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Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

CODEX
ALIMENTARIUS
INTERNATIONAL FOOD STANDARDS

USE AND IMPACT OF CODEX TEXTS REPORT OF THE CODEX SURVEY 2023



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FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
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FOREWORD

This is the report of the second survey on the use and impact of Codex texts, conducted in 2023. Measuring the use and impact of Codex texts offers important insights into how Codex supports its Members in protecting the health of the consumers and ensuring fair practices in the food trade. By aligning with Codex standards, Members can prevent foodborne illnesses, maintain the credibility of their products in the global market, and earn consumers' trust.

The report provides insights on the outreach, relevance, recognition, and application of Codex texts, and ultimately, their impact. It also identifies barriers to the adoption of Codex texts by Members and offers recommendations to address these obstacles. This second survey benefited from higher participation rates, providing more reliable data. Codex texts continue to score high for Members in terms of relevance and use, particularly for Low and Middle-Income Countries. The report also highlights areas hindering the uptake of Codex texts, including the need to strengthen capacities at national and regional level, as well as raising awareness of Codex work and food safety issues in general.

Regular monitoring of Codex texts also ensures that resources devoted to Codex are being utilized effectively. It provides tangible evidence of the value of Members' investment in Codex, fostering greater accountability and more efficient resource allocation. This approach enables Codex to better tackle emerging challenges in food safety and quality.

The survey is part of a broader mechanism under development by the Codex Secretariat to enhance the monitoring of Codex activities. It intends to complement work being undertaken on case studies on specific Codex texts, and collaboration with WTO on the contribution of Codex texts to international trade.

Finally, as development of the Codex Strategic Plan 2026–2031 progresses, ongoing monitoring of the use and impact of Codex texts provides valuable insights. These findings help guide the Codex Membership in identifying key areas for consideration and inclusion in the next strategic plan.

Steve Wearne, Chairperson, Codex Alimentarius Commission



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ABBREVIATIONS

CAC	Codex Alimentarius Commission
CC	coordinating committee
CCEXC	Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission
CCP	Codex contact point
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
HIC	high-income country
IPPC	International Plant Protection Convention
LMIC	low- and middle-income country
M&E	monitoring and evaluation
NFCS	national food control systems
RCC	regional coordinating committee
UN	United Nations
WHO	World Health Organization
WOAH	World Organisation for Animal Health
WTO	World Trade Organization



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Codex Secretariat, in collaboration with the FAO and WHO evaluation offices, began developing a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) framework in 2021. This framework, rooted in a theory of change developed for this purpose, identifies five key areas for measurement: outputs, reach, usefulness, use, and contribution to intended long-term outcomes.

The first phase of this M&E mechanism involved an annual survey to measure the use and impact of Codex texts among Codex Members. Following the success of the 2022 pilot survey, the 2023 survey continued the effort, focusing on key Codex texts including the *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995), *Guidelines on nutrition labelling* (CXG -1985), *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999), and *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed* (CXG 90-2017).

The annual Codex Member survey is designed to track changes and trends over time. To ensure a representative and meaningful analysis, a systematic selection of Codex texts is conducted each year. The survey follows a three-year cycle, allowing the same texts to be evaluated over time to capture changes in trends and long-term impact.

There were 131 responses from Codex Members in 2023, as outlined in [Table 1](#), for an overall survey response rate of 69 percent. The response rates for the 2023 survey showed a significant improvement over the previous year, with a 17 percent increase in Member responses overall. Every region, except North America and the West Pacific, reported higher response rates. The most substantial increases were noted in the Near East, Latin America and the Caribbean, and African regions.

TABLE 1 Survey participation

CODEX REGION	NUMBER OF CODEX MEMBERS IN THE REGION	NUMBER OF MEMBER SURVEY RESPONSES	2023 SURVEY RESPONSE RATE	2022 SURVEY RESPONSE RATE
Africa	49	32	65%	37%
Asia	24	14	58%	46%
Europe	52	37	71%	65%
Latin America and the Caribbean	33	22	67%	39%
North America and South West Pacific	14	11	79%	100%
Near East	17	15	88%	47%
Total	189	131	69%	52%

Survey responses were further disaggregated by Members' level of income. Of the total of 131 total survey respondents, 49 were from high-income countries (HICs) and 82 were from low- and middle- income countries (LMICs).



ANALYSIS

The survey analysis indicates that Codex texts play a critical role in informing global food safety standards, regulations, and practices. There is considerable use of Codex texts across various regions, which underscores their importance as a foundational reference in shaping food legislation and policy. Codex texts are generally viewed as effective in meeting priority food safety and quality needs, and they contribute significantly to NFCS, enhancing the safety, quality, and trade of food products globally. The survey results also highlight that Codex texts are instrumental in raising stakeholder awareness about food safety and quality issues, and in providing evidence-based interventions.

Regarding barriers to use and impact of Codex texts, it is important to consider that trends can be best identified after several iterations of the survey. As this is only the second year of the survey, the third year will be important to both close the survey cycle and start drawing some trends in responses, particularly related to barriers. Summary conclusions that can be drawn from the 2023 survey data are outlined below:

- > The higher Member participation rate in 2023 was a valuable achievement as the higher response rate provides a better global reflection on the use and impact of Codex texts. It will be important to maintain and continue to grow the response rate in future iterations of the survey, in order to provide an even more accurate reflection of the reality.
- > As comparison of responses from the first two surveys already illustrates the variation that can exist, increasing the data set through future annual surveys will be important to establish trends over time.
- > The level of satisfaction with Codex texts remained positive in 2023 with over 80 percent of respondents indicating they were satisfied or very satisfied with Codex texts. Codex texts appear to be well disseminated amongst stakeholders and meeting priority food safety and quality needs of Members. However, a lack of awareness by national stakeholders scores high as a barrier for Codex texts implementation in LMICs suggesting this is an area that needs further attention.
- > Most survey respondents regard Codex texts as either completely or mostly authoritative and credible. However, there was greater variability in responses regarding the timeliness of Codex texts compared to their perceived authority and credibility. This indicates that while the texts are respected for their content and reliability, Members would welcome a timelier approval process. Nonetheless, there is also a recognized trade-off between authority and credibility, and timeliness of Codex texts. Timeliness of Codex texts could therefore be an area of attention for the Commission and its subsidiary bodies.
- > There is a prominent use by LMICs of Codex texts as: (i) a baseline to inform food legislation, policies, regulations, programmes, and/or practices; (ii) to support NFCS; (iii) to increase stakeholder awareness of food safety and quality issues; and (iv) inform and update food safety and quality training and educational programmes. This group of countries also reports lacking the resources and capacity for a more effective use of Codex texts, needing additional support in capacity development and funding for the participation in Codex work.
- > Respondents generally found Codex texts to be highly impactful in commodity trade, rating them as mostly or completely supportive. However, regarding the role of Codex texts in promoting regional harmonization of food regulations and facilitating smoother intraregional trade, as well as in resolving trade disputes related to food safety and quality standards, there was a high number of LMIC respondents who indicated they "did not know" the impact of Codex texts in preventing or resolving trade disputes in their regions. This may be an area of additional attention, where the foreseen collaboration with the World Trade Organization (WTO) may provide additional insights on the trade impacts of Codex texts.



SELECT CODEX TEXTS

Members from all regions demonstrated good familiarity with the selected Codex texts and provided feedback on their reach, usefulness, and usage. However, an exception was noted for the *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed* (CXG 90-2017),⁵ where Members exhibited less familiarity. The conclusions related to specific Codex texts are detailed below:

- > The *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995)² received a high rating in terms of use and impact, and particularly in increasing stakeholder awareness of food safety and quality issues, as well as supporting evidence-based interventions and recommendations. It is widely utilized and generally receives high satisfaction ratings.
- > The *Guidelines on nutrition labelling* (CXG 2-1985)³ received high satisfaction ratings for its format, structure, language, and dissemination. Stakeholders find these guidelines highly satisfactory and effective in meeting their needs.
- > The *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999)⁴ is a text that is highly regarded. The large majority of respondents reported using it extensively as a baseline for informing food legislation, policies, regulations, programmes, and practices. The high scoring of this text is not surprising as it provides essential information to Codex Members on monitoring of implementation of many different standards.
- > The *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed* (CXG 90-2017) was the text least familiar to respondents among the selected Codex texts, yet those familiar with it expressed a high degree of satisfaction with its format, structure, language, and dissemination. The responses regarding its effectiveness in meeting national priorities and needs were varied globally. This may be due to the fact that the text is more recent and does not include specific methods of analysis but rather performance criteria. Also, this text targets specific audience working on methods of analysis for pesticide residues which is considered a “niche”, hence only those directly involved with it may consider it particularly useful.

RECOMMENDATIONS

In line with the detailed, action-oriented recommendations from the 2022 Codex survey,¹⁰ the 2023 recommendations are proposed to include specific actionable steps and address barriers to the effective use of Codex texts. The focus is on enhancing awareness, capacity building, and improving dissemination in a structured manner:

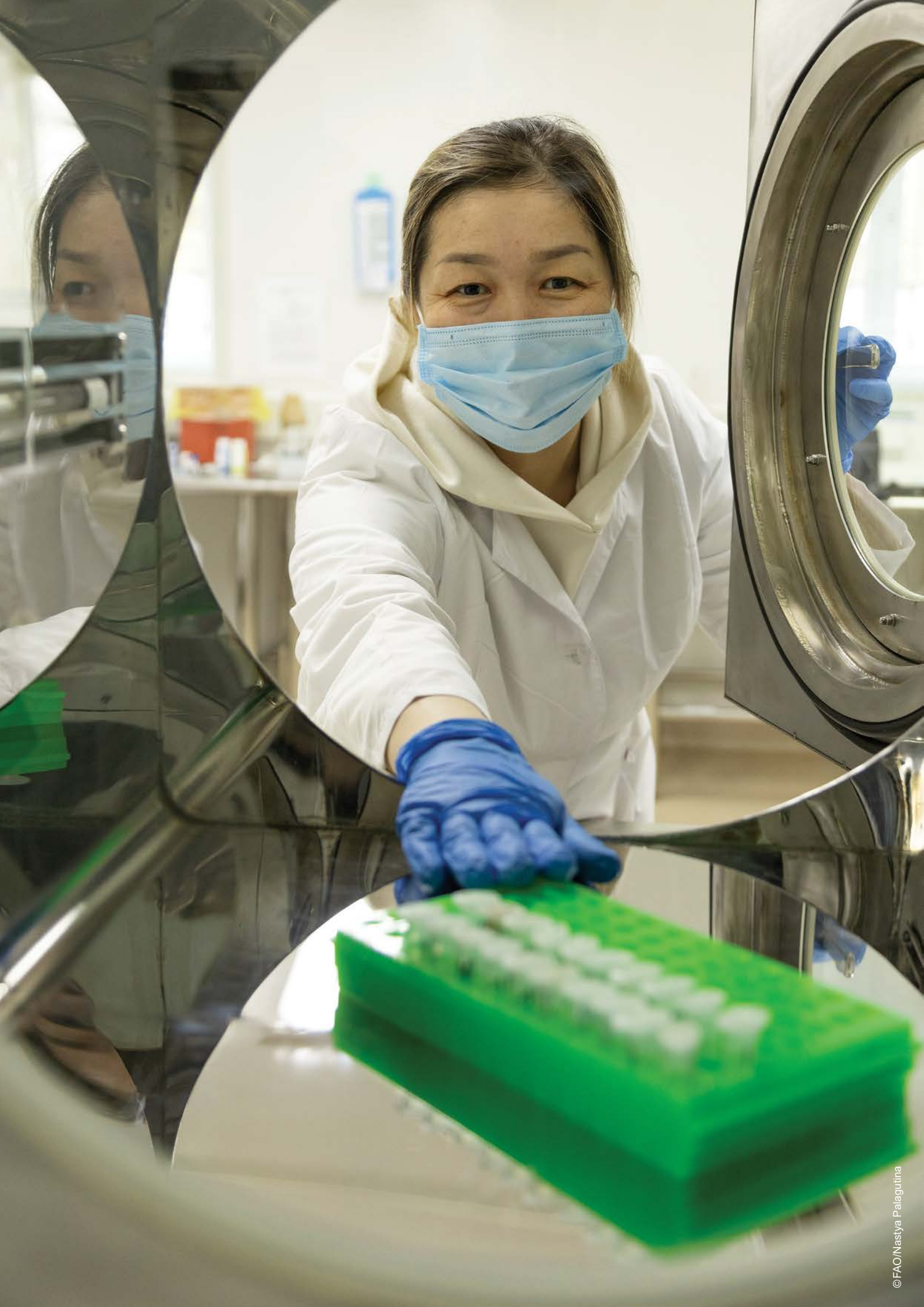
1. **Enhance awareness and use of Codex texts:** Targeted awareness-raising campaigns in regions where knowledge gaps are identified, to improve understanding and application of Codex texts would be beneficial. These campaigns could include multimedia materials, local workshops, and stakeholder meetings. It is important that Members, with relevant collaborators as needed e.g. the Codex Secretariat, FAO, and WHO, increase advocacy for use of Codex texts, aligning with Goal 3 of the *Codex Strategic Plan*¹ to boost the recognition and use of standards.
2. **Promote high-level commitment to food safety and quality:** Given that lack of resources and implementation capacity were the key impediments to standard implementation in LMICs, the need for high-level political commitment to food safety and quality governance and standards adoption and



implementation is key for many countries. High-level advocacy at national level and demonstration of the benefits of food control systems and standards implementation for consumer health and trade may help secure such support. Members could consider the tools, information and actions needed to achieve such support at national level reaching out to the wider Codex community.

3. **Strengthen capacity building and training:** Members could request support from FAO and WHO for capacity-building programmes targeting the gaps and challenges identified in implementing Codex standards in LMICs.
4. **Improve dissemination and accessibility:** While the Codex Secretariat can continue to enhance the digitalization initiatives for Codex texts to ensure they are easily accessible and can be updated swiftly, a variety of channels are needed to ensure they reach a broad audience, including non-traditional stakeholders. This broader reach could be achieved through the efforts of multiple players including Member and Observer contact points, and FAO and WHO and looking for partners that could provide access to relevant stakeholders.
5. **Facilitate communication and collaboration:** With the support of the Codex Secretariat, Members could foster dialogue and exchange on best practices and dissemination of success stories, case studies, and lessons learned, including through the regional coordinating committees.
6. **Increase resources and support:** Members could continue advocating at the national and international level to support data collection to ensure Codex standards are relevant to Members needs and contexts; to support the activities of FAO and WHO in providing timely scientific advice that is based on broad range of contexts and supporting standards that are optimally reflective of Member needs. Enhanced support at the Member level could help overcome specific challenges such as timely country input into Codex text development and the updating of national food safety laws to align with international standards.
7. **Implement M&E of Codex texts:** The Codex Secretariat could continue with implementing a structured M&E framework to assess the impact of Codex texts on national and global food safety practices. In addition to continuing the annual surveys and case studies, the Codex Secretariat could strengthen partnerships with the WTO to provide additional insights on the trade impacts of Codex texts.

These recommendations aim to address the identified barriers effectively and enhance the use and impact of Codex texts globally. By focusing on these targeted actions, Codex can ensure its standards are not only up-to-date and relevant but also widely understood and integrated into national and international food safety strategies.





1

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1.1 CONTEXT

The 42nd Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC42) adopted the *Codex Strategic Plan 2020–2025*.¹ A notable advancement in this plan was the introduction of a new strategic goal, Goal 3: "Increase impact through the recognition and use of Codex standards". Among the objectives under this goal, Objective 3.3 specifically aimed to "Recognize and promote the impact of Codex standards" and sought to develop a mechanism or tool to measure the impact of these standards.

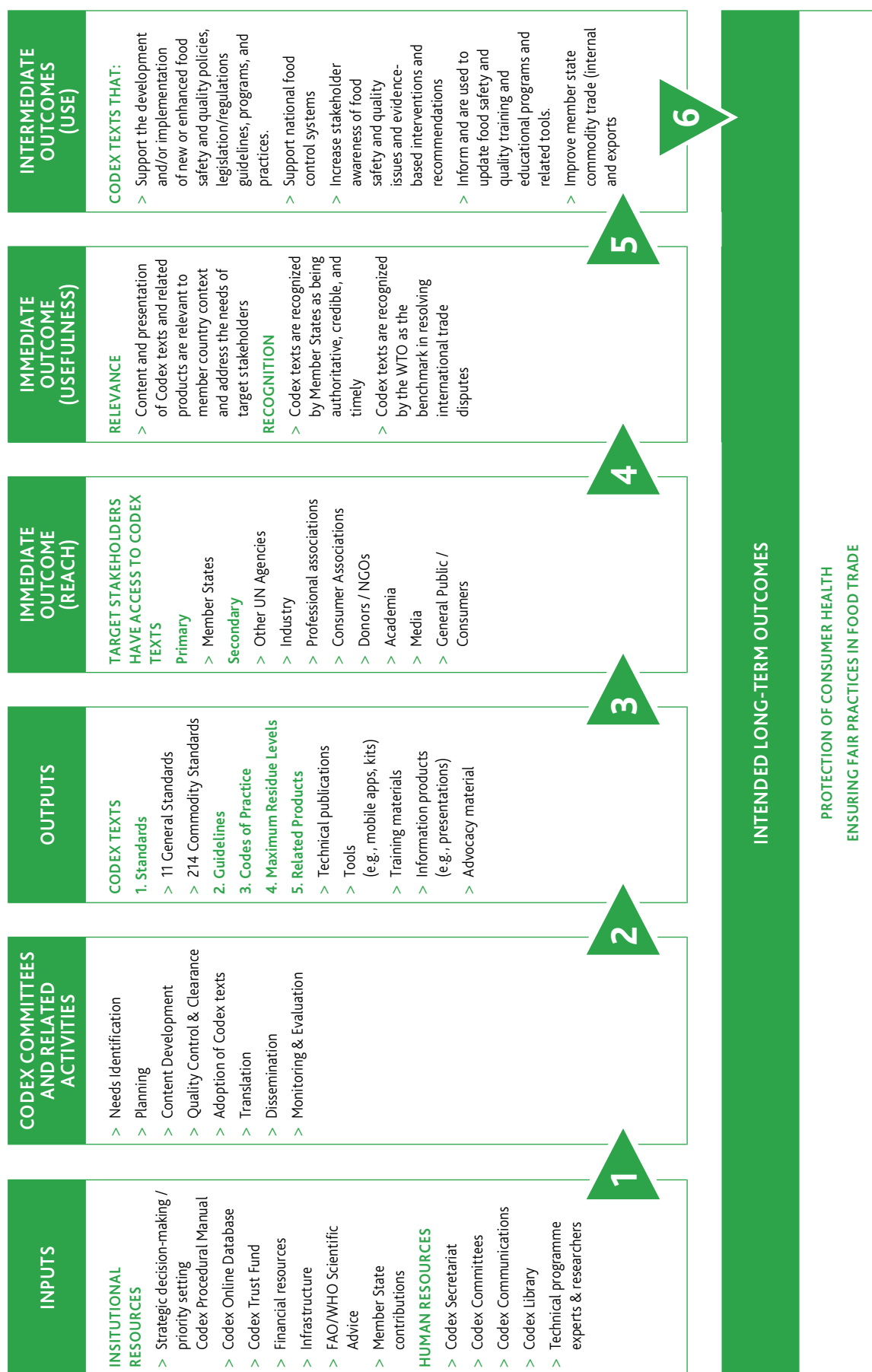
In 2021, the Codex Secretariat, in collaboration with the evaluation office of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO), began work to create a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework to measure the use and impact of Codex texts. This framework was designed to provide insights that could help Codex Members and Observers better gauge and understand the influence or potential impact of Codex texts. The framework's approach, encapsulated in the Logic Model (**Figure 1**), outlines five key areas for measurement: outputs, reach, usefulness, use, and contribution to intended long-term outcomes. The development of the Logic Model was informed by interviews and focus groups conducted with various Codex stakeholders, including Members, ensuring that the framework reflects diverse perspectives and needs. The resulting measurement areas form the foundation for performance planning, monitoring, and reporting.

