very well	6%	7%
Well	33%	29%
Fair	50%	55%
Poor	10%	7%
Very poor	1%	2%
Grand Total	100%	100%

Indicator 3.1.2 Degree that new knowledge from Codex texts has been gained by Members

38. Compared to 2022, in 2023 the indicator shows that there was a 12 percent increase in the number of Members responding that they had gained a great deal of knowledge from Codex texts, while the percentage of those Members that responded they had gained very little knowledge from Codex texts decreased from 8% to 4%.

39. More detailed responses that can be found in the survey report, also show that LMICs gained more knowledge from Codex texts than HIC. For instance, in 2023, approximately 80 percent 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 percent of HIC respondents indicated that they only somewhat gained new knowledge from Codex texts. This may be due to the additional reliance of LMICs on Codex texts, compared to HICs that may have more capacities to carry-out their own risk assessment and standard setting work.

Table 5: Degree that new knowledge from Codex texts has been gained by Members

	2022 survey	2023 survey
A great deal	18%	30%
Quite a bit	33%	28%
Somewhat	41%	38%
Very little	8%	4%
Grand Total	100%	100%

Objective 3.2 Support initiatives to enable the understanding and implementation/application of Codex standards

Outcome 3.2.1 Increased use of Codex standards in the development of national food standards and regulations.

Indicator 3.2.1 Extent that Codex texts have been used as a baseline to inform Members' newly developed food legislation, policies, regulations, programmes and/or policies

40. As shown in table 6, over 90 percent of Members rely on Codex texts to inform newly developed legislation, policies and/or regulations somewhat to a great deal.

41. Further analysis on HIC and LMIC responses in 2023, clearly indicated that LMICs used Codex texts as a baseline more than HICs. Approximately 80 percent of LMIC respondents expressed that they use Codex texts, a great deal or quite a bit, as a baseline to inform food legislation, policies and/or regulations. In contrast, over 70 percent of HIC respondents indicated that they use Codex texts somewhat or very little as a baseline. This was in line with evidence and experience of the Codex Secretariat, where due to the available capacity and resources in LMICs, it is more efficient to directly adopt or adapt Codex texts to build their own food safety legislation and policies.

Table 6: The extent to which Codex texts have been used as a baseline to inform Member's newly developed food legislation, policies and/or regulations.

	2022 survey	2023 survey
A great deal	24%	35%
Quite a bit	31%	23%
Somewhat	41%	34%
Very little	5%	6%
Not at all	0%	1%
Grand Total	100%	100%

Outcome 3.2.2 Increased use of Codex standards by the food trade

Indicator 3.2.2 Degree that Codex texts are used by Members: i) to support the harmonization national food control systems; ii) help increase stakeholder awareness of food safety and quality issues and evidence-based interventions and recommendations; iii) to inform and to update food safety and quality training and educational programs and related tools; and iv) help improve member state commodity trade

42. Responses concerning the extent that Codex texts are used to support the first three dimensions have remained relatively similar in 2022 and 2023. From further analysis of the responses that can be found in the survey report 2023,¹⁶ LMICs used Codex texts more than HICs. Almost 70 percent of LMIC respondents expressed that they use Codex texts, completely or mostly. In contrast, almost 60 percent of HIC respondents indicated that they used Codex texts somewhat. This may be due to the fact that HICs tend to have the necessary resources and technical expertise whereas LMICs are more reliant on Codex texts.

Table 7: Degree that Codex texts are used by Members

	Degree that Codex texts are used by Members to support the harmonization national food control systems		Degree that Codex texts are used by Members to help increase stakeholder awareness of food safety and quality issues and evidence-based interventions and recommendations		Degree that Codex texts are used by Members to inform and to update food safety and quality training and educational programs and related tools		Degree that Codex texts are used by Members to help improve member state commodity trade	
	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023
Completely	22%	24%	18%	20%	18%	19%	17%	n/a
Mostly	40%	36%	39%	37%	33%	39%	35%	n/a
Somewhat	32%	34%	32%	41%	38%	37%	40%	n/a
To a minor extent	5%	3%	9%	2%	7%	4%	8%	n/a
Not at all	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	n/a
Do not know	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	0%	0%	n/a
Grand Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	n/a

43. Following comments from Members on the 2022 survey, the trade dimension was separated from the previous indicator, and asked as a separate question in the 2023 survey. The specific question aimed to assess in greater depth the extent that Codex texts in general are used to improve Member State commodity trade and covered five areas as indicated in Table 8.

44. Replies in Table 8 show that Members found Codex texts to support food trade efforts in all the dimensions surveyed, particularly in the last three. Further analysis on HIC and LMIC responses in 2023, showed that approximately 70 percent of LMIC respondents viewed Codex texts as “completely” or “mostly” influencing domestic food trade regulations and standards, thereby improving compatibility with international

¹⁶ <https://openknowledge.fao.org/handle/20.500.14283/cd2618en>

trading norms. However, for HIC respondents, Codex texts were generally perceived to be only minimally useful and impactful in this area. As mentioned previously, this may be due to the fact that many HICs have their own risk assessment and standard setting process.

