

Project AgriChains Brazil: Sustainable Soy Supply Chain

Background

The Project AgriChains Brazil, or Sustainable Chains Project, is part of the GIZ' Global Program "Sustainability and Value Added in Agricultural Supply Chains (AgriChains)", which operates in Brazil, Burkina Faso, Colombia, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Indonesia and Uzbekistan. It is intended to enhance the sustainability of selected supply chains in these countries, including bananas, cotton, coffee, cocoa, natural rubber, palm oil and soy.

The Global Program adopts the "from field to shelf" or "from shelf to field" approach, and builds on the role that consumers and supply chain companies play to foster sustainability in selected supply chains.

The program contributes to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) number 1, 2 and 5 (living conditions of farmers), 8 and 9 (rural development), 12 (social and environmental responsibilities in companies) and 17 (sector exchanges among the actors involved).

The project in Brazil—General Goal

In Brazil, the project is implemented in the state of Maranhão, and aims to make the soybean supply chain more sustainable.

The project brings together the **supply chain approach** and a **territorial approach**, with actions to protect the landscape and ecosystems in the Cerrado biome, and to strengthen special supply chains for family farmers and traditional populations, such as babassu and carnaúba.

The results are achieved through the promotion of sustainable production methods and capacity building of actors at various levels, and the project has become an important mean to support the EUDR (EU Deforestation-Free Regulation) operationalization in Brazil.

Components and results obtained so far

Sustainability, supply chains and territory: Sustainable production is boosted.

- Support for increased sustainable production in accordance with national and international standards and practices;
- Sustainability concepts, standards, approaches and best practices are shared, in cooperation with relevant organizations, networks, and initiatives;

Name	Global Program/BR: Sustainability and Value Added in Agricultural Supply Chains
Country	Brazil
German partner	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Implementing partners	Government of the State of Maranhão
Overall term	August 2020 to December 2025
Budget	€ 6,85 million

- Use of digital systems and technology tools to support sustainable production, traceability and territorial monitoring.

Key results:

- ⇒ More than 260 thousands new hectares of soybeans produced with improved social and environmental standards, in partnership with associations of farmers, industry actors and soybean trading companies;
- ⇒ 767 family farmers and traditional populations assisted with improved social and environmental standards in the babassu and carnaúba supply chains.

Development of capacities: the capacities of local stakeholders to add value along the supply chains are strengthened

- Development of capacities for stakeholders on topics related to productivity, quality, and addition of sustainable value to supply chains;
- Conducting studies and fostering innovations and technologies in market- and entrepreneurship-related topics;
- Support to exchanges of sustainable production experiences.
- Support to financial mechanisms and incentives for sustainable production.

Key results:

- ⇒ 2,090 farmers, technicians and service providers participating in trainings and educational sessions on climate, agribusiness management, environmental management, human rights, occupational health and safety, best agricultural practices, gender and youth protagonism, among other topics relevant to supply chains and territorial affairs.



Left hand side: Crop-livestock-forestry integration system (Rede ILPF)

Middle: Soybean grains

Right-hand side: Babassu

Sustainable regional strategies: strategies to boost the demand for sustainable products are developed.

- Development and implementation of strategies to increase the demand for sustainable products;
- Development of multi-stakeholder partnerships;
- Development of cooperation and strategic public and private partnerships;
- Joint establishment of goals and indicators of sustainable development for the project's geographical scope;
- Support for the environmental conservation of priority areas.

Key results:

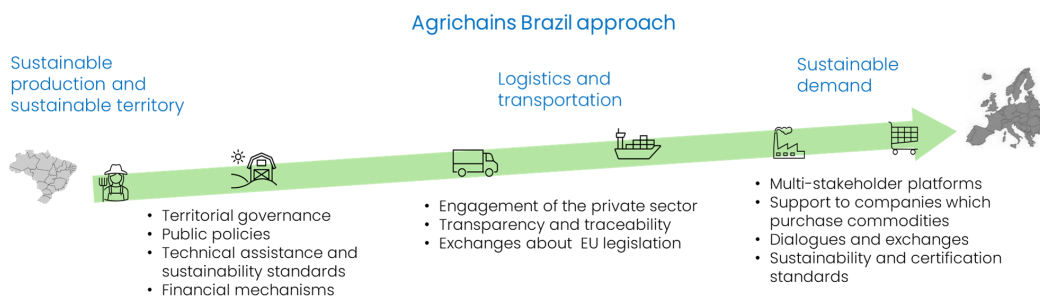
- ⇒ Strategic partnerships with the private sector, including tradings (Archer Midland Daniels – ADM, Brazilian Association of Vegetable Oil Industries – ABIOVE and Soft Commodities Forum – SCF), logistic sector (Corridor Logistics and Infrastructure – CLI e VLI Logistic), and soy buyers in Germany (McDonalds, Dr. Oetker, Kaufland, Edeka, REWE, Beiersdorf);
- ⇒ Support for traceability and transparency mechanisms such as the SIFMA-SELO VERDE Maranhão, and Brazilian National Traceability Program;
- ⇒ Support for the State Conference and State Policy on Family Farming in Maranhão;
- ⇒ Support and participation in four multistakeholders platforms: three at state level (Soy Dialogues for the Itaqui Corridor, Babassu Dialogues and Carnauba Dialogues) and two at territorial level (Chapadinha Committee and Balsas PPI Compact).

Global knowledge exchange: Innovative approaches to design sustainable supply chains are shared.

- Promoting the global knowledge exchange to disseminate innovative approaches and best practices;
- Use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) to support exchanges and knowledge exchanges;
- Harmonization and establishment of cooperation with international platforms;
- Consumer awareness work to improve the reputation of sustainable products and supply chains.

Key results:

- ⇒ Two partnerships with international sustainability platforms: Roundtable on Responsible Soy (RTRS) and Union for Ethical Biotrade (UEBT);
- ⇒ Participation in exchanges at international forums such as the Brazil-Germany Agri-Political Dialogues, the European National Soy Initiatives (ENSI) and the RTRS Meeting Points.
- ⇒ Sector-specific dialogue series “Sustainable Soy Dialogues for the Itaqui Corridor” involving national and international stakeholders to strengthen technical and political cooperation for the sustainability of soybeans produced and marketed through the Itaqui Port.



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