The first phase of implementing this mechanism involved an annual survey distributed to all Codex Members, aimed at measuring the utilization and effects of Codex texts. The pilot survey conducted in 2022 proved to be a foundational step in this ongoing effort. Encouraged by the findings and positive feedback on the 2022 survey, the Codex Secretariat initiated the 2023 survey.

The 2023 survey focused on several key standards, including the *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995),² *Guidelines on nutrition labelling* (CXG 2-1985),³ *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999),⁴ and *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed* (CXG 90-2017).⁵ Member countries were asked to complete this survey by 25 October 2023.



FIGURE 1 Logic model – Use and impact of Codex texts





"It is important for us to hear your thoughts and concerns. Do Codex texts address your country's needs? I encourage all Members to participate"

Steve Wearne, Chairperson of the Codex Alimentarius Commission

This report presents an overview of the survey approach together with a summary and analysis of the results of its implementation, and recommendations for the further work in this area.

1.2 SURVEY OBJECTIVE AND SCOPE

The Codex Member survey is conducted annually, featuring both general questions about Codex texts and more detailed questions about specific texts to identify trends over time. The 2023 survey focused on a different selection of texts compared to 2022. Based on the theory of change, the following dimensions are measured through the survey:

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

The 2023 Codex survey ([Annex A](#)) was designed to evaluate the reach, relevance, usefulness and use and impact of Codex texts, following up on the initial findings from the 2022 pilot survey. The 2023 survey, targeting Codex Members, included texts adopted between 2015 and 2020, assessing both general and specific impacts.

Given the extensive number of guidelines, standards, and codes of practice Codex produces, clear selection criteria were crucial for the survey. Each year, three to four texts are selected based on the following criteria:

1. texts should be global in scope (i.e. horizontal texts) and relevant across various Codex general subject committees or task forces;
2. texts should be recent, ideally developed or revised within the last five years; and
3. texts should be among the most utilized and are evaluated over time to assess trends.

The texts selected for the 2023 survey included the:

- > *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995);
- > *Guidelines on nutrition labelling* (CXG 2-1985);
- > *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999); and
- > *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed* (CXG 90-2017).

The survey follows a three-year cycle to allow repeated assessment of the same texts, providing a longitudinal view of their use and impact. The following texts are scheduled for evaluation in 2024:

- > *Principles and guidelines for national food control systems* (CXG 82-2013);⁶
- > *Working principles for risk analysis for food safety for application by governments* (CXG 62-2007);⁷



- > *Maximum residue limits and risk management recommendations for veterinary drug residues in foods* (CXM 2-2018);⁸ and
- > *Code of practice to minimize and contain foodborne antimicrobial resistance* (CXC 61-2021).⁹

1.3 APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY

1.3.1 DEMOGRAPHICS AND PARTICIPATION

There were 131 responses from Codex Members in 2023, as outlined in the [Table 2](#), for an overall survey response rate of 69 percent.

TABLE 2 Survey participation

CODEX REGION	NUMBER OF CODEX MEMBERS IN THE REGION	NUMBER OF MEMBER SURVEY RESPONSES	2023 SURVEY RESPONSE RATE	2022 SURVEY RESPONSE RATE
Africa	49	32	65%	37%
Asia	24	14	58%	46%
Europe	52	37	71%	65%
Latin America and the Caribbean	33	22	67%	39%
North America and South West Pacific	14	11	79%	100%
Near East	17	15	88%	47%
Total	189	131	69%	52%

The response rates for the 2023 survey showed a significant improvement over the previous year, with a 17 percent increase in Member responses overall. Every region, except North America and the West Pacific, reported higher response rates. The most substantial increases were noted in the Near East, Latin America and the Caribbean, and African regions. This uptick in participation can be attributed to several factors:

- > enhanced promotional efforts for the Codex survey, both generally and within specific regions, since the implementation of the 2022 survey;
- > increased familiarity of Codex contact points (CCPs) with the survey process intent and results; and
- > active support of the regional coordinators in encouraging Codex Members in their respective regions to respond to the survey.

Survey responses were further disaggregated by Members' level of income, as shown in [Table 3](#). Of the total of 131 total survey respondents, 49 were from high-income countries (HICs) and 82 were from low- and middle- income countries (LMICs).

"We thank all Codex contact points (CCPs) who will contribute to this survey: your commitment to information collection and sharing is crucial in improving food standards and food safety continuously"

Farid El Haffar, Codex Secretariat Officer in charge of the survey



TABLE 3 Survey participation by income level

CODEX REGION	NUMBER OF CODEX MEMBERS IN THE REGION	NUMBER OF MEMBER SURVEY RESPONSES	NUMBER OF HIGH-INCOME COUNTRY (HIC) RESPONDENTS	NUMBER OF LOW- AND MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRY (LMIC) RESPONDENTS
Africa	49	32	1	31
Asia	24	14	2	12
Europe	52	37	28	9
Latin America and the Caribbean	33	22	8	14
North America and South West Pacific	14	11	6	5
Near East	17	15	4	11
Total	189	131	49 (37%)	82 (63%)

1.3.2 SELECTED CODEX TEXTS

For the 2023 survey, Members were asked to evaluate their familiarity with four specifically selected Codex texts. The results, as detailed in the [Table 4](#), show that 83 percent of Members were familiar with the *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995),² 78 percent with the *Guidelines on nutrition labelling* (CXG 2-1985),³ and 71 percent with the *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999).⁴ The *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed* (CXG 90-2017)⁵ received the lowest familiarity score, with only 56 percent of respondents acknowledging awareness of this standard. This may be due to this text being newer and perhaps less familiar to Codex Members. Moreover, rather than guiding on specific methods of analysis, it provides performance criteria, which may be more complex to translate to a national context.

Notably, there was an increase in the number of respondents unfamiliar with any of the selected texts: 7 percent this survey compared to 4 percent in the previous survey. This shift may be attributed to the larger overall response rate in 2023, spurred by intensified promotional efforts.

TABLE 4 Codex texts selected for country response

CODEX TEXT	NUMBER OF MEMBER SURVEY RESPONSES	RESPONSE RATE (OUT OF 131)
<i>General standard for food additives</i> (CXS 192-1995)	109	83%
<i>Guidelines on nutrition labelling</i> (CXG 2-1985)	103	78%
<i>Recommended methods of analysis and sampling</i> (CXS 234-1999)	94	71%
<i>Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed</i> (CXG 90-2017)	73	56%
Unfamiliar with any of the selected Codex texts	9	7%



1.3.3 LIMITS OF ANALYSIS

1. **Regional variability in responses:** Response rates varied across regions, from 88 percent in the Near East to 58 percent in Asia. This variability affects the analysis when disaggregating data by region, especially in regions with low response rates. For instance, in disaggregating regional data, for a few specific questions, one Codex Member response could account for as much as 20 percent of responses. However, the gap in regional responses was smaller compared to the 2022 survey.
2. **Consolidated responses from the European Union:** The European Union (EU) responded on behalf of Members that did not submit individual responses, leading to 23 of the 37 European responses being identical. This approach was also taken in the previous year, where 20 of 34 European responses were the same. There were limited replies from Russian-speaking countries, making the European region responses largely influenced by the EU single reply on behalf of 23 of its Member States.
3. **Variable text-specific response rates:** Familiarity with the surveyed Codex texts varied widely among respondents. For example, 83 percent were familiar with the *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995),² but only 56 percent were familiar with the *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed* (CXG 90-2017).⁵ Therefore, text-specific responses reflect the views of that proportion of Codex Members that are familiar with them, rather than the views of all Members that responded to the survey.
4. **Survey implementation issues:** The survey was programmed into an online platform, SurveyMonkey, for distribution. During this process, certain errors occurred: notably, Question 9c, related to the *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed*, lacked a qualitative response box for respondents to elaborate on their usage of the Codex text in food legislation and policies. Additionally, Question 10, which inquires how well Codex texts meet countries' food safety and quality needs, was not set as mandatory, leading to only 56 global responses. The errors were fixed as soon as they were noted, however they affected a part of the responses received. Despite this issue, the response count for Question 10 was deemed a representative sample for the 2023 survey.



1.4 HOW TO READ THIS REPORT

This report presents the findings from the Likert-based survey (see [Annex B](#) for a Likert scale overview), analysing trends both globally and within specific Codex regions, followed by income-based analysis. Here is how to navigate and understand the data presented:

OVERVIEW OF ANALYSIS APPROACH

- > The responses are analysed and depicted as percentages within specified groups. For instance, [Figure 2](#) below displays the response rates from each Codex region as a proportion of the total number of Codex Members in that region. This method allows for a more meaningful comparison across regions by adjusting for differences in size.
- > Responses are also broken down by World Bank income categories (LMICs and HICs), and these income-disaggregated analyses are similarly evaluated in relation to the total number of Members in each income group.

STRUCTURE OF FIGURES IN THE REPORT

- > The figures are structured to sequentially address both general and text-specific queries:
 - A general question about all Codex texts, reflecting overall perceptions;
 - B specific question related to the *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995);²
 - C specific question related to the *Guidelines on nutrition labelling* (CXG 2-1985);³
 - D specific question related to the *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999);⁴ and
 - E specific question related to the *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed* (CXG 90-2017).⁵

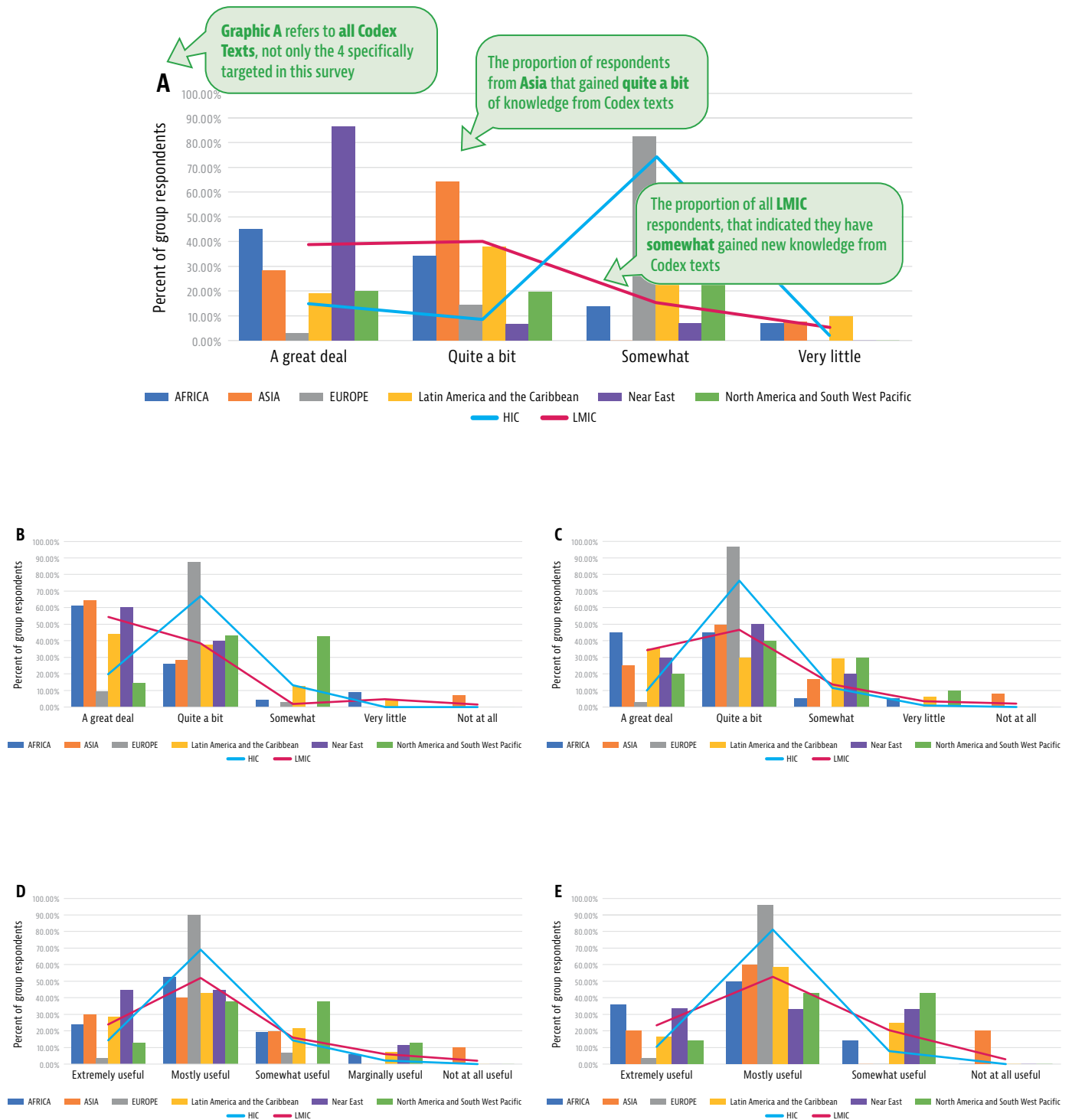
EXAMPLE OF DATA PRESENTATION

- > [Figure 2](#) exemplifies how the data is visualized in this report. It shows the extent of new knowledge gained from Codex texts generally (Chart A) and from each specific text (Charts B, C, D, and E). This format helps illustrate both the general and detailed insights derived from the survey responses.

By following this structured approach, the report aims to provide clear insights into the use and impact of Codex texts across different regions and income levels.



FIGURE 2 Example: degree that new knowledge from Codex texts have been gained: (A) generally; (B) from the *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995); (C) from the *Guidelines on nutrition labelling* (CXG 2-1985); (D) from the *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999); and (E) from the *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed* (CXS 90-2017).







2

SURVEY ANALYSIS

The theory of change for the M&E framework to measure the use and impact of Codex texts is summarized in the Logic Model presented in **Figure 1** and identifies five broad measurement areas (i.e. outputs, reach, usefulness, use, and contribution to intended long-term outcomes) that serve as the basis of performance planning, monitoring, and reporting. Accordingly, the survey reporting and analysis is divided into four sections (i.e. reach, relevance, use and impact, and satisfaction) that align with the M&E framework Logic Model that was derived from the theory of change (see Annex C for the alignment with the Codex M&E framework). Each section provides an overview of the replies to the relevant question and the key findings.

2.1 REACH

The M&E framework aims to measure the extent to which Codex texts reach their intended stakeholders. The underlying result for **reach** is "*target audiences have access to Codex texts*". The M&E framework therefore assesses the dissemination strategies that countries put in place and the Codex text features, which are defined as: (i) format and structure of Codex texts; (ii) language (appropriate and comprehensible); and (iii) method of dissemination (by the Codex Secretariat).

2.1.1 EXTENT CODEX TEXTS ARE DISSEMINATED TO STAKEHOLDERS BY COUNTRIES

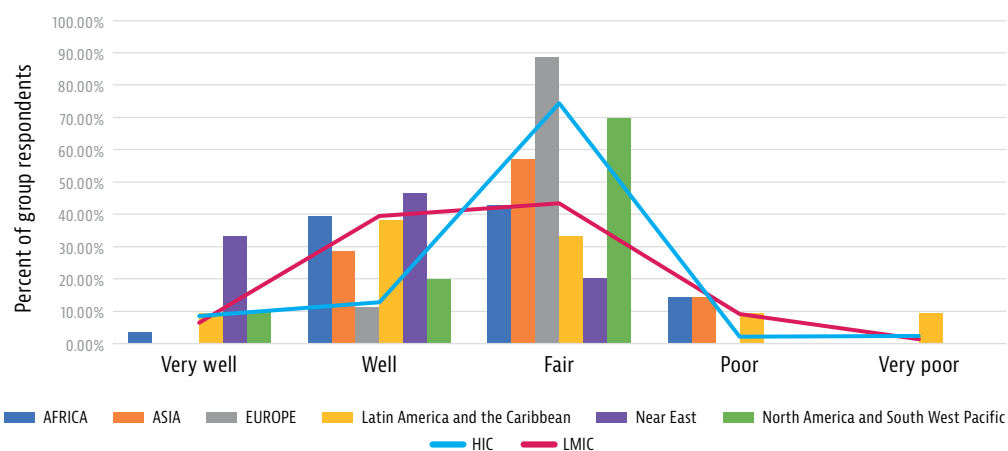
Across both income level groups, Codex texts appear to be fairly, to well disseminated amongst stakeholders by countries, with most LMIC respondents indicating texts being disseminated "fair" or "well", and HIC respondents indicating "fair" dissemination (**Figure 3**). There are few responses across both groups reporting dissemination being implemented "very well" or "very poor", but LMIC responses are more distributed than HIC responses. The variance in responses may reflect different types of dissemination and therefore access to Codex texts in countries. Of note is the poorer scoring of HICs that should have more effective dissemination mechanisms than LMIC.