45. Similarly, most LMIC respondents acknowledged that adherence to Codex texts significantly enhanced the safety and quality of a country's food products. This, in turn, increased consumer confidence and heightened a country's export potential in global markets. Further, most LMIC respondents (approximately 70 percent) found that Codex texts were "mostly" or "somewhat" effective in helping their countries access international markets for food products. This included reducing non-tariff barriers and simplifying import-export procedures.

Table 8: Degree to which Codex texts support national, regional, and global food trade efforts (only 2023)

	influenced domestic food trade regulations and standards, resulting in improved compatibility with international trading partners	enhanced the safety and quality of your country's food products, leading to increased consumer confidence and higher export potential in global markets	enhanced your country's ability to access international markets for food products, particularly in terms of reducing non-tariff barriers and simplifying export-import procedures	leveraged to promote regional harmonization of food regulations and facilitate smoother intra-regional trade	facilitated the resolution of trade disputes related to food safety and quality standards
Completely	21%	23%	19%	20%	20%
Mostly	37%	33%	34%	37%	33%
Somewhat	15%	18%	39%	35%	33%
To a minor extent	25%	23%	6%	5%	7%
Not at all	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%
Do not know	0%	2%	1%	1%	6%
Grand Total	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Objective 3.3 Recognise and promote the impact of Codex standards

Outcome 3.3.1 Having a mechanism/tool to measure the impact of Codex standards developed and piloted

Indicator 3.3.1 Progress on the development of a mechanism to measure impact of Codex standards

46. The survey on the use and impact of Codex texts was carried-out in 2022 and 2023 and the related reports were published.¹⁷

47. A first case study was carried-out in 2024 to showcase a successful use and impact of the *Code of Practice (CoP) for the prevention and reduction of mycotoxin contamination in cereals* (CXC 51-2003) in Brazil. Brazil was particularly successful in leading the revision of the CoP in CCCF and later on using the updated CoP to support the adoption of MLs on aflatoxins in maize and consequentially increase its exports. This case study yielded several lessons learned and good practices on the application of the CoP and of Codex texts in general that can be replicated by other countries. The case study report will be published in 2024. Other case studies may be carried-out, depending on availability of resources and requests from Codex Committees and Members.

48. Collaboration with WTO SPS committee on the potential use of their notification system started in 2024. It is still premature to indicate what type of information could be drawn from the notification system. Developments will be reported to CCEXEC and CAC accordingly.

49. It is important to note that no funding from the Codex regular programme is available for this work, which has been funded through extra-budgetary resources kindly provided by the Republic of Korea. However, these funds will end in June 2026 and the Codex Secretariat is actively exploring ways to secure the sustainability of this work, including through an increase of its regular programme funding.¹⁸

¹⁷ <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/resources/monitoring/en/>

¹⁸ CX/CAC 24/47/19

Goal 4. All Codex Members have the capacity to participate at all stages of the Standard setting process

Objective 4.1 Enable sustainable national Codex structures in all Codex Member countries

Outcome 4.1.1 Participation by all Codex Member countries in the work of Codex Committees and working groups

Indicator 4.1.1 Number of Members registering to CAC and the active general subject committees

50. The Codex Secretariat is monitoring trends in Member Countries' registration in Codex meetings, comparing data over the last two biennia. Registration to Codex meetings must be done by the Codex Contact Point, hence such registration reflects the presence of an active contact point and a degree of management of Codex work at the national level. As shown in the table below, the majority of Members attend CAC, while a smaller part attend general subject committees. Meetings organized in a virtual modality have higher attendance rates. Hybrid meetings seem to marginally affect registration rates.

Table 9: Number of Members registering to CAC and the active general subject committees

Codex Committee	Place	Year	Number of Members registered	% of total Membership (189)
CAC43	Virtual	2020	131	69%
CAC44	Virtual	2021	160	85%
CAC45	Rome/hybrid	2022	164	87%
CAC46	Rome/hybrid	2023	160	85%
CCCF14	Virtual	2021	90	48%
CCCF15	Virtual	2022	84	44%
CCCF16	Utrecht	2023	53	28%
CCFA52	Virtual	2021	88	47%
CCFA53	Hong Kong	2023	37	20%
CCFH52	Virtual	2022	99	52%
CCFH53	San Diego	2022	52	28%
CCFICS25	Virtual	2021	87	46%
CCFICS26	Hobart/Hybrid	2023	70	37%
CCFL46	Virtual	2021	91	48%
CCFL47	Gatineau	2023	50	26%
CCGP32	Virtual	2021	88	47%
CCGP33	Bordeaux	2023	51	27%
CCMAS41	Virtual	2021	83	44%
CCMAS42	Budapest/Hybrid	2022	50	26%
CCNFSDU42	Virtual	2021	99	52%
CCNFSDU43	Duesseldorf	2023	61	32%
CCPR52	Virtual	2021	81	43%
CCPR53	Virtual	2022	75	40%
CCPR54	Beijing	2023	46	24%
CCRVDF25	Virtual	2021	80	42%
CCRVDF26	Portland	2023	49	26%
Average			84	44%

Average CAC	154	81%
Average general subject committees	71	38%
Average virtual	95	50%
Average physical	70	37%

Indicator 4.1.2 Additional indicator for CTF recipient countries: Proportion of CTF2 recipient countries sustaining national Codex systems and related activities once the funding ends

51. As of 31 December 2023, the 13 CTF2 recipient countries that had completed their country projects had been able to sustain their national Codex systems and related activities.

