



PROCINORTE Secretariat
Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture
Delegation in Canada
1002 - 130 Albert Street
Ottawa ON Canada K1P 5G4
Tel: + 613-230-1044 | Fax: + 613-230-1951
www.iica.int/canada

PROCINORTE

Survey of the PROCINORTE Task Forces

Summary of Results & Proposed Next Steps

Purpose:

To provide the results from a survey conducted with PROCINORTE task force members in October 2016 and to propose an approach for on-going monitoring and evaluating of PROCINORTE'S outcomes.

Background:

During the 2015 annual meeting of the Board of Directors (BOD), the BODs supported efforts of the Secretariat to develop a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan for the Task Forces (TF) of PROCINORTE. In October 2015, the TF members completed a questionnaire on their activities and results for the purpose of providing feedback to the BOD and to assist in the development of indicators for evaluating outcomes achieved by the TFs.

Survey Results:

The focus of PROCINORTE's work is on research with practical applications. As stated in its mission, PROCINORTE aims to strengthen agriculturally related governmental and stakeholder collaboration in research, development, and policies to:

- 1) Enhance sector productivity and competitiveness needs;
- 2) Improve food safety and plant and animal health,
- 3) Assist on related capacity building needs.

To increase the likelihood of research uptake, TF members work in collaboration with policy makers, regulators, and other researchers. Members are encouraged to share their knowledge through writing articles, presenting their findings, and providing educational resources. As the benefits of research collaborations and partnerships are numerous, engagement with partners is important for the purposes of knowledge transfer and knowledge integration (policy \ regulatory knowledge creation).

The survey was a self-assessment by TF members and captured information on the following main elements:

1. Type and means of knowledge transfer
2. Partnerships
3. Outcomes of activities



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Annex 1 provides the results from the survey questions. Generally the responses from TF members were positive indicating that efforts in knowledge sharing and partnership engagement met members' expectations. There was strong agreement with the statements related to the alignment of the TF's work with the member organizations' priorities and also on the benefits of working with the PROCINORTE. Eighty-three percent of respondents agree with the statement that the task forces contribute to enhanced agricultural sector productivity and competitiveness and \ or improved food safety and plant and animal health.

Responses to some statements showed that members differed in their views. This was particularly apparent in the responses to the statements related to research findings being presented and discussed for either policy deliberations or regulatory program development.

Through their responses, members indicated there is room for improving certain aspects in knowledge sharing. For instance, responses to statements related to manner in which research results \ knowledge are shared and to the recipients of the knowledge sharing indicate that perhaps further efforts may be extended to ensure knowledge is shared in a user friendly way and with diverse user groups. Also, further clarity on the roles and responsibilities of TF members seems warranted.

Next Steps:

- The survey results will be shared with all PROCINORTE members.
- The Executive Secretary (ES) will schedule a meeting in January with all TF Chairs to discuss survey results and to identify opportunities for improving performance. Action items to address the identified areas will be developed and incorporated into the TF's action plans following a discussion and agreement within each TF.
- The ES will finalize the performance indicators for the TFs. Based on the survey results and planned actions for improvement, the ES will then develop an M&E schedule which will include targets, methods, and a time schedule for further monitoring and evaluation activities.
- The PROCINORTE M&E plan to be finalized in April 2017.



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TASK FORCES

SURVEY RESULTS



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Knowledge Sharing

Q1

Communications between members is on-going

Answered: 12

	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Total	Weighted Average
–	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%		
S	0	0	0	2	10	12	4.83

Q2

Communication involves a variety of means, face to face meetings, conference calls, email.

	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Total	Weighted Average
–	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	91.67%		
S	0	0	0	1	11	12	4.92

Q3

Roles and expectations of task force members are clear

	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Total	Weighted Average
–	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%		
S	0	0	0	6	6	12	4.5

Q4

Your communication about PROCINORTE's activities within your organization on an on-going basis.

	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Total	Weighted Average
–	0.00%	8.33%	8.33%	16.67%	66.67%		
S	0	1	1	2	8	12	4.42

Q5

**Joint meetings occur at all stages of the research project
(where applicable)**

	N/A	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Total	Weighted Average
–	9.09%	0.00%	0.00%	45.45%	45.45%		
S	1	0	0	5	5	11	4.18

Q6

**Joint meetings occur to discuss research dissemination plans
(where applicable)**

	N/A	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Total	Weighted Average
–	8.33%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	41.67%		
S	1	0	0	6	5	12	4.17

Q7

Research results are disseminated in multiple formats (eg. reports, articles, website, oral presentations, etc.)