The dissemination of Codex texts to stakeholders varies by region but generally aligns with the income level trends. The survey results indicate that most countries manage to distribute Codex texts effectively to relevant parties. Specific regional observations include:

- > **Near East:** respondents predominantly report that Codex texts are disseminated "very well" to "well";
- > **Europe:** the majority of responses indicate a "fair" level of dissemination; and
- > **Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia, Africa, and North America and South West Pacific:** responses range between "well" and "fair", aligning closely with the overall global trend.



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

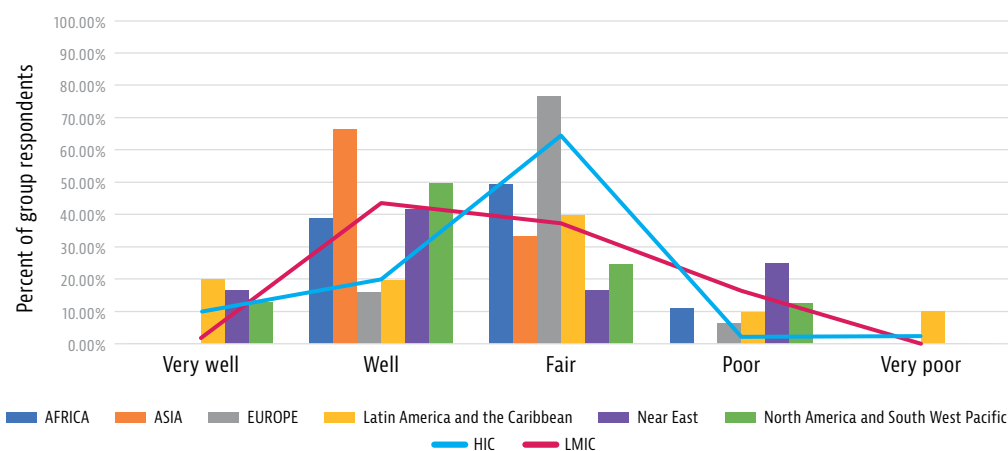


As shown in Figure 4, the dissemination levels in the 2023 survey are largely consistent with those of the 2022 Codex survey.¹⁰ There is a slight global shift towards more “fair” ratings, with a corresponding decrease in “well” ratings. Notable regional shifts include:

- > **North America and South West Pacific:** these regions reported an increase in the extent to which Codex texts are disseminated;
- > **Asia:** responses show a more even distribution between “well” and “fair” compared to previous years; and
- > **Latin America and the Caribbean:** despite fewer “poor” and “very poor” responses, this region still accounts for most of the lower ratings.

Overall, while there is a slight trend towards more moderate ratings of dissemination effectiveness, with the majority of regions reporting adequate dissemination efforts.

FIGURE 4 2022 Codex survey results for dissemination of Codex texts to stakeholders.





2.1.2 LEVEL OF SATISFACTION WITH CODEX TEXT FEATURES

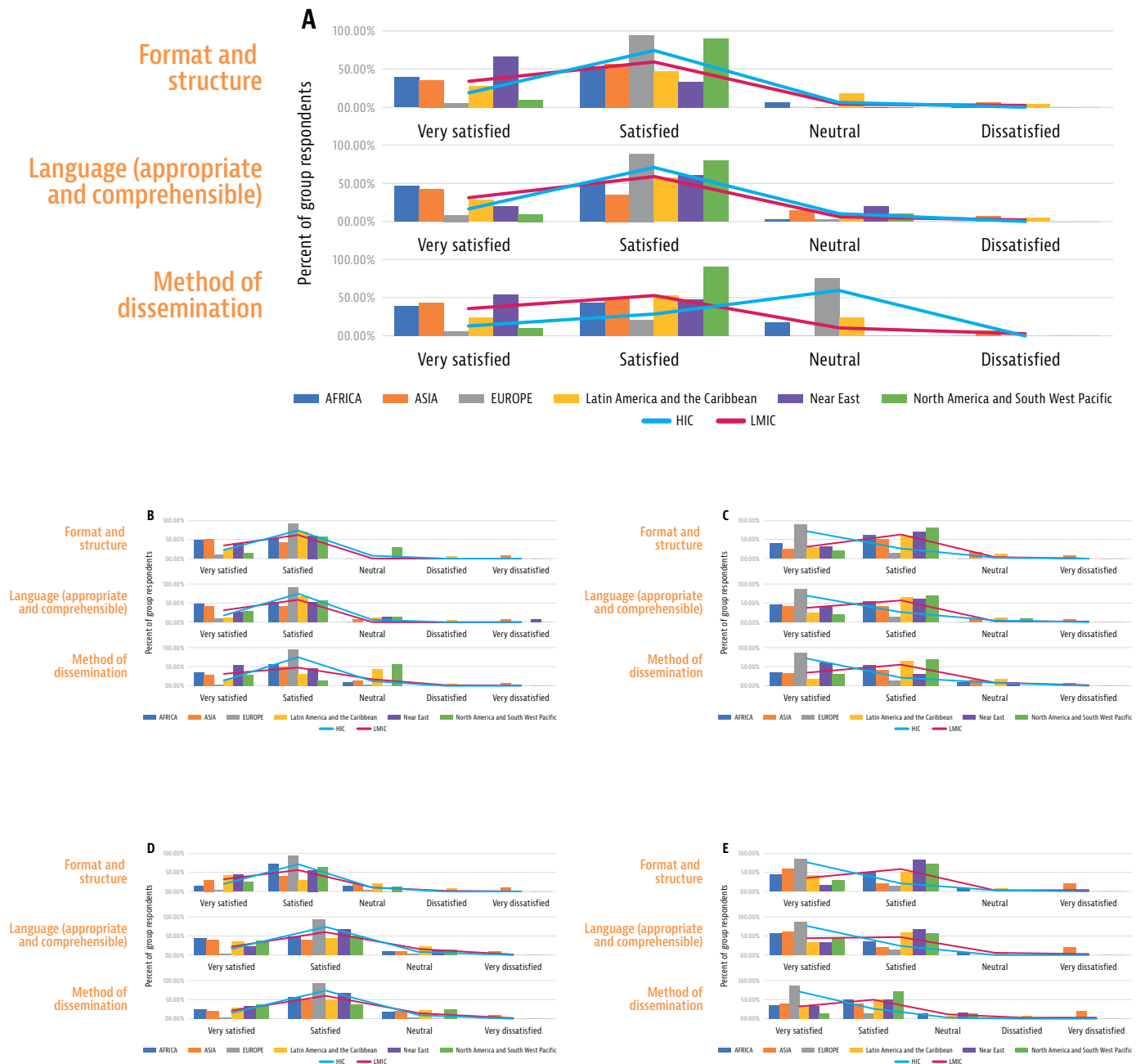
Codex text features were defined as: (i) format and structure of Codex texts; (ii) language (appropriate and comprehensible); and (iii) method of dissemination (by the Codex Secretariat). Respondents across both income levels were satisfied with the format and structure and language of Codex texts generally. (Figure 5A). HIC respondents were more neutral in their satisfaction about the method of dissemination of Codex texts compared to LMICs.

Respondents across all regions, expressed a high level of satisfaction with various features of Codex texts, such as the format and structure, language, and methods of dissemination implemented by the Secretariat. This overall satisfaction is reflected in Figure 5A through 5E, which illustrate responses for both general Codex texts and specific texts.

Of note is the high satisfaction of respondents with the features of specific texts such as the *Guidelines on nutrition labelling* (CXG 2-1985)³ and the *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed* (CXG 90-2017).⁵



FIGURE 5 Level of satisfaction with features of: (A) Codex texts in general; (B) *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995) (C) *Guidelines on nutrition labelling* (CXG 2-1985); (D) *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999); and (E) *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed* (CXS 90-2017).





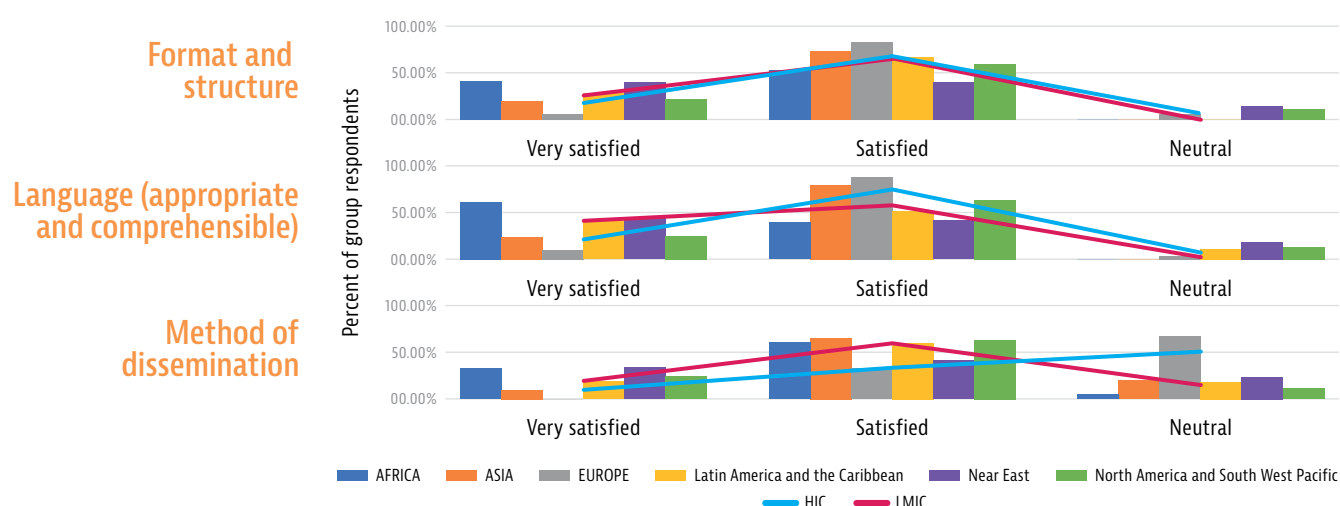
All regions showed similar patterns of response distribution, indicating a general consensus on satisfaction levels. Specific regional observations include:

- > **Europe:** responses from Europe were more neutral concerning the dissemination of Codex texts, contrasting with other regions where the response trend was more towards "satisfied" or "very satisfied".

The overall level of satisfaction with Codex text features in the 2023 survey was similar to that observed in the 2022 survey, as depicted in **Figure 6**. As in 2022, some responses in 2023 indicated a slightly lower satisfaction with the methods of text dissemination compared to their format, structure, and language.

Overall, while there is considerable satisfaction with the format and language of Codex texts and their dissemination methods, there are nuanced differences across specific texts and regions, with some variations in the level of satisfaction noted particularly in dissemination methods, as explained above.

FIGURE 6 2022 Codex survey results for level of satisfaction with Codex texts features.





2.2 RELEVANCE

There are two result statements for **relevance**, one is related to stakeholder satisfaction and the other is related to recognition. Regarding stakeholder satisfaction, the result statement is: *"the content and presentation of Codex texts and related products are relevant to Member Country context and address the needs of target stakeholders"*. Stakeholder satisfaction is assessed through the following dimensions:

- > **Member State involvement:** Member States are able to effectively engage in the planning and development processes of Codex texts;
- > **Stakeholder priorities:** Codex texts are addressing priority food safety and quality needs; and
- > **Stakeholder practices:** Codex texts are useful in strengthening food safety and quality practices.

The second result statement is related to recognition: *"Codex texts are recognized by Member States as being authoritative, credible, and timely"*. The Codex M&E framework aims to collect data on a range of these factors to assess the achievement of these results.

2.2.1 EXTENT THAT CODEX TEXTS MEET PRIORITY FOOD SAFETY AND QUALITY NEEDS

There were no significant differences between LMICs and HICs and between regions, with respondents expressing that Codex texts were of high relevance, meeting priority food safety and quality needs. (Figure 7A). Over 80 percent from both groups of respondents found that Codex texts were mostly or extremely useful in meeting priority food safety and quality needs for their country.

Text-specific variations include:

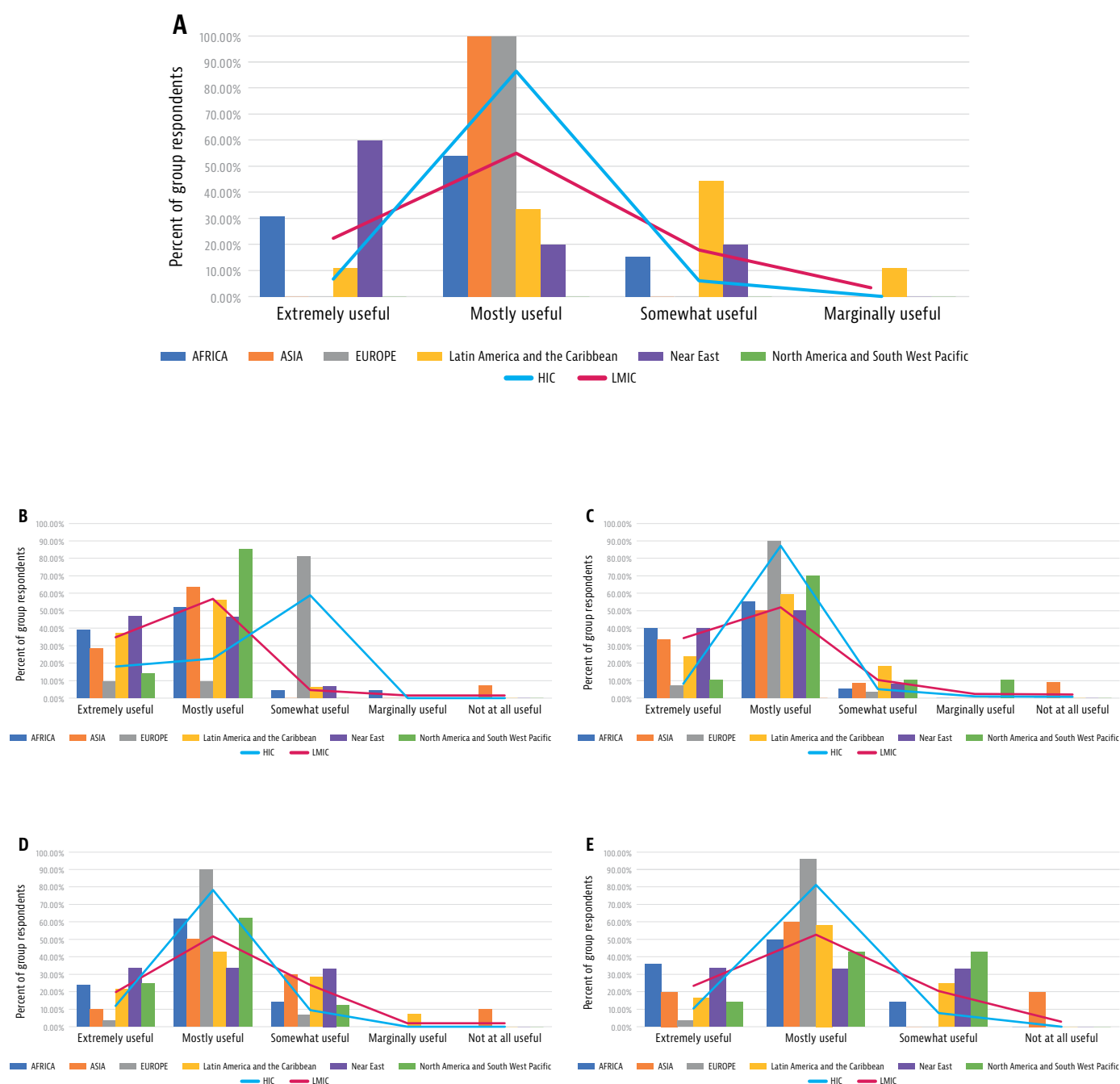
- > Among the specific texts evaluated, the *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed* (CXG 90-2017)⁵ showed a broader range of responses, as illustrated in Figure 7E. In particular, regions like North America and South West Pacific, along with the Near East, had a significant number of responses rating the standard as only "somewhat useful". This may be due to the fact that this is a newer text, that does not detail methods of analysis *per se*, but rather gives indications on performance criteria. It is therefore more difficult to adapt to the national context. Also, this text targets a specific audience working on methods of analysis for pesticide residues which is somewhat a "niche" area, hence only those directly involved in this area of work may consider it particularly useful.
- > Conversely, Europe consistently rated Codex texts as "mostly useful" for all selected texts, with the exception of the *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995),² which they found only "somewhat useful", as shown in Figure 7B. This may be due to the fact that the majority of responses from Europe come from the European Union, whose Members use the EU regulation as their primary reference.

"As this is a standard that refers to the work of laboratories, we consider it pertinent that it be updated periodically, within a reasonable period of time for the workload of the Codex Committee for Pesticide Residues."

LAC respondent, regarding Guidelines on Performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed.