52. Post-implementation reviews were ongoing or in preparation for all countries that had completed their CTF2 projects. The review included a re-assessment through the Diagnostic Tool for assessing status of national Codex programmes which provided an indicator of the level of advancement of a national Codex system following receipt of CTF2 support, compared to the status measured at the beginning of the project.

53. The Codex Secretariat and the CTF Secretariat were collaborating on the alignment of their monitoring frameworks. Ongoing work considered the refinement of qualitative and quantitative indicators to allow for the measurement of effective participation and engagement in Codex work. Qualitative indicators recognize the importance of country context when considering the measurement of active engagement. Aspects under consideration to inform indicator 4.1.2 include the following:

- Qualitative indicators (long-term: capacity to participate in Codex):
 - During the CTF2 support period: periodical measurement of capacity and good practices through CTF2 progress reports, final reports and post-implementation evaluation (including application of Codex Diagnostic Tool)
 - Following completion of CTF2 support: periodical surveys measuring availability of functioning national Codex structure
- Quantitative indicators (short-term: active engagement in Codex):
 - Participation of CTF2 beneficiary countries in Codex committee meetings
 - Provision of written comments by CTF2 beneficiary countries to Codex committee meetings or Electronic Working Groups (EWG)

54. Additional indicators were under consideration, including the participation in the scientific process, the initiation of new work and the establishment of international collaborative networks between national Codex offices.

Objective 4.2 Increase sustainable and active participation of all Codex Members

Outcome 4.2.1 Sustained, active participation in the work of Codex Committees and working groups

4.2.1 – Number of Member countries who participated in EWGs during the biennium (participation is defined as registration to at least in one EWG during the biennium).

55. In the 2022-2023 biennium the number of Members participating in EWGs seems to have stabilized, after the 2020-21 pandemic period when the disruption to work particularly in 2020 and subsequent efforts to catch up impacted participation.

Table 10: Number of Member countries who participated in EWGs during the biennium

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023
N. of Member countries	0	113	77	86
% of total Membership (189)	0%	60%	41%	46%

4.2.2 - Number of Member countries that replied to CLs in the biennium (a member will be counted if they replied to at least two CLs during the biennium)

56. As shown in Table 11, the proportion of Members that sent comments in response to at least two Circular Letters (CLs) either via the Online Commenting System (OCS) or via email directly to the Codex Secretariat and/or to the Chairpersons of Codex Committees in 2022-23 has remained overall stable since 2021, considering that 2020 was an exceptional year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Table 11: Number of Member countries that replied to CLs in the biennium

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023
N. of Member Countries	41	68	71	70
% of total Membership (189)	22%	36%	38%	37%

Objective 4.3 Reduce barriers to active participation by developing countries**Outcome 4.3.1 capacity building, partnering, and knowledge sharing activities are effective in building active participation by developing countries**

Indicator 4.3.1 Indicator 4.3.1 Extent that the following barriers are impeding the use of Codex texts: Lack of resources; Lack of local implementation capacity; Irrelevance of Codex texts for the national context/reality; Lack of basic national food safety laws; Duration of Codex text development; Lack of local implementation capacity; Duration of national implementation process; Language issues; Challenges to catch up with changes in Codex texts; Lack of awareness of Codex provisions by national stakeholders

57. Answers to this question in the Codex survey varied greatly from 2022 to 2023. While in 2022, lack of awareness of Codex provisions by national stakeholders, challenges to catch up with changes in Codex texts, and lack of resources ranked as the top three barriers to the use of Codex texts, in 2023, lack of resources, lack of local implementation capacity and duration of national implementation process were the top three barriers.

58. Of note are the top barriers identified by LMIC respondents in 2023, that include a lack of resources, lack of local implementation capacity, and the duration of national implementation. Compared to the 2022 survey, there was a substantial increase in the reported barriers impeding the use of Codex texts in LMICs, specifically the lack of local implementation capacity and the duration of national implementation. On the other hand, language issues seem to be less relevant for LMICs, compared to 2022.

59. The differences between 2022 and 2023 may be explained by several factors, including the higher number of responses, the increased understanding and awareness of the survey mechanism by respondents, and the return to in-person meetings. It is important to note that trends can be established only after a few iterations of the survey. As 2023 was the second year the survey was implemented, the third year will be important to both close the survey cycle and start drawing some trends in responses, particularly related to barriers.

