

PRESS RELEASE
POLICY DIALOGUES EU – COLOMBIA, ECUADOR, PERÚ
ON SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS
28 – 29 SEPTEMBER 2022

Building Sustainable Food Systems Together

The European Union, together with Colombia, Ecuador and Perú forging cooperation towards Sustainable Food Systems for the benefit of farmers, consumers, and the environment.

Accelerating the transition towards sustainable food systems is a commitment of the international community that calls for strategic partnerships.

With the Farm to Fork (F2F) Strategy, the Green Deal recognises that Food Systems contribute to climate change, biodiversity loss, and environmental and ocean degradation, posing threats to human life and life on Earth. It is in this context, that the “European Union (EU) – Latin America and the Caribbean *Dialogues on Sustainable Food Systems*” are organized, aiming to promote a constructive exchange of ideas to find common grounds and initiatives that can pave the way for further collaborations to push food systems towards sustainability. Sustainable EU policies represent a cooperation that the European Union aspires to develop with an inclusive approach.

On 28 - 29 September 2022, policy makers from the EU, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru engaged in a Dialogue on Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems. Both days were attended by representatives of the EU, Ministries, public institutions and universities in Colombia, Ecuador and Peru, as well as private sector representatives.

In this sub-regional workshops, substantial progress was made in understanding the perspectives, mutual principles and opportunities for joint actions to improve and achieve a coordinated response to the key challenges of climate change and sustainability in food systems.

While on the first day of the seminar, speakers from the EU, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru had fruitful exchanges on regional perspectives, the second day focused on key elements for the bi-

regional strategy and cooperation, such as: agroecology as transition of the agricultural systems, sustainable use of pesticides, and food loss and waste.

The Dialogue was opened by Mrs. Sandra Gallina, Director General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE) of the European Commission, and Mr. Juan Redondo Altamirano Quispe, Deputy Minister for Policies and Supervision of Agrarian Development, Peru. Mrs. Sandra Gallina conveyed the importance of the European Union's partnership with Colombia, Ecuador and Peru as sustainability and food systems are considered a vital area of cooperation, and stressed the importance of European Union partners sharing common values. Mr. Juan Altamirano Quispe, in turn, shared the perspective of the Andean countries, and confirmed Peru's commitment to addressing food waste and climate change, which includes reducing greenhouse gases, reducing pressure on water and its quality, preserving biodiversity, the health and nutrition of rural communities, and better consumer information. Subsequently, the European Commission presented the EU Strategy for sustainable food systems, outlining how the EU intends to make food systems sustainable and integrate sustainability into all food-related policies, followed by the perspectives of representatives from Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru.

As a result of the event, the parties shared a commitment to continue the dialogue with the aim of building alliances to work together for a transition to more resilient sustainable food systems globally.

The “EU - Latin America and the Caribbean Dialogues on Sustainable Food Systems” consist of a total of four sub-regional workshops, three of which have already been held throughout 2022 with Central America; Mercosur and Chile; Colombia, Peru and Ecuador. The fourth workshop will focus on an EU-Caribbean sub-regional dialogue and will take place in February 2023.

You can check the agenda through the following link: xxxxxxxx