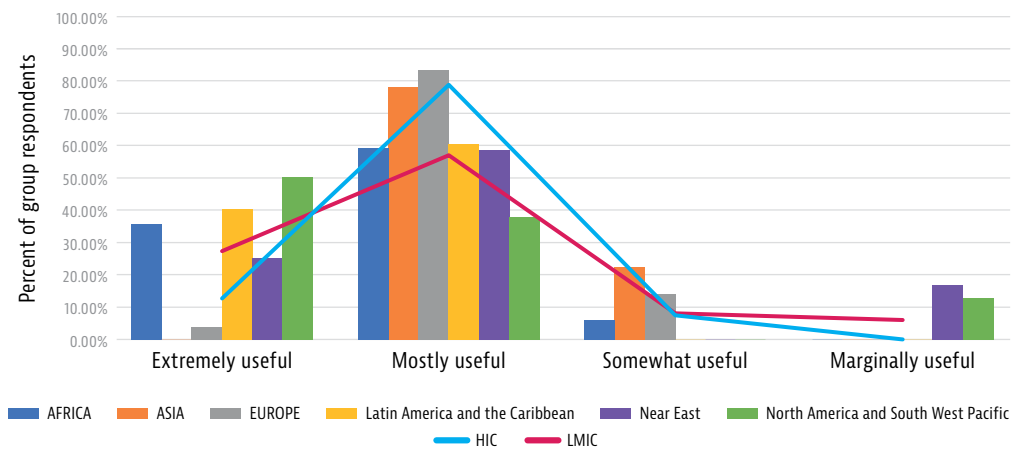
FIGURE 7 Extent that: (A) Codex texts in general; (B) *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995); (C) *Guidelines on nutrition labelling* (CXG 2-1985); (D) *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999); and (E) *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed* (CXS 90-2017) meet priority food safety and quality needs.





When comparing data from the 2022 and 2023 Codex surveys, as illustrated in Figures 7A and 8, there is a consistent perception of Codex texts being “mostly useful” in meeting priority food safety and quality needs. However, notable regional differences emerge between the two survey years. For instance, there has been a significant increase in the perception of Codex texts as being “extremely useful” versus “mostly useful” in the North America and South West Pacific region.

FIGURE 8 2022 Codex survey results concerning the extent that, generally, Codex texts meet priority food safety and quality needs.





2.2.2 DEGREE THAT NEW KNOWLEDGE FROM CODEX TEXTS HAS BEEN GAINED

The survey revealed a broad range of responses regarding the acquisition of new knowledge from Codex texts, as illustrated in **Figure 9A**. Responses show that LMICs gained more knowledge from Codex texts than HIC. 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.

Regional responses varied widely, from "a great deal" of knowledge gained to only "somewhat", with very few respondents indicating "very little" knowledge gained. This may be due to the different rate of HICs and LMICs in the regional groups, where more advanced economies may gain less knowledge from Codex texts. Specific insights include:

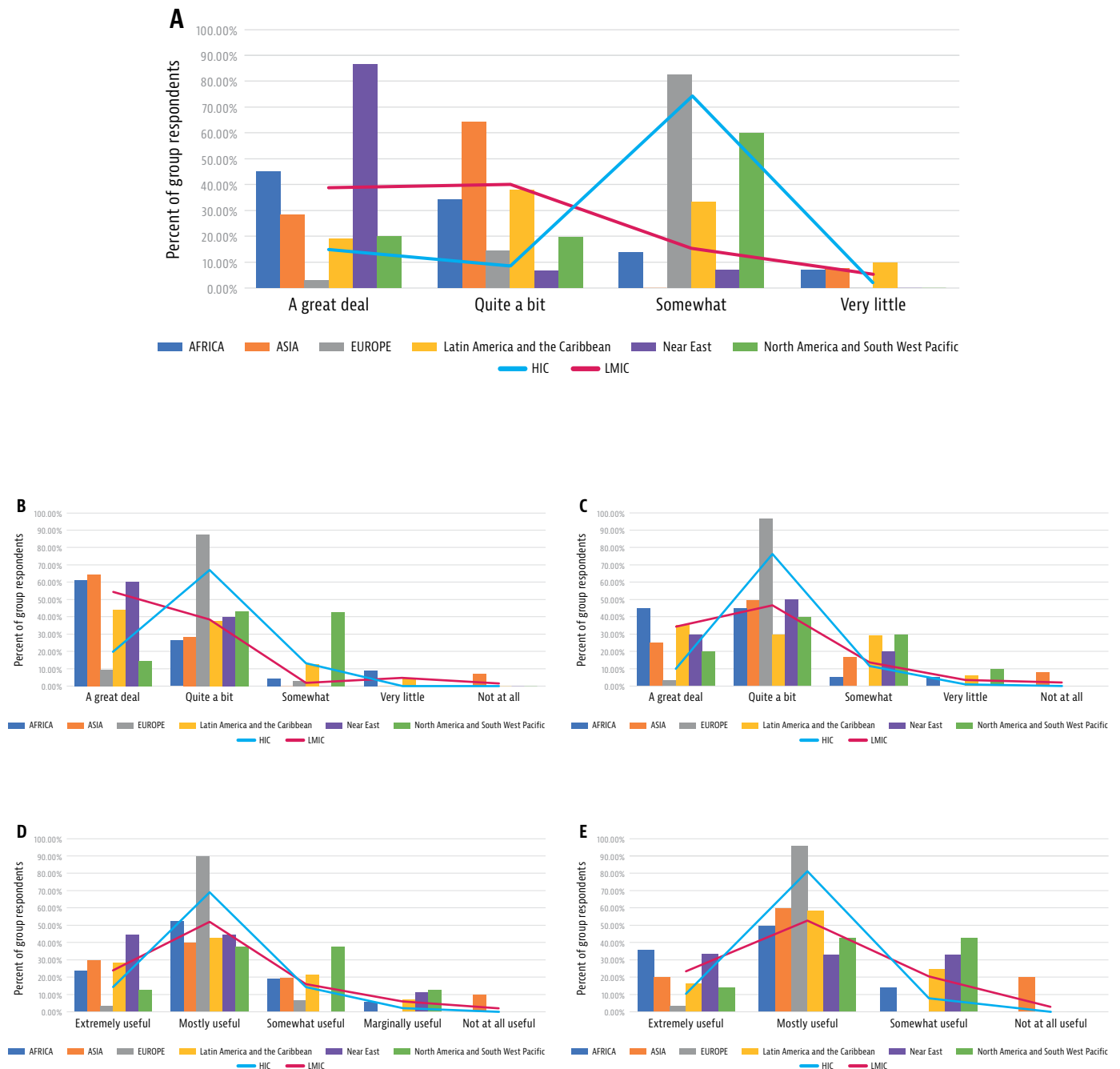
- > **Near East:** in the Near East, nearly 90 percent of respondents felt they had gained "a great deal" of knowledge from Codex texts generally; and
- > **Europe:** in contrast, over 80 percent of European respondents reported that new knowledge was only "somewhat" gained.

Across all text-specific prompts (**Figures 9B-9E**), respondents generally found the Codex texts useful for gaining new knowledge. Notably, the *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995)² was highlighted as particularly beneficial, with many respondents indicating that "a great deal" of knowledge had been gained (**Figure 9B**).

Responses varied regionally with some indicating "very little" knowledge gained. North America and South West Pacific displayed the most varied responses, with a significant portion noting that the texts were only "somewhat useful" for gaining new knowledge.



FIGURE 9 Degree that new knowledge from Codex texts have been gained: (A) generally; (B) from *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995); (C) from *Guidelines on nutrition labelling* (CXG 2-1985); (D) from *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999); and (E) from *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed* (CXS 90-2017).

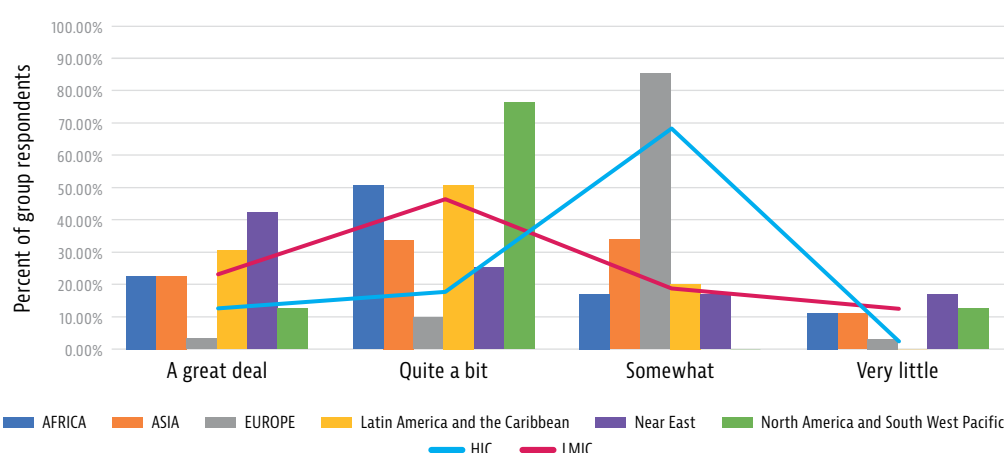




In comparison to the 2022 Codex survey results (Figure 10), there has been a slight increase in respondents who felt they gained “a great deal” of knowledge overall. Specifically, there was a noticeable increase among respondents from the Near East and African regions in the amount of new knowledge gained. This may be due to the increase in responses from these regions.

Conversely, there was a decrease among North American and South West Pacific respondents who felt they gained “a great deal” of knowledge, with the majority in 2023 noting that new knowledge was only “somewhat” gained. As in the previous year, very few respondents in 2023 felt that “very little” new knowledge was gained from Codex texts.

FIGURE 10 2022 Codex survey results concerning the extent that, generally, new knowledge from Codex texts has been gained. safety and quality needs.



2.2.3 DEGREE THAT CODEX TEXTS ARE RECOGNIZED AS BEING AUTHORITATIVE, CREDIBLE AND TIMELY

Globally, respondents perceive Codex texts as “mostly” authoritative, credible, and timely, as illustrated in Figure 11A. LMIC respondents tend to find Codex texts generally more credible.

However, responses indicate a more varied perception regarding the timeliness of Codex texts, suggesting some concerns about the speed at which they are approved. When examining responses related to specific texts (Figures 11B-11E), there is notably less satisfaction with the timeliness of Codex texts compared to their authority and credibility. This indicates that while the texts are respected for their content and reliability, Members would welcome a timelier approval process. However, there is a recognized trade-off between authority and credibility, and timeliness of Codex texts.

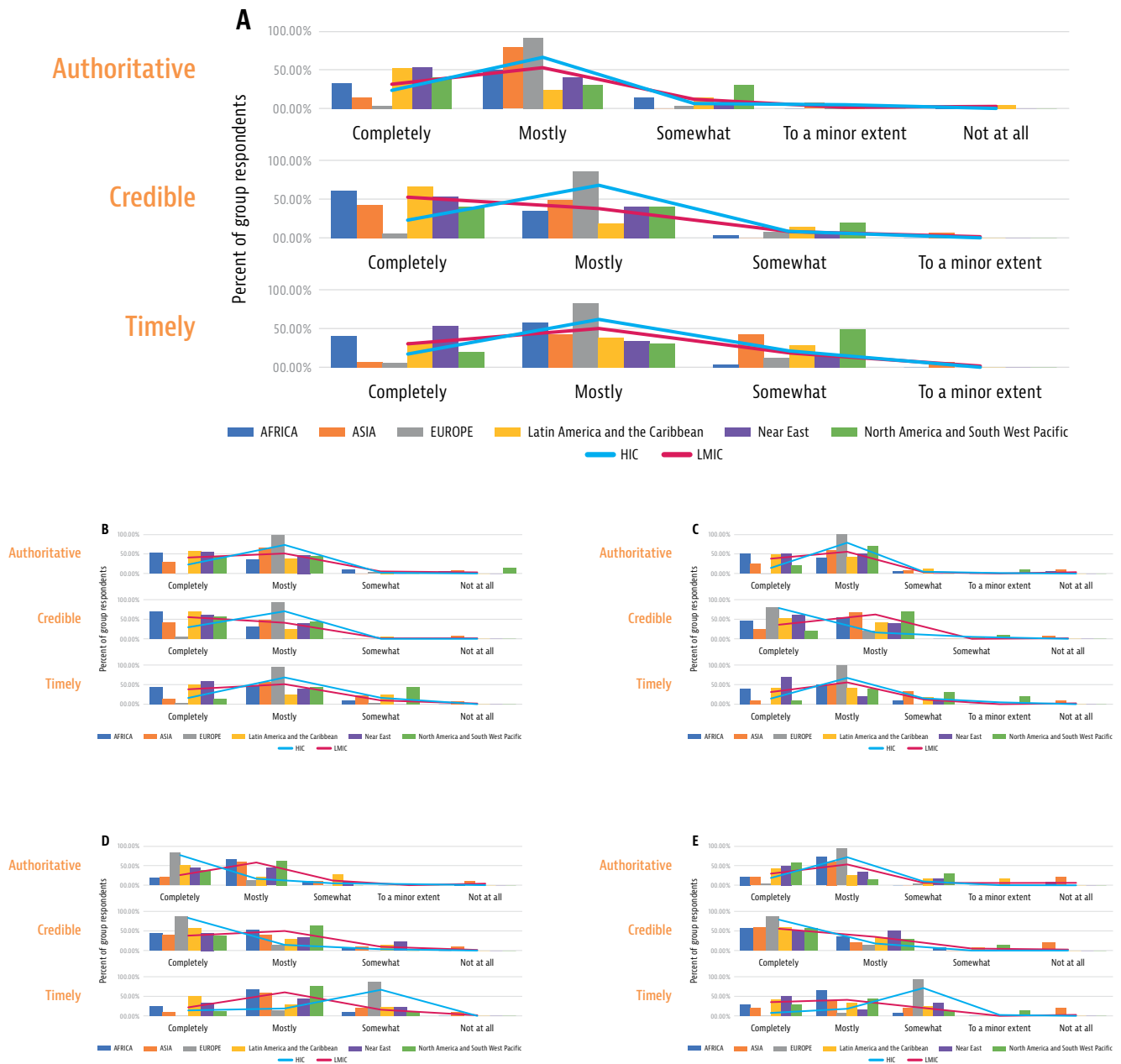
The specific four texts surveyed score high in authority and credibility, yet of note is the very high authority and credibility of the *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999),⁴ irrespective of the income group.

“While we have rated Codex texts as being only ‘somewhat’ timely, we recognize timeliness is to a degree necessarily sacrificed to ensure Codex texts are authoritative and credible. Any efficiency gains in getting Codex texts drafted would need to take into account the paramount importance of the consensus and science-basis of Codex standard setting.”

North America and South West Pacific respondent



FIGURE 11 Degree that: (A) general Codex text;; (B) *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995); (C) *Guidelines on nutrition labelling* (CXS 192-1995); (D) *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999); and (E) *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed* (CXS 90-2017) are recognized as being authoritative, credible, and timely.

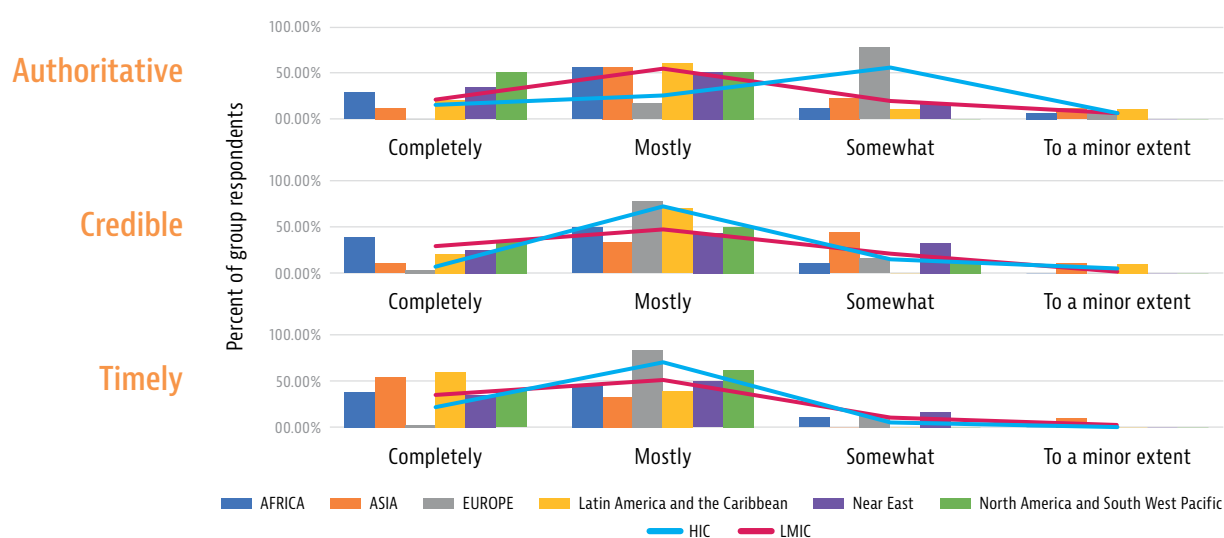




A comparison between the 2022 (Figure 12) and 2023 (Figure 11A) survey results shows a consistent pattern of reduced satisfaction regarding the timeliness of Codex texts. The 2022 survey also recorded some dissatisfaction regarding the authority of Codex texts, particularly from the European region, which was not as prominent in the 2023 responses.

These findings highlight that while Codex texts are well regarded for their authority and credibility, enhancing their timeliness remains an area for improvement to meet global expectations more effectively.

FIGURE 12 2022 Codex survey results concerning Codex texts being recognized as being authoritative, credible, and timeliness needs.