Table 12: barriers impeding the use of Codex texts

Barriers	Year	Completely or Mostly	Somewhat	To a minor extent/not at all
Lack of resources	2022	22%	51%	27%
	2023	38%	21%	41%
Lack of local implementation capacity	2022	10%	42%	48%
	2023	29%	44%	27%
Irrelevance of Codex Texts for the National context/reality	2022	15%	14%	71%
	2023	9%	25%	66%
Lack of basic national food safety laws	2022	11%	27%	61%
	2023	14%	16%	70%
Duration of Codex text development	2022	19%	13%	68%
	2023	18%	29%	53%
Duration of national implementation process	2022	16%	18%	66%
	2023	22%	33%	46%
Language Issues	2022	21%	19%	60%
	2023	13%	17%	70%
Challenges to catch up with changes in Codex texts	2022	28%	25%	47%
	2023	20%	24%	56%

Lack of awareness of Codex provisions by national stakeholders	2022	33%	43%	24%
	2023	21%	29%	50%

Goal 5. Enhance work management systems and practices that support the efficient and effective achievement of all strategic plan goals

Objective 5.1 Develop and maintain efficient and effective work management practices and systems

Outcome 5.1.1 Codex work processes and procedures support the effective and efficient operation of Codex standard setting bodies

Indicator 5.1.1 Delivery of the Codex budget during the biennium

60. In the 2022-2023 biennium, the delivery, compared to the original budget, was 107 percent, taking into account the additional allocation from FAO of USD 0.5 million in 2023. The available budget was used, in accordance with the Codex Secretariat work plan to hold 21 Codex Committees, four sessions of the Executive Committee and two Commissions, as well as expenses related to enabling environment to run these meetings (IT system e.g. forum, online commenting system, online registration system, codex website, translation of standards, publications, communication, etc.). In this period this included for the first time convening CAC and some sessions of EXEC as in person meetings with the possibility of remote participation.

61. An important lesson learned from the 2022-2023 budget delivery is that the increased demands on the Codex Secretariat coupled with the decline in purchasing power is limiting the margin to face unexpected expenses or additional needs. Several activities, such as the update of the Codex databases or the translation of the backlog of Codex texts have been postponed or delayed for this reason. The Codex Secretariat is also unable to meet the demand for the reactivation of adjourned Codex Committees or establishment of ad hoc task forces, to address emerging issues.¹⁹

Outcome 5.1.2 The efficient design of agendas and use of time in meetings of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, its Executive Committee and Subsidiary bodies maximises the time allocated to the development of Codex texts

Indicator 5.1.2 Proportion of meeting documents distributed in a timely manner consistent with the Codex Procedural Manual or timeframes established by committees

62. Table 13 presents an analysis of the distribution of working documents (WDs) in English, French and Spanish prepared for the Commission and Committees held in 2020-2023. The analysis does not consider invitation letters, provisional agendas, circular letters, addendum papers, other comments papers including the replies to circular letters, and information documents. Table X shows the number of WDs that were circulated at least two months prior to the start of the respective committee session and the corresponding percentage of the total WDs included. In the 2022-2023 biennium, the number of WDs available within the set deadlines remained substantially stable, compared to the 2020-21 biennium. The Codex Secretariat continues to make efforts to deliver more documents on time, taking into account issues such as resources available, contingencies due to the work of EWGs, and rules and regulations of FAO regarding translation of documents.

Table 13: Working Documents distributed on time by language, 2020-2023

Year	English		French		Spanish	
	N. of WDs on time	% of Total N. of WDs	N. of WDs on time	% of Total N. of WDs	N. of WDs on time	% of Total N. of WDs
2020	20	59%	18	53%	18	53%
2021	67	42%	45	29%	45	29%
2022	49	42%	21	23%	18	20%
2023	64	36%	31	20%	31	21%

Objective 5.2 Enhance the capacities of committee and working group chairpersons, regional coordinators and host country secretariats to manage the work of Codex

Outcome 5.2.1 Subsidiary body meetings and working groups are effectively and efficiently chaired and conducted

Indicator 5.2.1 Satisfaction ratings on meeting efficiency, role of chairs and host and Codex secretariats

¹⁹ CX/CAC 24/47/19

63. Throughout 2022 and 2023, satisfaction surveys were adapted to capture feedback on virtual and hybrid meeting experiences. Overall, feedback remained highly positive across all Codex committee sessions conducted during this period. For the majority of questions, over 85 percent of respondents indicated “agree/strongly agree” or “satisfied/very satisfied” with the organization and implementation of the meetings.