	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Total	Weighted Average
–	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	41.67%	58.33%		
S	0	0	0	5	7	12	4.58

Q8

Research results \ knowledge are shared in a user-friendly way

	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Total	Weighted Average
–	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	72.73%	18.18%		
S	0	0	1	8	2	11	4.09

Q9

Research results / knowledge are shared with diverse groups that use the knowledge (i.e. academia, private sector, public sector, regulators, consumers, etc.)

	Disagree—	Somewhat disagree—	Neither agree nor disagree—	Somewhat agree—	Agree—	Total—	Weighted Average—
—	0.00%	8.33%	16.67%	33.33%	41.67%		
S	0	1	2	4	5	12	4.08

Q10

Research findings are presented and discussed in policy deliberations

	Disagree—	Somewhat disagree—	Neither agree nor disagree—	Somewhat agree—	Agree—	Total—	Weighted Average—
—	0.00%	25.00%	16.67%	41.67%	16.67%		
S	0	3	2	5	2	12	3.5

Q11

Research findings are presented and discussed for regulatory program development

	Disagree—	Somewhat disagree—	Neither agree nor disagree—	Somewhat agree—	Agree—	Total—	Weighted Average—
—	0.00%	16.67%	25.00%	33.33%	25.00%		
S	0	2	3	4	3	12	3.67

Q12

Research findings are used to provide recommended actions to decision makers in your organization

	Disagree—	Somewhat disagree—	Neither agree nor disagree—	Somewhat agree—	Agree—	Total—	Weighted Average—
—	8.33%	8.33%	8.33%	41.67%	33.33%		
S	1	1	1	5	4	12	3.83

Partnership Engagement

Q13

An informal or formal structure exists for transferring research findings / knowledge between partners

	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Total	Weighted Average
–	8.33%	0.00%	16.67%	33.33%	41.67%		
S	1	0	2	4	5	12	4

Q14

You, as a representative of your organization in PROCINORTE, understand your organization's role and responsibilities as a member

	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Total	Weighted Average
–	8.33%	0.00%	0.00%	41.67%	50.00%		
S	1	0	0	5	6	12	4.25

Q15

Task force meetings accomplish what is necessary for trilateral collaboration to function well

	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Total	Weighted Average
–	0.00%	8.33%	0.00%	25.00%	66.67%		
S	0	1	0	3	8	12	4.5

Q16

Partner organizations (including your organization) agree about the goals of the collaboration within PROCINORTE

	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Total	Weighted Average
–	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	58.33%	41.67%		
S	0	0	0	7	5	12	4.42

Q17

The work of the task force addresses at least one of your organization's identified priorities

	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Total	Weighted Average
–	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	91.67%		
S	0	0	0	1	11	12	4.92

Q18

Partner organizations (including your organization) have combined and used each other's resources so all partners benefit from collaborating

	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Total	Weighted Average
–	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	16.67%	75.00%		
S	0	0	1	2	9	12	4.67

Q19

Your organization achieves its own goals better by working with partner organizations than it does by working alone

	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Total	Weighted Average
–	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%		
S	0	0	0	3	9	12	4.75

Q20

Your organization can count on each member organization of PROCINORTE to meet its obligations in the collaboration

	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Total	Weighted Average
–	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	16.67%	66.67%		
S	0	0	2	2	8	12	4.5

Q21

Your organization feels it worthwhile to continue to work with PROCINORTE

	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Total	Weighted Average
–	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	16.67%	75.00%		
S	0	0	1	2	9	12	4.67

Q22

The knowledge shared by PROCINORTE addresses key issues facing decision makers in my organization

	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Total	Weighted Average
–	8.33%	0.00%	8.33%	58.33%	25.00%		
S	1	0	1	7	3	12	3.92

Outcomes

Q23

The work of the task force contributes to enhanced agricultural sector productivity and competitiveness and/or improved food safety and plant and animal health

	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Total	Weighted Average
–	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	8.33%	83.33%		
S	0	0	1	1	10	12	4.75

Q24

Your organization supports efforts to enhance sector productivity and competitiveness or to improve food safety and plant and animal health or to assist in building capacity in the aforementioned areas

	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Total	Weighted Average
–	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%		
S	0	0	0	2	10	12	4.83