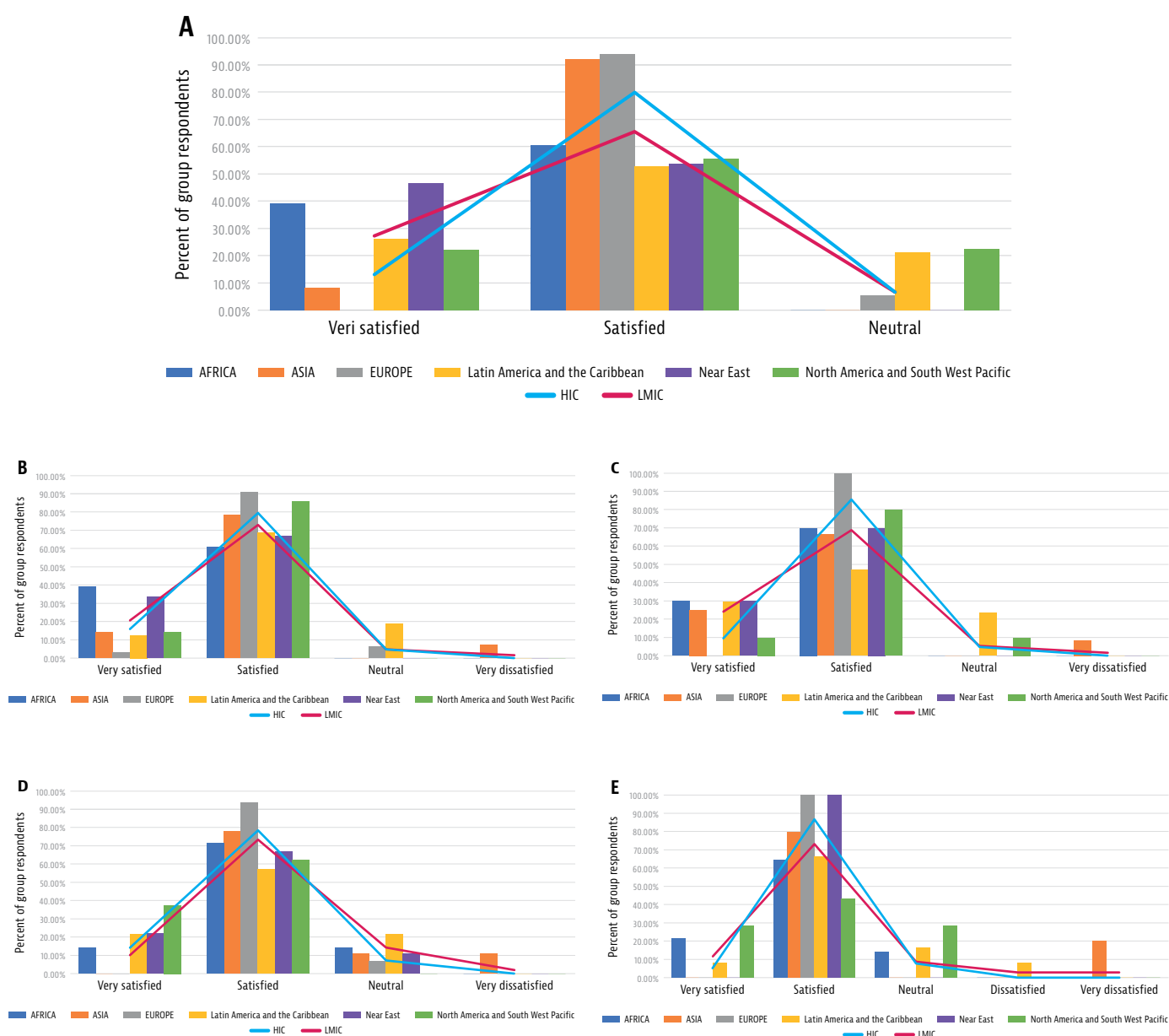




2.2.4 LEVEL OF SATISFACTION WITH CODEX TEXTS

Overall, both LMIC and HIC respondents are generally satisfied with Codex texts (**Figure 13A**). Over 90 percent from both groups of respondents are either satisfied or very satisfied with Codex texts. Additional Member comments to improve the reach, relevance, or use of Codex texts in their specific countries can be found in **Annex D**. This trend of satisfaction extends across various text-specific analyses (**Figures 13B-E**).

FIGURE 13 Level of satisfaction with: (A) Codex texts in general; (B) *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995); (C) *Guidelines on nutrition labelling* (CXS 192-1995); (D) *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999); and (E) *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed* (CXS 90-2017).

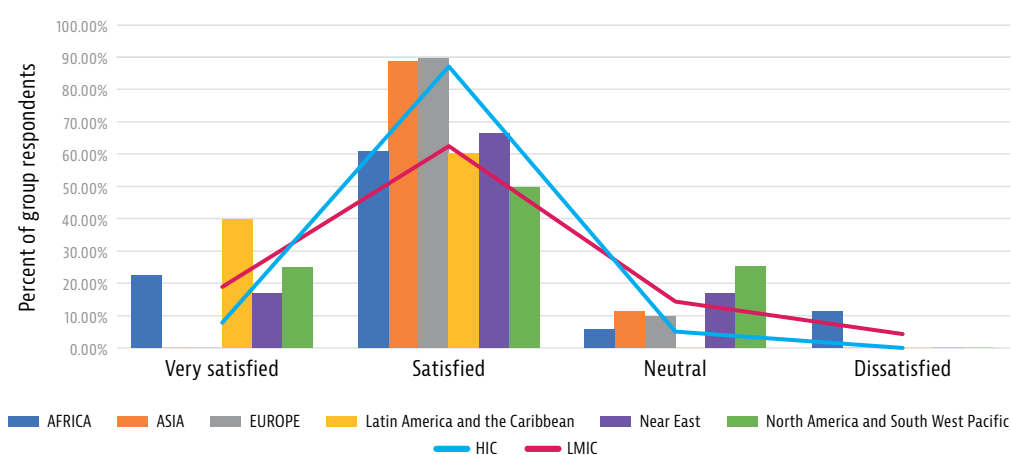




A comparison of the general satisfaction levels from the 2022 (Figure 14) and 2023 (Figure 13A) surveys reveals a consistent pattern, with the majority of respondents indicating that they are “satisfied” with Codex texts.

Notably, the 2023 survey shows an improvement, as no respondents reported being “dissatisfied” with Codex texts in general. This contrasts with the 2022 survey, where a segment of respondents from Africa had expressed dissatisfaction.

FIGURE 14 2022 Codex survey results concerning level of satisfaction with Codex texts.





2.3 USE AND IMPACT

The result statement for **use and impact** is related to the use of knowledge gained by target stakeholders from Codex texts. From the use of Codex texts in these varied areas, the theory of change presumes that in the long term, there will be improved consumer health protection at the individual and community levels and fair practices in the food trade.

The application of knowledge gained from Codex texts by stakeholders entails the adaptation at national level of Codex texts to:

- > support the development and/or implementation of new or enhanced food safety and quality policies, legislation/regulations, guidelines, programmes, and practices;
- > support national food control systems;
- > increase stakeholder awareness of food safety and quality issues and evidence-based interventions and recommendations;
- > inform and are used to update food safety and quality training and educational programmes and related tools; and
- > improve Member State commodity trade (internal and exports).

2.3.1 EXTENT THAT CODEX TEXTS ARE USED AS A BASELINE TO INFORM FOOD LEGISLATION, POLICIES, REGULATIONS, PROGRAMMES AND/OR PRACTICES

Responses concerning the extent that Codex texts are used as a baseline to inform food legislation, policies, regulations, programmes, and/or practices clearly indicate that LMICs use Codex texts as a baseline more than HICs (**Figure 15A**). 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, regulations, programmes, and/or practices. In contrast, over 70 percent of HIC respondents indicated that they use Codex texts somewhat or very little as a baseline. This is 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.

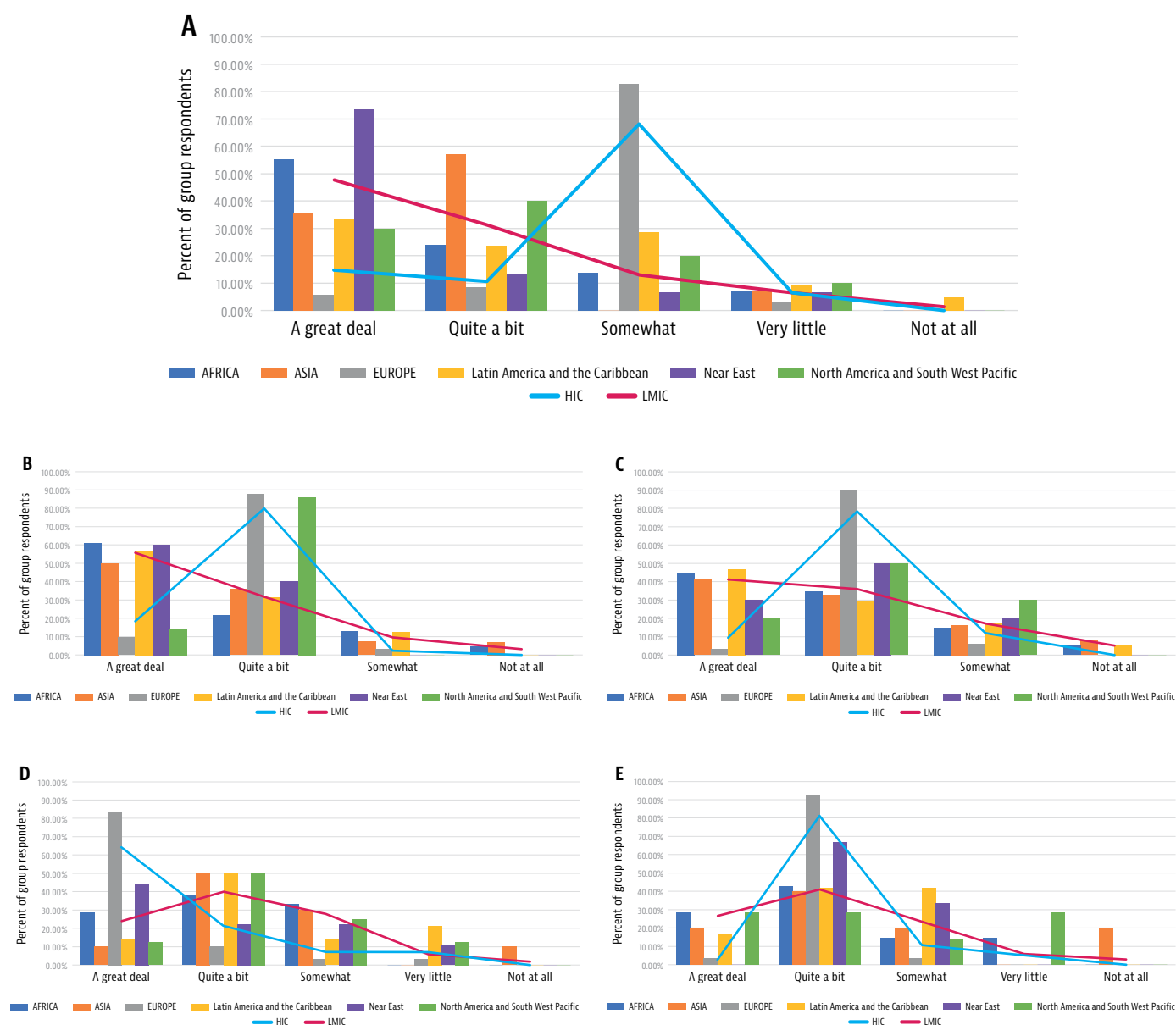
There is considerable regional variation in how extensively Codex texts are applied as a national baseline. Regional differences include:

- > in Africa and the Near East, a majority of respondents indicate that Codex texts are used "a great deal" as a baseline; and
- > conversely, European respondents typically view Codex texts as only "somewhat" used as a baseline.

For specific texts, most regions report that these are generally used "quite a bit" as a baseline. Notably, the *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999)⁴ stands out, with a substantial portion of respondents, including most from Europe, indicating it is used "a great deal" as a baseline (**Figure 15D**). This reflects the importance of this text for Codex Members, as it contains key information related to the assessment of food safety.



FIGURE 15 Degree that (A) Codex texts in general; (B) *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995); (C) *Guidelines on nutrition labelling* (CXS 192-1995); (D) *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999); and (E) *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed* (CXS 90-2017) are used as a baseline to inform food legislation, policies, regulations, programmes, and/or practices.

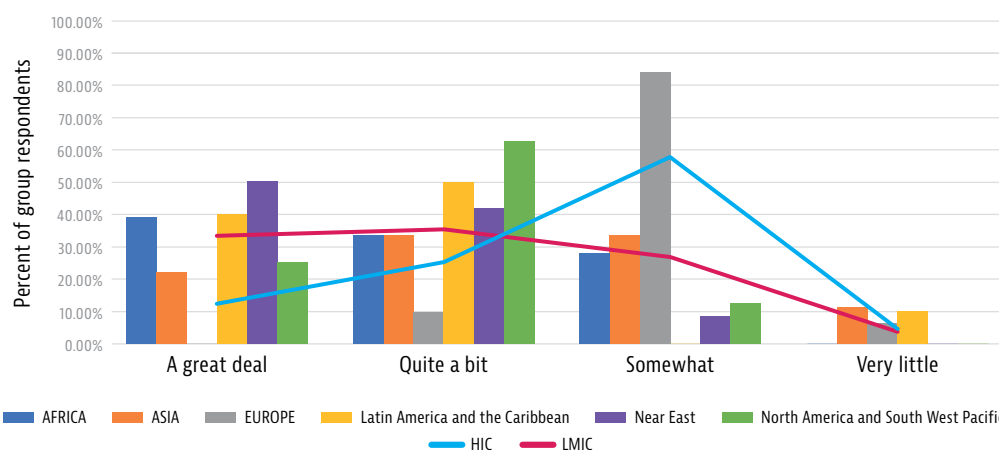




The 2022 Codex survey results (Figure 16) reveal a similar distribution in how Codex texts are used as a baseline, with a significant number of European respondents consistently reporting usage only as “somewhat”.

A marked increase in the use of Codex texts as a baseline is noted among respondents from the Near East, suggesting a growing use on Codex texts in the region compared to the previous year. This also reflects the higher response rate from the region.

FIGURE 16 2022 Codex survey results concerning the extent to which Codex texts are used as a baseline to inform food legislation, policies, regulations, programmes, and/or practices.



These findings underscore the critical role of Codex texts in guiding food safety and quality measures globally, although the degree of use on Codex texts varies across income groups, regions and specific texts.

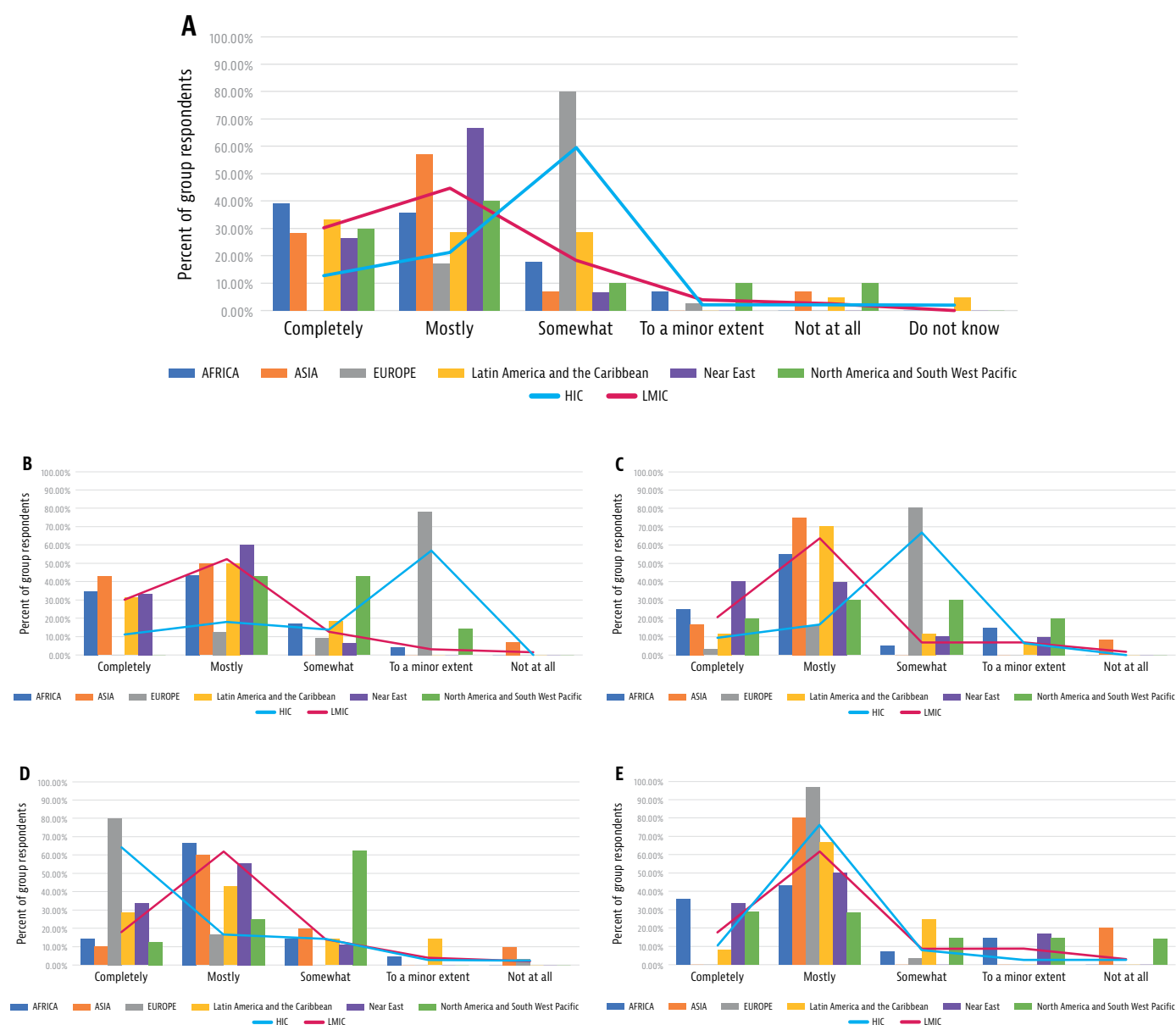
2.3.2 EXTENT THAT CODEX TEXTS ARE USED TO SUPPORT NATIONAL FOOD CONTROL SYSTEMS

Responses concerning the extent that Codex texts are used to support national food control systems (NFCS) clearly indicate that LMICs used Codex texts more than HICs (Figure 17A). Almost 70 percent of LMIC respondents expressed that they use Codex texts, completely or mostly, to support NFCS. In contrast, almost 60 percent of HIC respondents indicated that they used Codex texts somewhat to support NFCS. This may be due to the fact that HICs tend to have the necessary resources to build their own NFCS whereas LMICs are more reliant on Codex texts to support their NFCS.