- Platform Accessibility and Technical Performance:
 - The registration process received high satisfaction ratings across committees, with most respondents (between 60 percent -75 percent) expressing ease in accessing platforms like Zoom and ORS. Minor connectivity issues were reported, particularly during streamed sessions on YouTube.
 - Participants largely agreed that the Zoom platform was easy to access and navigate, with committees such as CCFA and CCFSDU reporting above 70 percent satisfaction in technical support and platform usability.
- Support from Codex Secretariats and Interpretation Quality:
 - Interpretation services received positive feedback, with 70 percent -80 percent satisfaction in committees like CCEURO and CCCF. However, in sessions with multilingual participants, occasional issues with overlapping audio and minor delays were noted.
 - The Codex secretariats were consistently praised for providing clear guidance and support before and during sessions, with satisfaction levels typically above 80 percent. Feedback highlighted the secretariats’ efforts in ensuring smooth and accessible meetings, even when accommodating hybrid participation formats.
- Meeting Structure and Agenda Management:
 - Agenda Appropriateness: Respondents generally agreed that agenda items were well-timed, with 75 percent-85 percent indicating satisfaction with the length and clarity of sessions across most committees. Some feedback, particularly from CCFSDU and CCFL participants, suggested slightly more time be allocated to complex agenda topics to allow thorough discussion.
 - Session Timing and Flexibility: While overall satisfaction was high, some committees noted that time zones remained a minor challenge in ensuring broad participation. However, adjustments in session timing have helped accommodate a global audience, improving inclusivity in the virtual setting.
- Overall Impact and Contributions of Chairs:
 - The role of chairs was rated positively, with 85 percent-90 percent of respondents acknowledging their effectiveness in managing discussions and guiding participants through complex topics. Across different sessions, participants expressed appreciation for the chairs’ adaptability in navigating the challenges of virtual and hybrid formats, which fostered constructive and inclusive dialogues.

64. In conclusion, feedback for the biennium 2022-2023 reflected broad satisfaction with Codex’s meetings, including registration processes, technical support, and the responsiveness of chairs and secretariats. Despite the challenges of a virtual environment, particularly around connectivity and time management, participants consistently recognized the efforts of Codex to ensure effective and efficient meetings, supporting Codex’s mission in maintaining high standards of food safety and international trade facilitation.

CONCLUSIONS

65. Following the 2020-2021 biennium that was atypical because of the COVID-19 pandemic, activities returned to pre-pandemic levels in the 2022-2023 biennium. Performance under most indicators scored well. There is still room for improvement in engagement in Codex as indicated under goal 4. However other ways of remote engagement through responding to CLs seem to stable at just above one third of Members. Under goal 5 The monitoring highlights that some challenges remain such as timeliness of documents. This is however a complex issue and not a new one which is a complex issue linked to Secretariat resources, the schedule of meetings as well as intersession activities that need to be supported and will be difficult to resolve in isolation.

66. The Codex Secretariat, through various iterations, tried to improve and streamline the monitoring framework of the Codex Strategic Plan 2020-2025. Thanks to the survey on the use and impact of Codex texts, several outcomes now have a corresponding SMART indicator, that can be compared over time. These important lessons-learned from the implementation of the monitoring framework will be useful in the proposal that the Codex Secretariat will make to monitor the Codex Strategic Plan 2026-2031.

RECOMMENDATIONS

67. CAC47 is invited to:
 - i. note the information provided; and
 - ii. consider whether the results of the activities are evolving in the right direction and provide comments and feedback on any areas that may require particular attention for the remaining period for implementation of the SP.

Monitoring Framework with revised indicators following discussion and decision by CCEXEC81 and 84

Goal	Outcome	Original indicator	Decision by CCEXEC81	Decision by CCEXEC84	Revised/retained and renumbered indicators
<p>Goal 1. Address current, emerging and critical issues in a timely manner</p>	<p>Outcome 1.1.1 Improved ability of Codex to develop standards relevant to the needs of its members</p>	<p>Indicator 1.1.1 The number of emerging issues identified by subsidiary bodies</p>	<p>Counting the number of emerging issues identified by subsidiary bodies provides limited information and does not necessarily reflect an improved ability to develop standards that meet member's needs. To answer to the outcome statement, the question is to understand if Codex has put in place the right mechanisms to identify and act on emerging issues. The Secretariat will provide a short narrative report on the evolution of the procedures to identify emerging issues in Codex Committees.</p>	<p>Replaced this indicator with the survey on use and impact of Codex texts indicator on relevance of Codex texts</p>	<p>Indicator 1.1.1 Extent that Codex Members recognize Codex texts as meeting Members' priority food safety and quality needs</p>

	<p>Outcome 1.2.1 Timely Codex response to emerging issues and the needs of members</p>	<p>Indicator 1.2.1 Proportion of identified emerging issues that lead to proposals for new work</p>	<p>The intent of this indicator with regard to the outcome statement which focuses on timely response is encompassed in indicators 1.2.2 and 1.2.3 and is not considered to provide any additional value or information to the extent that it would justify the effort required to collect such data.</p>	<p>In line with the comments provided at CCEXEC81, the indicator was deleted.</p>	<p>-</p>
		<p>Indicator 1.2.2 Time taken from the identification of new issues to the submission of proposals for new work to the Executive Committee</p>	<p>The Secretariat will measure this indicator by looking at emerging issues of General Subject Committees raised in the 2018-19 biennium and assess the time taken to lead to new work proposals. This will serve as the baseline for which subsequent biennium can be compared.</p>	<p>The indicator will be kept.</p>	<p>Indicator 1.2.1 Time taken from the identification of new issues to the submission of proposals for new work to the Executive Committee</p>

		Indicator 1.2.3 Time taken for prioritized emerging issues to result in revised or new Codex texts	The indicator will be measured as is.	The indicator will be kept.	Indicator 1.2.2 Time taken for prioritized emerging issues to result in revised or new Codex texts
		Indicator 1.2.4 Committees documenting their approach to work prioritization based on criteria for establishment of work priorities in the Procedural Manual.	The Secretariat will provide a short narrative report to reflect progress against this indicator.	As this indicator is not SMART and can only be reported on through a narrative, it is proposed to delete it. The two previous indicators are found to provide sufficient measurement for the outcome.	-
Goal	Outcome	Original indicator	Decision by CCEXEC81	Decision by CCEXEC84	Revised/retained and renumbered indicators
Goal 2. Develop standards based on science and Codex risk-analysis principles	Outcome 2.1.1 Scientific advice is taken into account consistently and in line with Codex risk analysis principles by all relevant committees during the standard setting process	Indicator 2.1.1 Proportion of texts considered by CCEXEC, as part of its work to monitor the progress of standards development, for which reports by subsidiary body Chairs indicate how scientific advice was used and any other legitimate factors were considered in developing Codex texts	The Secretariat will provide a short narrative report to reflect any progress against this indicator.	The indicator will be kept.	Indicator 2.1.1 Proportion of texts considered by CCEXEC, as part of its work to monitor the progress of standards development, for which reports by subsidiary body Chairs indicate how scientific advice was used and any other legitimate factors were considered in developing Codex texts

	<p>Outcome 2.2.1 Codex standards are developed with reference to globally representative data</p>	<p>Indicator 2.2.1 Proportion and regional distribution of Codex members who contribute to calls for data from working groups and Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committees/Meetings</p>	<p>The intent of this indicator is to encourage Member countries to increase their willingness to generate and/or share data. FAO and WHO can only facilitate data transfer and strengthen capacities. Therefore, ownership of this indicator is with the data owners, i.e. Member countries. A short narrative report on contributions to calls of data will be provided, based on eWG chairs and Regional Coordinators reports, where data issues were prioritized.</p>	<p>The indicator will be kept.</p>	<p>Indicator 2.2.1 Proportion and regional distribution of Codex members who contribute to calls for data from working groups and Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committees/Meetings</p>
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	<p>Outcome 2.3.1 FAO and WHO expert bodies are providing scientific advice within time frames agreed between committees and FAO/WHO, and these time frames allow standard development to progress in a timely manner</p>	<p>Indicator 2.3.1 Extent of and any changes in core funding for scientific advice within FAO and WHO</p>	<p>FAO and WHO report regularly on core funding for scientific advice to CAC. Information about this indicator is therefore found in the related CAC document from FAO/WHO on scientific advice. Request from CCEXEC81: A short narrative report (qualitative description of progress) to be included in the monitoring and evaluation framework to report on FAO/WHO core funding for scientific advice to CAC, based on the related CAC document from FAO/WHO on scientific advice.</p>	<p>The indicator will be kept.</p>	<p>Indicator 2.3.1 Extent of and any changes in core funding for scientific advice within FAO and WHO</p>
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		Indicator 2.3.2 Proportion of scientific advice provided within established timeframes	Codex Committees have the mandate to request scientific advice. Currently no agreed timelines for delivery of scientific advice are in place in several committees. Therefore, the Secretariat will provide a short narrative report to reflect progress against this indicator based on information available from the Committees' reports and the Critical Review process.	The indicator will be kept.	Indicator 2.3.2 Proportion of scientific advice provided within established timeframes
Goal	Outcome	Original indicator	Decision by CCEXEC81	Decision by CCEXEC84	Revised/retained and renumbered indicators
Goal 3. Increase impact through the recognition and use of Codex standards	Outcome 3.1 Codex Members are proactively promoting the use of Codex standards	Indicator 3.1.1 Number of country contributions to the Codex regional and observer webpages reflecting events/activities that raise awareness on Codex standards	This dimension is included in the regional work plans. Regional Coordinators report regularly on progress of their work plans. Information about this indicator is therefore found in the related progress report on regional work plans.	Indicator deleted. However, the relevant information from the Coordinating Committees report on implementation of regional workplans will be reported or cross-referenced in the narrative report on Goal 2 in the overall strategic plan implementation report.	-
		Indicator 3.1.2 Number of activities in the Codex communications work plan that explicitly address the visibility of Codex standards and extent of implementation	The Secretariat will provide a short narrative report to reflect progress against this indicator.	Replaced this indicator with the survey on use and impact of Codex texts indicator on dissemination of Codex texts; and new knowledge	Indicator 3.1.1 Extent that Codex texts are disseminated to stakeholders by Members

					Indicator 3.1.2 Degree that new Knowledge from Codex texts has been gained by Members
	Outcome 3.2.1 Increased use of Codex standards in the development of national food standards and regulations.	Indicator 3.2.1 Proportion of Member countries participating in national or regional capacity development initiatives to encourage and facilitate practical use of Codex standards have been undertaken	This dimension is included in the regional work plans. Regional Coordinators report regularly on progress of their work plans. Information about this indicator is therefore found in the related progress report on regional work plans.	Replaced this indicator with the survey on use and impact of Codex texts indicator on use of Codex texts to inform legislation, policies, etc.	Indicator 3.2.1 Extent that Codex texts have been used as a baseline to inform Members' newly developed food legislation, policies, regulations, programmes and/or policies