The application and influence of specific Codex texts vary considerably across regions, as depicted in Figures 17B-17E. For instance, nearly 80 percent of European respondents believe that the *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999),⁴ illustrated in Figure 17C, are “completely” used and therefore impactful. In contrast, the *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995),² shown in Figure 17B, is considered only marginally impactful, as the European Union has its own system for risk assessment and standards development for food additives.



FIGURE 17 Use and impact of: (A) Codex texts in general; (B) *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995); (C) *Guidelines on nutrition labelling* (CXS 192-1995); (D) *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999); and (E) *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed* (CXS 90-2017) to support NFCS.

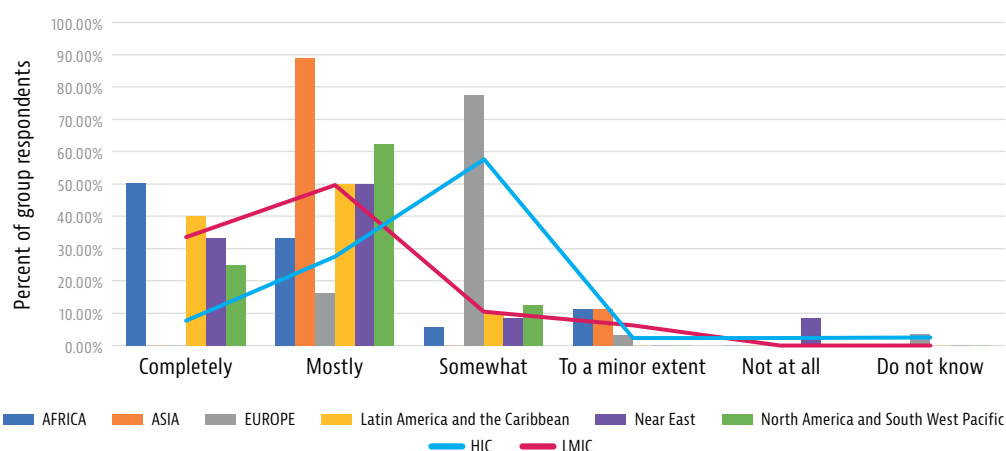




Comparing the 2022 and 2023 Codex surveys, similar patterns emerge in the usage and impact of Codex texts in supporting NFCS, as seen in **Figures 17A and 18**. A notable change is observed in Asia, where an increasing number of respondents now report that Codex texts are “completely” used, compared to the previous year where the majority viewed them as “mostly” useful.

These findings underscore the significant role of Codex texts in underpinning NFCS globally, with regional variations highlighting the need for tailored strategies to enhance the use and impact of Codex texts across different contexts.

FIGURE 18 2022 Codex survey results concerning use and impact of Codex texts to support national food control systems.



2.3.3 EXTENT THAT CODEX TEXTS ARE USED TO HELP INCREASE STAKEHOLDER AWARENESS OF FOOD SAFETY AND QUALITY ISSUES AND EVIDENCE-BASED INTERVENTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

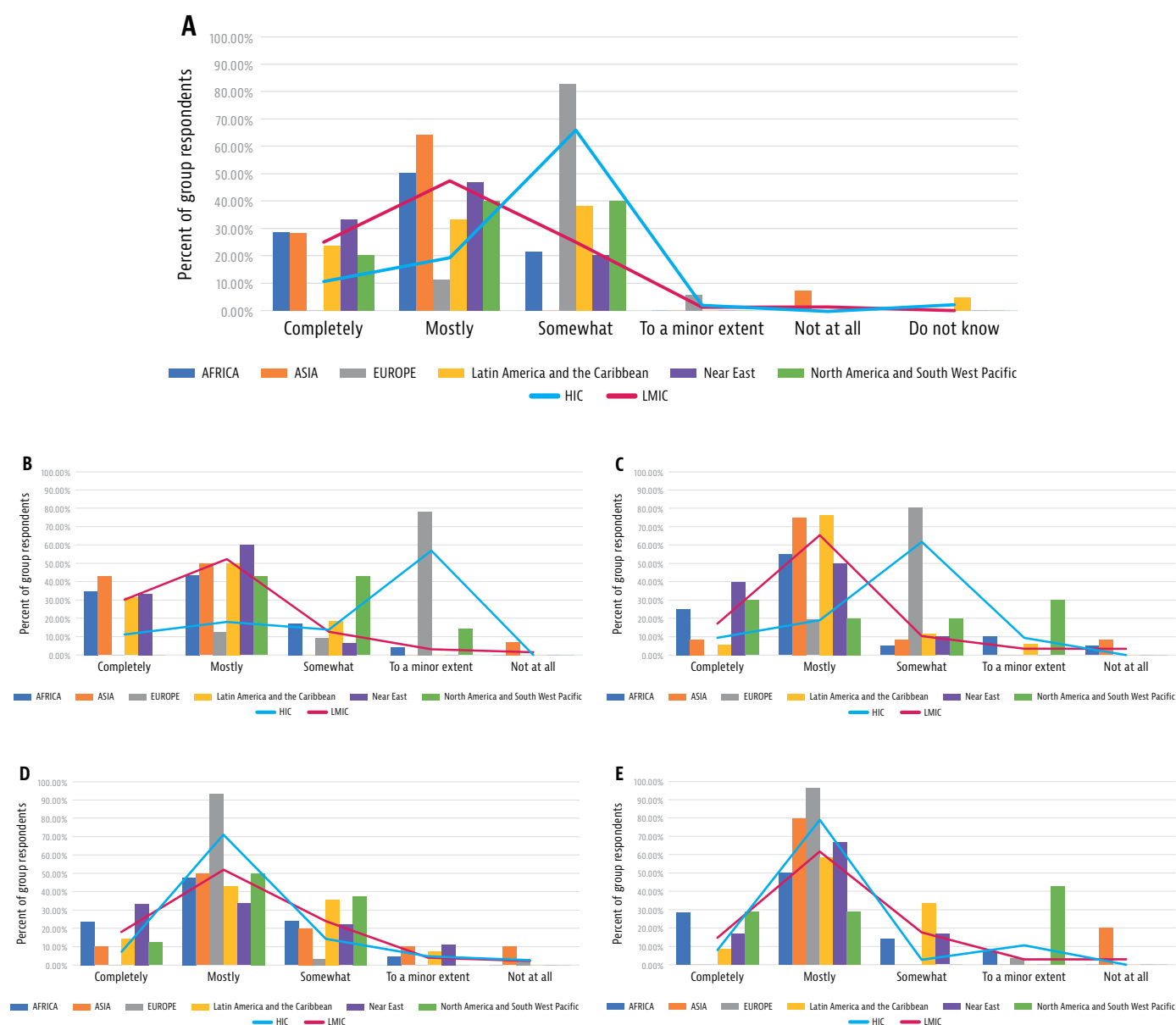
Approximately 70 percent of LMIC respondents found Codex texts “mostly” or “completely” helpful (**Figure 19A**) in increasing stakeholder awareness of food safety and quality issues and evidence-based interventions and recommendations. Overall, more than 60 percent of HIC respondents considered Codex texts somewhat helpful in this regard. These replies seem to indicate again the disparity of financial resources and technical expertise between HICs and LMICs.

Responses to the effectiveness of Codex texts in raising stakeholder awareness of food safety, quality issues, and evidence-based interventions are distributed from somewhat to completely. Regionally, over 60 percent of responses from Asia and 50 percent from Africa indicate that Codex texts are “mostly” used in this area. In contrast, more than 80 percent of European responses suggest Codex texts are only “somewhat” used.

The use and impact of specific Codex texts also differ significantly (**Figures 19B-19E**). The *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995)² is reported as the most effective. However, regional trends for other specific texts show wide disparities. Notably, over 40 percent of North American and Southwest Pacific respondents view the *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed* (CXG 90-2017)⁵ to be used only “to a minor extent” (**Figure 19E**).



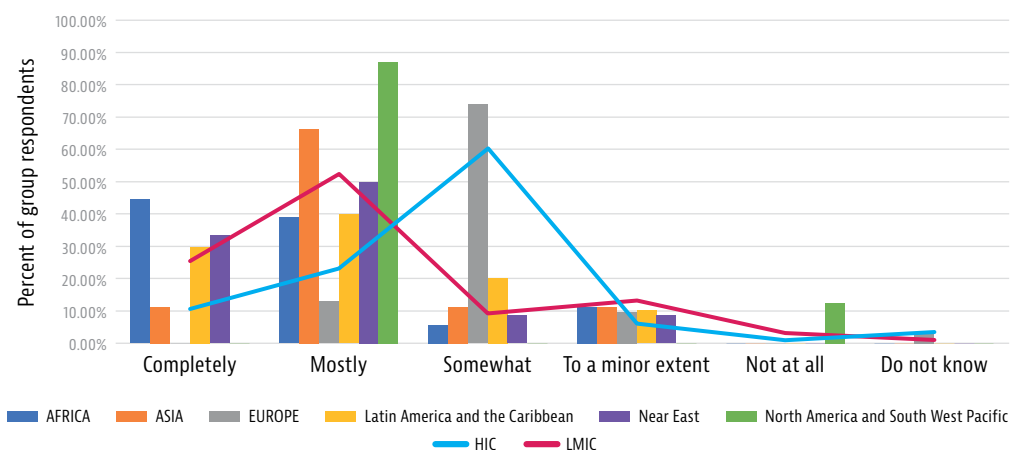
FIGURE 19 Use and impact of: (A) Codex texts in general; (B) *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995); (C) *Guidelines on nutrition labelling* (CXS 192-1995); (D) *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999); and (E) *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed* (CXG 90-2017) to help increase stakeholder awareness of food safety and quality issues and evidence-based interventions and recommendations.





Comparing the 2022 and 2023 Codex surveys, the overall distribution of responses concerning the general use and impact of Codex texts remains similar (Figure 20). However, there is a noticeable shift in the Near East region in the 2023 survey, where responses varied, with an increased number of stakeholders perceiving Codex texts as "completely" useful and impactful in enhancing awareness.

FIGURE 20 2022 Codex survey results concerning use and impact of Codex texts to help increase stakeholder awareness of food safety and quality issues and evidence-based interventions and recommendations.



2.3.4 EXTENT THAT CODEX TEXTS ARE USED TO INFORM AND UPDATE FOOD SAFETY AND QUALITY TRAINING AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND RELATED TOOLS

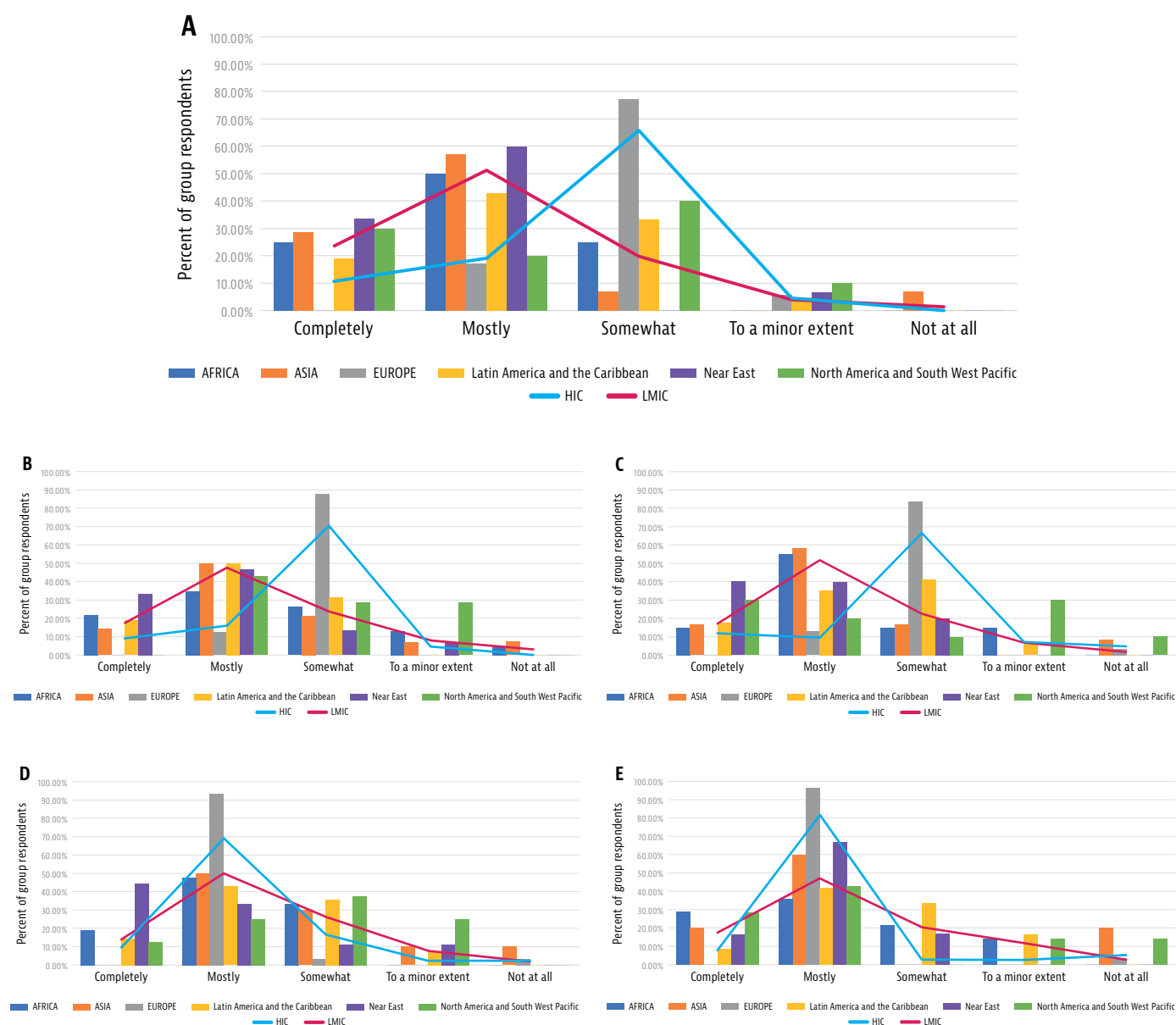
Most respondents reported Codex texts were used to inform and update food safety and quality training and educational programmes and related tools (Figure 21A), ranging from "somewhat" to "completely" across both income groups. Over 70 percent of LMIC respondents found Codex texts are "mostly" or "completely" used to inform and update food safety and quality training and educational programmes and related tools, while over 60 percent of HIC respondents somewhat used Codex texts. These replies seem to indicate again the disparity of financial resources and technical expertise between HICs and LMICs.

Regionally, about 30 percent of respondents from Asia, the Near East, and North America and the Southwest regions report that Codex texts are "completely" useful and impactful in these areas.

Responses to text-specific inquiries show varied regional trends, as depicted in Figures 21B to 21E. Europe is the exception, with more consistent responses across all text-specific prompts, compared to other regions.



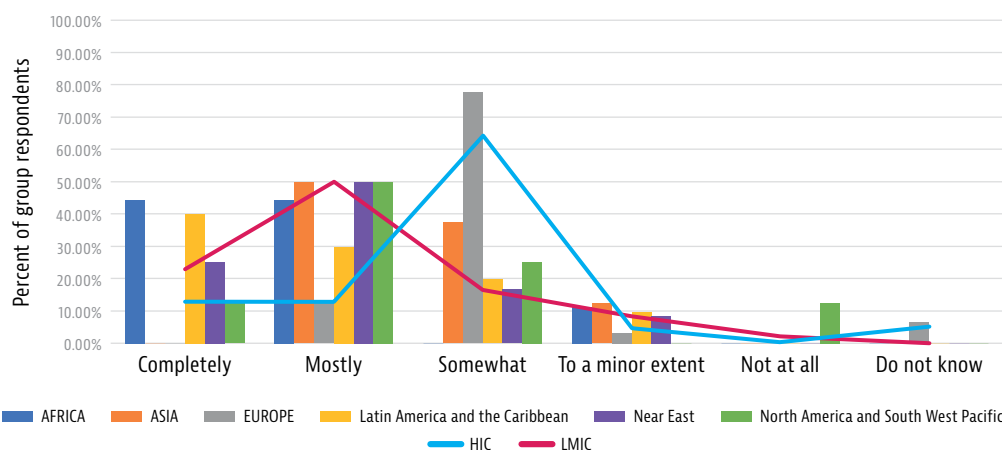
FIGURE 21 Use and impact of: (A) Codex texts in general; (B) *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995); (C) *Guidelines on nutrition labelling* (CXS 192-1995); (D) *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999); and (E) *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed* (CXG 90-2017) to inform and update food safety and quality training and educational programmes and related tools.





Comparative analysis of the 2022 and 2023 Codex surveys shows a similar distribution of responses, with most stakeholders rating the use and impact of Codex texts from “completely” to “somewhat” (Figure 22). However, there was a decline in the percentage of respondents from Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean (20 percent in each region) indicating that Codex texts were “completely” used compared to 2022.

FIGURE 22 Codex survey results concerning use and impact of general Codex texts to inform and update food safety and quality training and educational programs and related tools.



2.3.5 EXTENT THAT CODEX TEXTS ARE USED TO IMPROVE MEMBER STATE COMMODITY TRADE (INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL)

This question was further expanded into five new sub questions for the 2023 survey following feedback received on the 2022 survey. It aims to assess in greater depth the extent that Codex texts in general are used to improve Member State commodity trade.

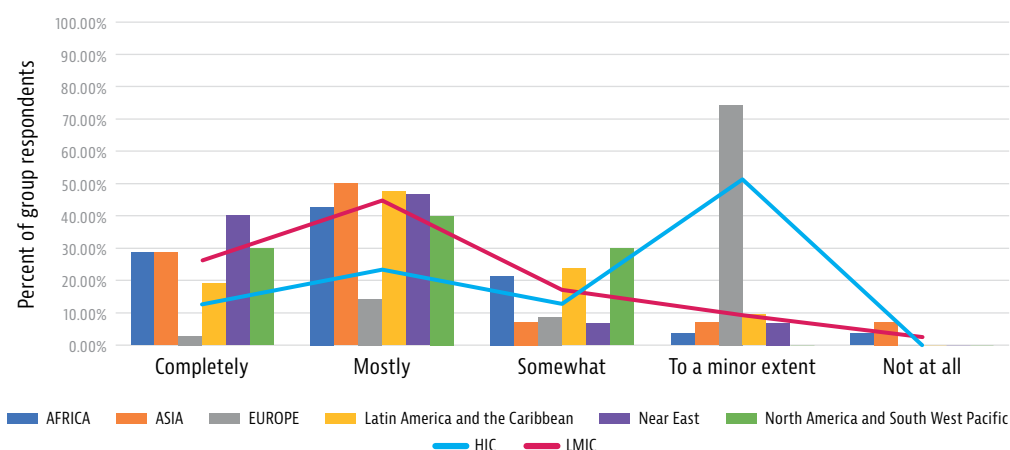
“These are good questions and equally difficult to respond to. We consider our national legislation in the baseline and Codex texts are referred to in negotiations or disputes.”