	<p>Outcome 3.2.2 Increased use of Codex standards by the food trade</p>	<p>Indicator 3.2.2 Proportion of specified Codex standards adopted or used by Codex Members</p>	<p>The Secretariat and FAO/WHO periodically conducts a survey on adoption and use of a subset of Codex texts. Based on the results of these surveys, the Secretariat will also provide a short narrative report to reflect progress against this indicator.</p>	<p>Replaced this indicator with the survey on use and impact of Codex texts indicator on use of Codex texts in National Food Control Systems, trade, etc.</p>	<p>Indicator 3.2.2 Degree that Codex texts are used by Members: i) to support the harmonization national food control systems; ii) help increase stakeholder awareness of food safety and quality issues and evidence-based interventions and recommendations; iii) to inform and to update food safety and quality training and educational programs and related tools; and iv) help improve member state commodity trade</p>
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		Indicator 3.2.3 Proportion of specified Codex standards adopted or used by relevant Codex Observers	The Secretariat will provide a short narrative report to reflect progress against this indicator.	As this indicator is not SMART and can only be reported on through a narrative, it was deleted. However, any updates on the use of Codex standards by relevant Observers will be captured in the narrative report related to Goal 3.	-
Outcome 3.3.1 Having a mechanism/tool to measure the impact of Codex standards developed and piloted		Indicator 3.3.1 Progress on the development of a mechanism to measure impact of Codex standards	The Secretariat will provide a short narrative report to reflect progress against this indicator.	The indicator will be kept.	Indicator 3.3.1 Progress on the development of a mechanism to measure impact of Codex standards

Goal	Outcome	Original indicator	Decision by CCEXEC81	Decision by CCEXEC84	Revised/retained and renumbered indicators
<p>Goal 4. All Codex members have the capacity to participate at all stages of the Standard setting process</p>	<p>Outcome 4.1.1 Participation by all Codex Member countries in the work of Codex Committees and working groups</p>	<p>Indicator 4.1.1 Number of countries participating in Codex Meetings (as amended by CCEXEC 81)</p>	<p>This indicator relies on the application of the Codex diagnostic tool, which is done on a voluntary basis by countries and is used more as a self-help tool than a reporting one often in the context of submitting an application to CTF. Therefore, measuring this indicator would prove challenging and provide subjective/not comparable data.</p>	<p>Indicator deleted.</p>	<p>-</p>

			<p>Initial evidence suggests that the shift of Codex committees and working groups to virtual platforms has significantly increased registration and feedback indicates a greater sense of engagement among some who are participating directly in Codex meetings for the first time. The Secretariat proposes that, in order to track progress towards this outcome, it monitors trends in Member Countries' registration in Codex meetings, comparing 2018-19 data with 2020-21 in the first instance. Registration to Codex meetings must be done by the Codex Contact Point, hence such registration reflects the presence of an active contact point that and a degree of management of Codex work at the national level. Measurement required no further input from Members. Application of the Codex Diagnostic Tool remains a valuable activity, also promoted by several of the regional implementation plans, rather than an indicator.</p>	<p>Indicator reformulated to: Number of Members registering to CAC and the active general subjects committees.</p>	<p>Indicator 4.1.1 Number of Members registering to CAC and the active general subjects committees.</p>
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		Indicator 4.1.2 Sustainable resource allocation for the above, which may be reflected in national legislation and/or organization structures	This indicator would prove quite difficult to measure as Member Countries have different ways to fund Codex structures. It would also require reporting by Members which would be an additional burden. The Secretariat suggests that monitoring trends in registration, proposed above, sufficiently reflects Member's investment in Codex.	In line with the comments provided at CCEXEC81, deleted this indicator.	-
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		<p>Indicator 4.1.3 Additional indicator for CTF recipient countries: Proportion of CTF2 recipient countries sustaining national Codex systems and related activities once the funding ends</p>	<p>CTF2 recipient countries still have to complete their projects, therefore information on countries sustaining progress made with CTF2 support is limited. The CTF2 monitoring and evaluation framework outlines impact measurement of CTF support and will inform this indicator. The mid-term evaluation of the CTF2 (likely to start in late 2021/early 2022) will further look into the sustainability issue. A short narrative report based on preliminary information available will be provided by the CTF manager Administrator.</p>	<p>The indicator will be kept.</p>	<p>Indicator 4.1.2 Additional indicator for CTF recipient countries: Proportion of CTF2 recipient countries sustaining national Codex systems and related activities once the funding ends</p>
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	<p>Outcome 4.2.1 Sustained, active participation in the work of Codex Committees and working groups</p>	<p>As amended by CCEXEC81: 4.2.1a - Number of Member countries who participated in eWGs during the biennium (2020-21 biennium will be the first to be reported on, participation is defined as registration to at least in one eWG during the biennium). 4.2.1b - Number of Member countries that replied to CLs in the biennium (2020-21 biennium will be the first to be reported on, a member will be counted if they replied to at least two CLs during the biennium)</p>	<p>Indicator amended by CCEXEC81</p>	<p>The indicator will be kept as amended by CCEXEC81.</p>	<p>4.2.1 - Number of Member countries who participated in EWGs during the biennium (participation is defined as registration to at least in one eWG during the biennium).</p>
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					<p>4.2.2 - Number of Member countries that replied to CLs in the biennium (a member will be counted if they replied to at least two CLs during the biennium)</p>
	<p>Outcome 4.3.1 capacity building, partnering, and knowledge sharing activities are effective in building active participation by developing countries</p>	<p>Indicator 4.3.1 Documented discussions from the regional coordinating committees (RCC) or related meetings on barriers and potential solutions to participation by developing countries</p>	<p>This dimension is included in the regional work plans. Regional Coordinators report regularly on progress of their work plans. Information about this indicator is therefore found in the related progress report on regional work plans.</p>	<p>Replaced this indicator with one where the data can be collected through the survey on use and impact of Codex texts indicator on barriers to the use of Codex texts</p>	<p>Indicator 4.3.1 Extent that the following barriers are impeding the use of Codex texts: Lack of resources; Lack of local implementation capacity; Irrelevance of Codex texts for the national context/reality; Lack of basic national food safety laws; Duration of Codex text development; Lack of local implementation capacity; Duration of national implementation process; Language issues; Challenges to catch up with changes in Codex texts; Lack of awareness of Codex provisions by national stakeholders</p>