Europe respondent

Approximately 70 percent of LMIC respondents view Codex texts as “completely” or “mostly” influencing domestic food trade regulations and standards, thereby improving compatibility with international trading norms, as indicated at Figure 23. However, for HIC respondents, Codex texts are 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.

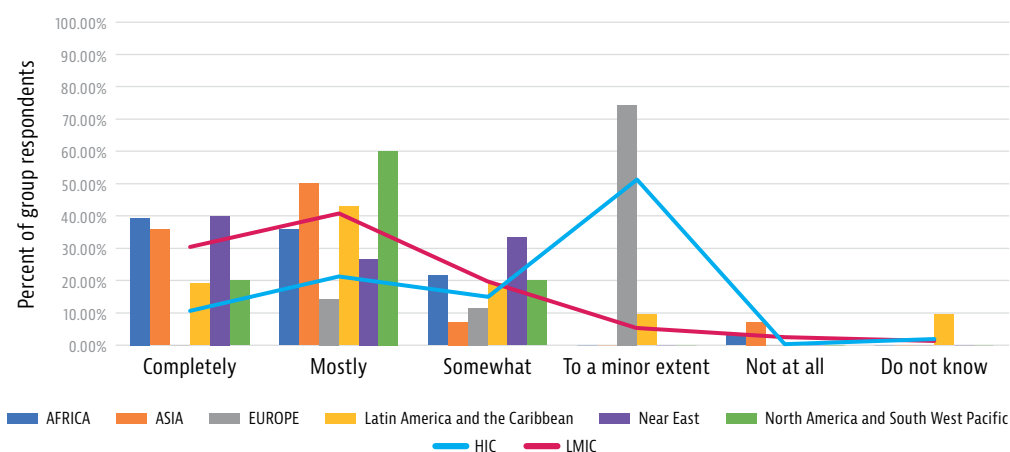


FIGURE 23 Use and impact of Codex texts supporting national, regional, and global food trade efforts: Codex texts influenced countries' domestic food trade regulations and standards, resulting in improved compatibility with international trading partners.



As shown at **Figure 24**, most LMIC respondents acknowledge that adherence to Codex texts significantly enhances the safety and quality of a country's food products. This, in turn, boosts consumer confidence and heightens a country's export potential in global markets.

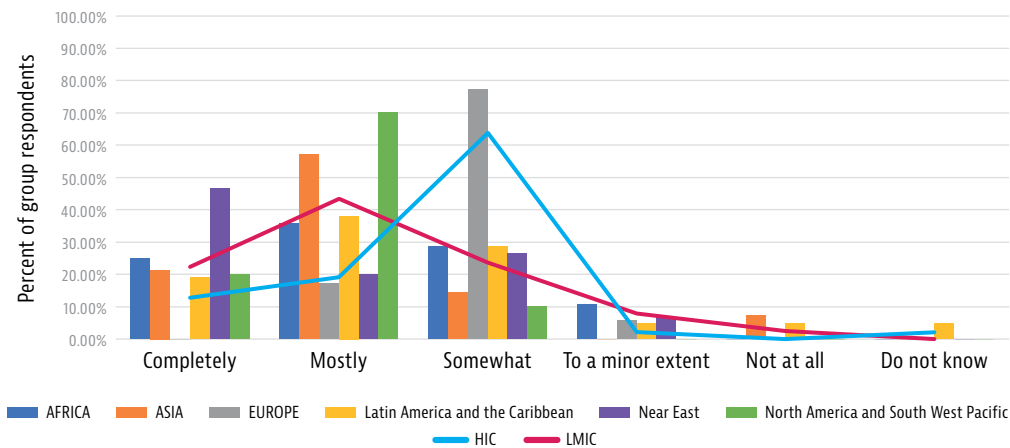
FIGURE 24 Use and impact of Codex texts supporting national, regional, and global food trade efforts: Adherence to Codex texts enhanced the safety and quality of a country's food products, leading to increased consumer confidence and higher export potential in global markets.





Further, most LMIC respondents (approximately 70 percent) find that Codex texts are “mostly” or “somewhat” effective in helping their countries access international markets for food products. This includes reducing non-tariff barriers and simplifying import-export procedures, as highlighted in **Figure 25**.

FIGURE 25 Use and impact of Codex texts supporting national, regional, and global food trade efforts: adherence to Codex texts enhanced a country’s ability to access international markets for food products, particularly in terms of reducing non-tariff barriers and simplifying import-export procedures.



LMIC and HIC responses vary widely regarding the role of Codex texts in promoting regional harmonization of food regulations and facilitating smoother intraregional trade (**Figure 26**), as well as in resolving trade disputes related to food safety and quality standards (**Figure 27**). Notably, the latter received the highest number of respondents who indicated they “did not know” the impact of Codex texts on resolving trade disputes in their regions.

FIGURE 26 Use and impact of Codex texts supporting national, regional, and global food trade efforts: Codex texts have been leveraged to promote regional harmonization of food regulations and facilitate smoother intraregional trade.

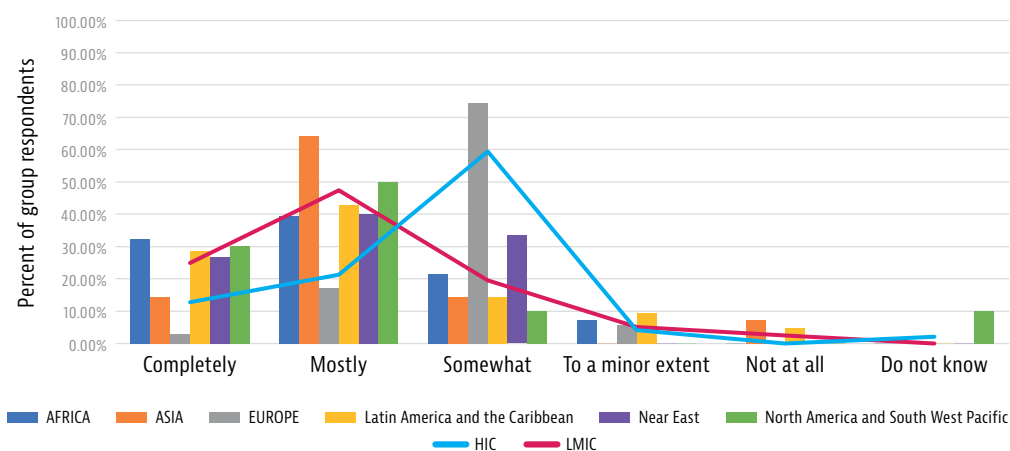
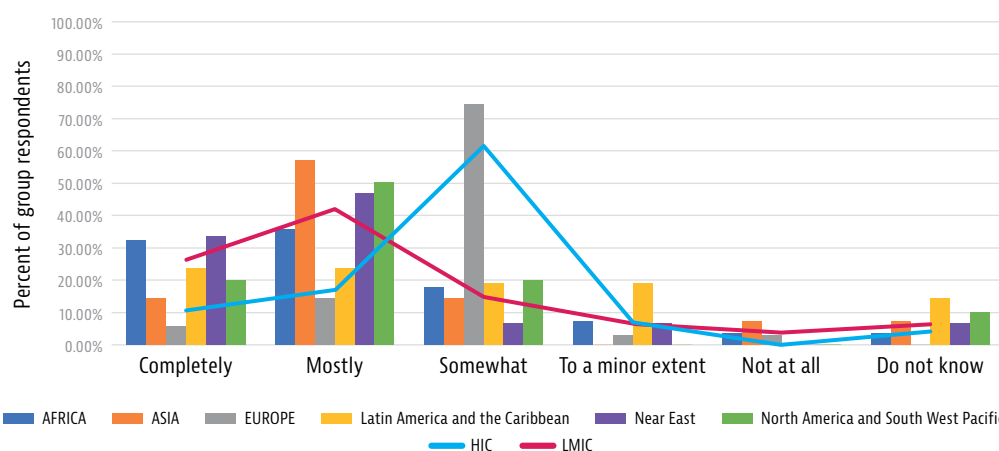


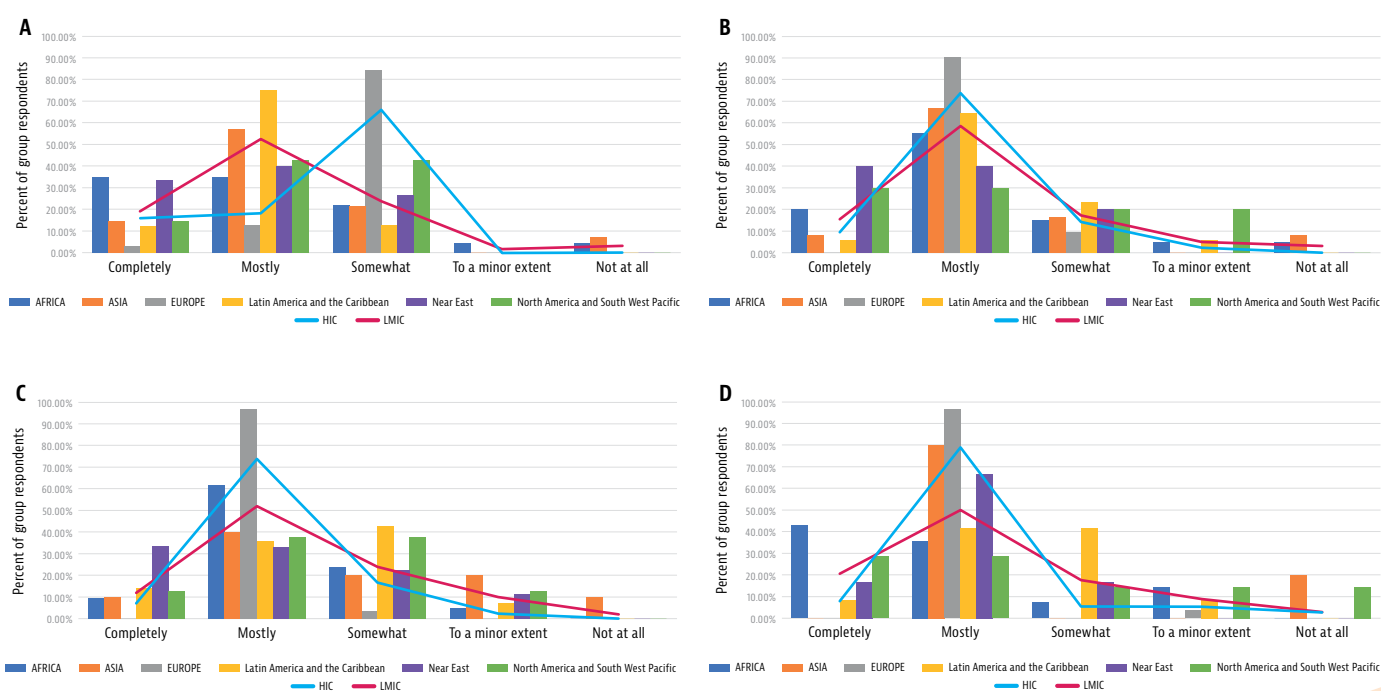


FIGURE 27 Use and impact of Codex texts supporting national, regional, and global food trade efforts: Codex texts have facilitated the resolution of trade disputes related to food safety and quality standards.



For specific texts (Figures 28A-D), respondents broadly indicated that Codex texts were “mostly” used for Member State commodity trade, as shown in specific texts. The only exception was the *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995)² (Figure 28A), which was rated as “somewhat” useful by approximately 70 percent of HIC respondents in enhancing commodity trade.

FIGURE 28 Use and impact of: (A) *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995); (B) *Guidelines on nutrition labelling* (CXS 192-1995); (C) *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999); and (D) *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed* (CXG 90-2017) to help improve member state commodity trade (internal and export).





2.4 BARRIERS IMPEDING THE USE OF CODEX TEXTS

The survey aimed to measure the extent to which nine pre-selected barriers, among those that are more recurrently reported by Members, that hinder the application of Codex texts at national level. This section provides a summary of these identified barriers, first on a global scale and then broken down by region and by income group. It is important to recognize that each Member State operates within a unique environment, each facing distinct challenges and opportunities that influence the successful implementation and use of Codex texts.

2.4.1 GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

Globally, responses to the barriers impeding the use of Codex texts are varied, with very few respondents indicating that any single barrier "completely" hinders their application. From the data presented in [Figure 29](#), four barriers emerge as particularly significant (i.e. greater than 50 percent of respondents found the barrier to "completely", "mostly" or "somewhat" impede the use of Codex texts):

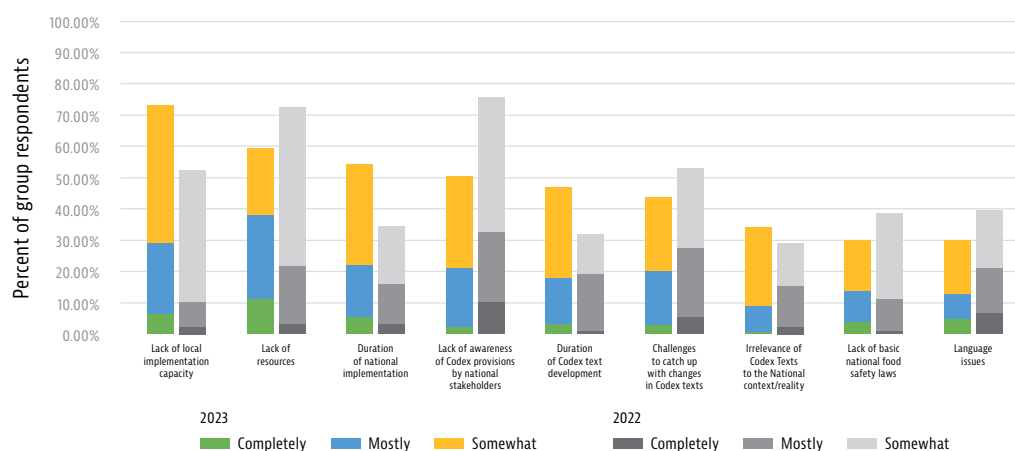
1. lack of local implementation capacity;
2. lack of resources;
3. duration of national implementation; and
4. lack of awareness of Codex provisions by national stakeholders.

Conversely, lack of basic national food safety laws and language issues are seen as least obstructive barriers, with approximately than 70 percent of respondents indicating that the barrier impedes the use of Codex texts "to a minor extent" or "not at all".

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 this is the second year the survey has been implemented, the third year will be important to both close the survey cycle and start drawing some trends in responses, particularly related to barriers.



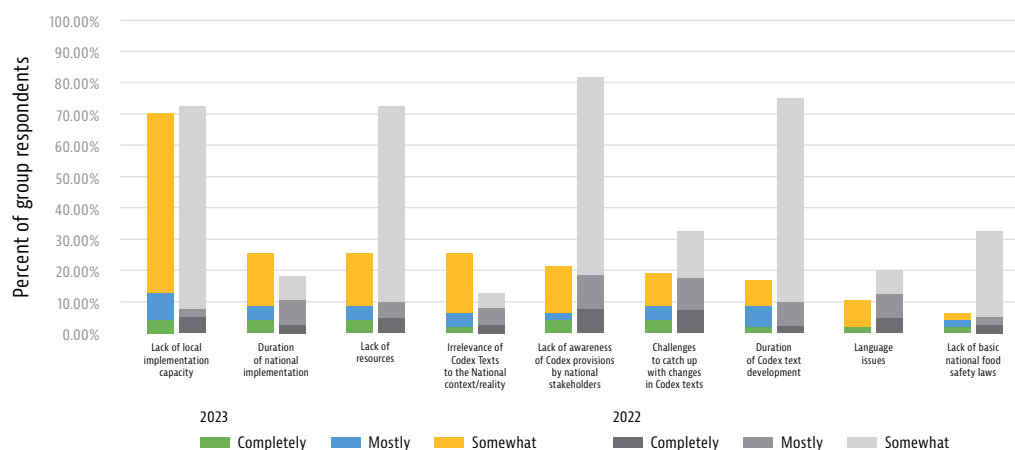
FIGURE 29 Barriers impeding global use of Codex texts, compared with the 2022 Codex survey responses.



2.4.2 INCOME-DISAGGREGATED PERSPECTIVE

The top barrier identified by HIC respondents is lack of local implementation capacity. Compared to the 2022 survey, as highlighted in Figure 30, there has been a substantial decrease in the reported barriers to the use of Codex texts in HICs, such as the lack of resources, lack of awareness of Codex provisions by national stakeholders, and the duration of Codex text development.

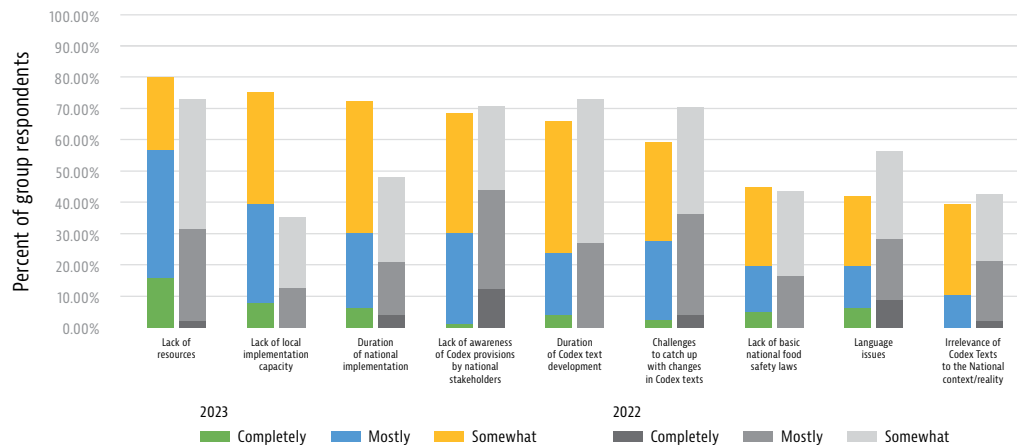
FIGURE 30 Barriers impeding the use of Codex texts, as reported by HICs, compared with Codex survey 2022 responses.