		Indicator 4.3.2 Increase in reports of mentorship and experience sharing on Codex issues between countries	This dimension is included in the regional work plans. Regional Coordinators report regularly on progress of their work plans. Information about this indicator is therefore found in the related progress report on regional work plans.	In line with the comments provided at CCEXEC81, deleted this indicator.	
Goal	Outcome	Original indicator	Decision by CCEXEC81	Decision by CCEXEC84	Revised/retained and renumbered indicators
Goal 5. Enhance work management systems and practices that support the efficient and effective achievement of all strategic plan goals	Outcome 5.1.1 Codex work processes and procedures support the effective and efficient operation of Codex standard setting bodies	Indicator 5.1.1 Of the recommendations of regular review of Codex work management that are adopted by CAC, the proportion that are implemented	The Secretariat will provide a short narrative report to reflect progress against this indicator based on the review of the Codex work processes and procedures and the critical review exercise.	In line with comments made at CCEXEC81, as this indicator is not SMART and can only be reported on through a narrative, it was replaced with delivery of the Codex budget during the biennium.	-
			The Secretariat further proposes to report in parallel on delivery of the Codex budget during the biennium. This would be based on the paper on the Budgetary matters prepared annually for the Commission.	The indicator will be kept.	Indicator 5.1.1 Delivery of the Codex budget during the biennium

	<p>Outcome 5.1.2 The efficient design of agendas and use of time in meetings of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, its Executive Committee and Subsidiary bodies maximises the time allocated to the development of Codex texts</p>	<p>Indicator 5.1.2 Proportion of meeting documents distributed in a timely manner consistent with the Codex Procedural Manual or timeframes established by committees</p>	<p>The indicator will be measured as is.</p>	<p>The indicator will be kept.</p>	<p>Indicator 5.1.2 Proportion of meeting documents distributed in a timely manner consistent with the Codex Procedural Manual or timeframes established by committees</p>
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		<p>Indicator 5.1.3 Proportion of sessions where all agenda items were covered within the allotted Committee meeting time and work was completed by the project deadline</p>	<p>The Secretariat will provide a short narrative report to reflect the intended outcome, based on input from chairpersons and host secretariats and information provided through the critical review. It will not provide quantitative data on proportion of sessions where all agenda items were covered within allotted meeting times but rather identify challenges and how they were overcome.</p>	<p>As this indicator is not SMART and can only be reported on through a narrative, it was deleted.</p>	<p>-</p>
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	<p>Outcome 5.2.1 Subsidiary body meetings and working groups are effectively and efficiently chaired and conducted</p>	<p>Indicator 5.2.1 Proportion of chairs and host countries of subsidiary bodies and working groups taking part in training and/or in the development of tools and guidance.</p>	<p>The Secretariat regularly reports on activities carried-out during the biennium through the implementation of the Codex work plan for Goal 5. Information on initiatives reflected in this indicator is therefore found in the related progress report of the Codex work plan and the monitoring report will more generally reflect progress towards the outcome statement. The pandemic has illustrated how planned activities need to be adapted to ensure Codex continues to work effectively and can go beyond chairs and hosts. In this past year, efforts also focused on Members' participation to virtual meetings.</p>	<p>In line with the comments provided at CCEXEC81, indicator deleted.</p>	
		<p>Indicator 5.2.2 Satisfaction ratings on meeting efficiency, role of chairs and host and Codex secretariats</p>	<p>The indicator will be measured as is.</p>	<p>The indicator will be kept.</p>	<p>Indicator 5.2.1 Satisfaction ratings on meeting efficiency, role of chairs and host and Codex secretariats</p>