In contrast, the top barriers identified by LMIC respondents include a lack of resources, a lack of local implementation capacity, and the duration of national implementation. Compared to the 2022 survey, as highlighted in **Figure 31**, there has been 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.

FIGURE 31 Barriers impeding the use of Codex texts, as reported by low- and middle-income countries, compared with Codex survey 2022 responses.



2.4.3 REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE

AFRICA

Top barriers impeding the use of Codex texts as reported by respondents from Africa include a lack of resources, insufficient local implementation capacity, lengthy national implementation periods, and a general lack of awareness of Codex provisions among national stakeholders, as shown in **Figure 32**. Compared to the 2022 Codex survey, there has been an increase in the recognition of all these barriers among African respondents, with the most notable increases observed in the lack of local implementation capacity and the duration of national implementation.

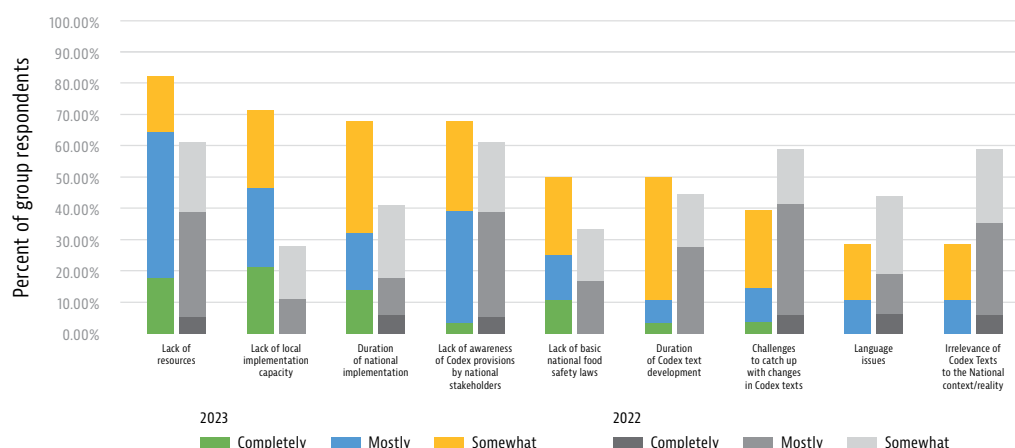
Conversely, the perceived irrelevance of Codex texts to the national context/reality has significantly decreased as a reported barrier. Additionally, there have been declines in other barriers such as language issues and the challenges associated with keeping up with changes in Codex texts.

"Our food control system needs to be overhauled such that the fragmented food legislation is put together as a comprehensive legislation under one entity... Food safety issues are not prioritized in terms of resource allocation (human resources, laboratory equipment, financial resources for attending Codex meetings and providing awareness in-country). Policy holders need to be adequately briefed on Codex on a continuous basis".

Africa respondent



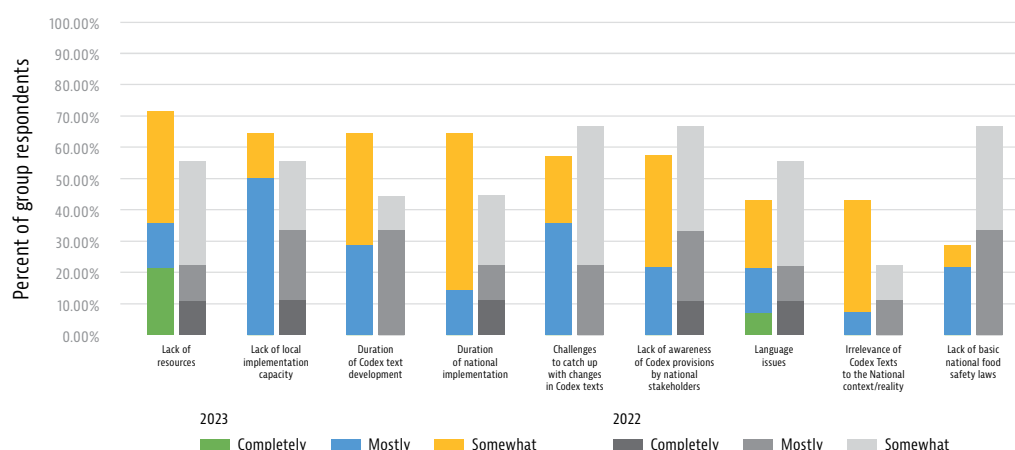
FIGURE 32 Barriers impeding the use of Codex texts in Africa, compared with Codex survey 2022 responses.



ASIA

Respondents from Asia (Figure 33) identified a lack of resources as the primary barrier impeding the use of Codex texts, followed by insufficient local implementation capacity, lengthy durations of Codex text development, and extended national implementation periods. The recognition of these barriers has increased somewhat compared to the 2022 Codex survey. However, more significant differences have been observed across the two survey years regarding other barriers. Notably, the lack of basic national food safety laws has significantly decreased as an identified barrier in the region. Additionally, from the 2022 Codex survey, it was noted that Asia reported more concerns over language issues as a barrier compared to other regions; however, responses indicating language issues as a barrier decreased by almost 10 percent following the 2023 survey.

FIGURE 33 Barriers impeding the use of Codex texts in Asia, compared with Codex survey 2022 responses.

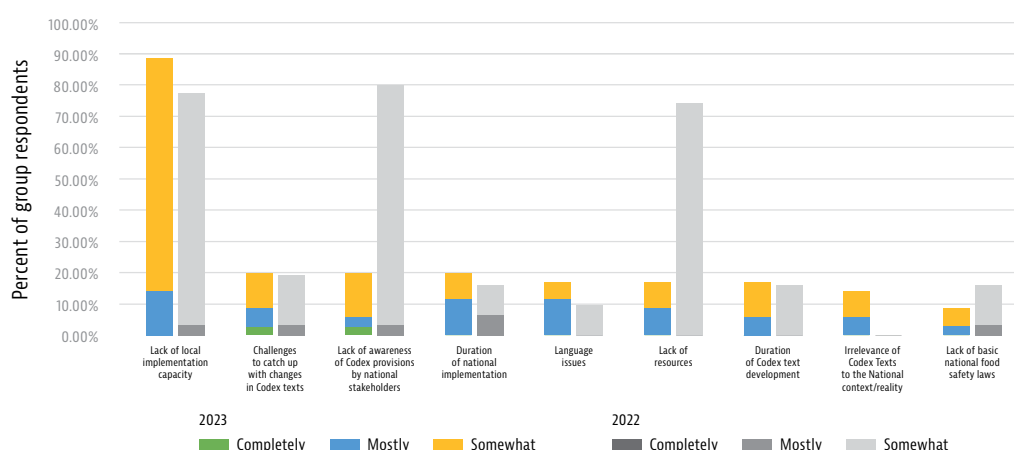




EUROPE

In the European region, the most frequently reported barrier from the responses was a lack of local implementation capacity, which held a similar priority level in the 2022 Codex survey results (Figure 34). In the 2022 survey, this barrier was deemed as important as the lack of awareness of Codex provisions by national stakeholders. However, in the 2023 survey, significantly fewer European respondents identified this latter barrier. Additionally, the lack of resources saw a substantial decrease as a reported barrier in the comparison between the 2022 pilot survey results and those of 2023. Apart from these changes, there has been little variation in the identified barriers across the survey years, except for a slight increase in respondents noting the irrelevance of Codex texts to national contexts or realities as a barrier to the use of Codex texts.

FIGURE 34 Barriers impeding the use of Codex texts in the European region, compared with Codex survey 2022 responses.

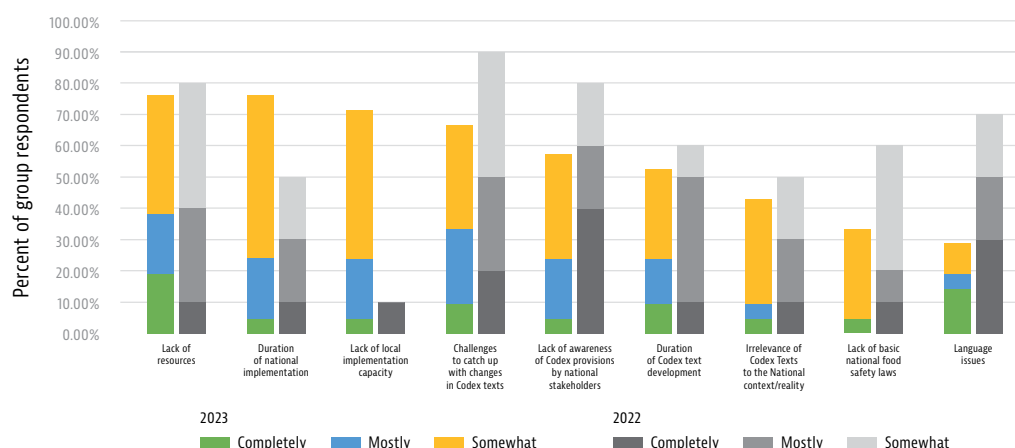


LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Respondents from Latin America and the Caribbean (Figure 35) identified a lack of resources, the duration of national implementation, and insufficient local implementation capacity as the top barriers hindering the use of Codex texts. The issue of limited resources was reported to the same extent as in the 2022 Codex survey. However, there was a marked increase in the concerns over the duration of national implementation and local implementation capacity compared to the previous year. Conversely, there were notable decreases in the reporting of language issues, a lack of awareness of Codex provisions by national stakeholders, and insufficient national food safety laws as barriers in the region. It is important to note that language issues have decreased as a barrier compared to 2022.



FIGURE 35 Barriers impeding the use of Codex texts in the Latin America and Caribbean Region, compared with Codex survey 2022 responses.



NEAR EAST

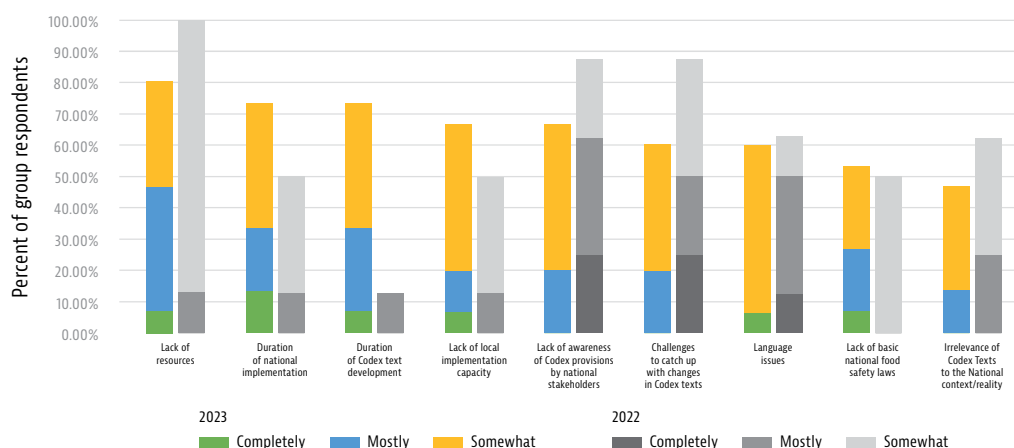
Respondents from the Near East identified a lack of resources, the duration of national implementation, and the time taken for Codex text development as the top barriers to using Codex texts in their region, as shown in **Figure 36**. However, the 2023 Codex survey revealed that the issue of resource scarcity was considered less of a barrier compared to the previous 2022 survey. In contrast, there were both slight and significant increases in the number of responses that identified the duration of national implementation and the duration of Codex text development as barriers, respectively. Additionally, there was a decrease in responses citing a lack of awareness of Codex provisions by national stakeholders and challenges in keeping up with changes in Codex texts as significant impediments in the Near East region.

"Regarding duration of Codex text development, the timing of standards development should be more coherent and shorter. This can be managed through an electronic system and portal with a specific schedule."

Near East respondent



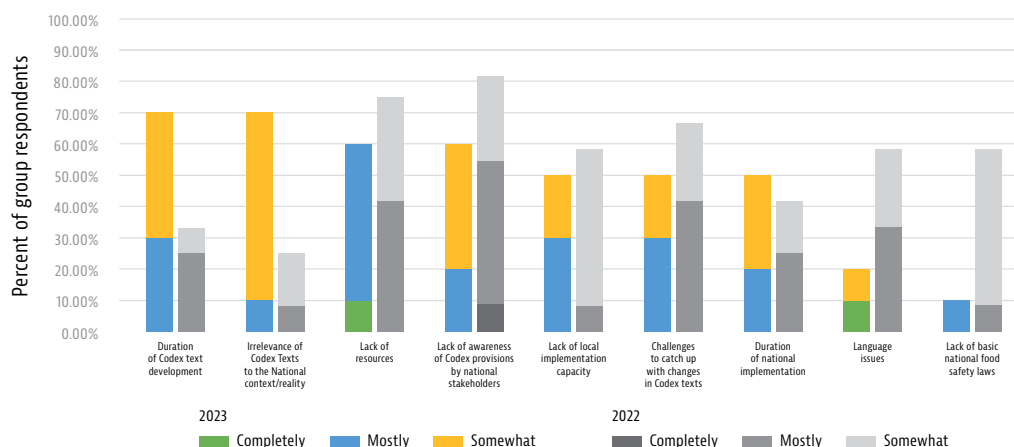
FIGURE 36 Barriers impeding the use of Codex texts in the Near East region, compared with Codex survey 2022 responses.



NORTH AMERICA AND SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

Respondents from the North America and South West Pacific region reported that the primary barriers to using Codex texts include the duration of Codex text development, the irrelevance of Codex texts to national contexts or realities, and a lack of resources, as detailed in [Figure 37](#). The 2023 Codex survey showed significant increases in the concerns over the duration of Codex text development and their irrelevance to national contexts compared to the 2022 survey. Additionally, there were marked decreases in the identification of language issues and a lack of basic national food safety laws as barriers in this region compared to the previous year.

FIGURE 37 Barriers impeding the use of Codex texts in North America and South West Pacific regions, compared with Codex survey 2022 responses.



The 2022 Codex survey¹⁰ revealed that language issues, although not as prominent as global trends suggested, did hinder the use of Codex texts in multiple regions including Latin America and the Caribbean, the Near East, North America and South West Pacific, and Asia. However, as noted above, the 2023 Codex survey indicated that these issues were less significant in regional responses for Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as North America and South West Pacific, showing a decrease in the perceived impact of language barriers.





3

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 CONCLUSIONS

3.1.1 USE AND IMPACT OF CODEX TEXTS

The survey analysis indicates that Codex texts play a critical role in informing global food safety standards, regulations, and practices. There is considerable use of Codex texts across various regions, which underscores their importance as a foundational reference in shaping food legislation and policy. Codex texts are generally viewed as effective in meeting priority food safety and quality needs, and they contribute significantly to NFCS, enhancing the safety, quality, and trade of food products globally. The survey results also highlight that Codex texts are instrumental in raising stakeholder awareness about food safety and quality issues, and in providing evidence-based interventions.

Regarding barriers to use and impact of Codex texts, it is important to consider that trends can be best identified after several iterations of the survey. As this is only the second year of the survey, the third year will be important to both close the survey cycle and start drawing some trends in responses, particularly related to barriers. Summary conclusions that can be drawn from the 2023 survey data are outlined below:

- > The higher Member participation rate in 2023 was a valuable achievement as the higher response rate provides a better global reflection on the use and impact of Codex texts. It will be important to maintain and continue to grow the response rate in future iterations of the survey, in order to provide an even more accurate reflection of the reality.
- > As comparison of responses from the first two surveys already illustrates the variation that can exist, increasing the data set through future annual surveys will be important to establish trends over time.
- > The level of satisfaction with Codex texts remained positive in 2023 with over 80 percent of respondents indicating they were satisfied or very satisfied with Codex texts. Codex texts appear to be well disseminated amongst stakeholders and meeting priority food safety and quality needs of Members. However, a lack of awareness by national stakeholders scores high as a barrier for Codex texts implementation in LMICs suggesting this is an area that needs further attention.
- > Most survey respondents regard Codex texts as either completely or mostly authoritative and credible. However, there was greater variability in responses regarding the timeliness of Codex texts compared to their perceived authority and credibility. This indicates that while the texts are respected for their content and reliability, Members would welcome a timelier approval process. Nonetheless, there is also a recognized trade-off between authority and credibility, and timeliness of Codex texts. Timeliness of Codex texts could therefore be an area of attention for the Commission and its subsidiary bodies.



- > There is a prominent use by LMICs of Codex texts as: (i) a baseline to inform food legislation, policies, regulations, programmes, and/or practices; (ii) to support NFCS; (iii) to increase stakeholder awareness of food safety and quality issues; and (iv) inform and update food safety and quality training and educational programmes. This group of countries also reports lacking the resources and capacity for a more effective use of Codex texts, needing additional support in capacity development and funding for the participation in Codex work.
- > Respondents generally found Codex texts to be highly impactful in commodity trade, rating them as mostly or completely supportive. However, regarding the role of Codex texts in promoting regional harmonization of food regulations and facilitating smoother intraregional trade, as well as in resolving trade disputes related to food safety and quality standards, there was a high number of LMIC respondents who indicated they "did not know" the impact of Codex texts in preventing or resolving trade disputes in their regions. This may be an area of additional attention, where the foreseen collaboration with the World Trade Organization (WTO) may provide additional insights on the trade impacts of Codex texts.

3.1.2. SELECT CODEX TEXTS

Members from all regions demonstrated good familiarity with the selected Codex texts and provided feedback on their reach, usefulness, and usage. However, an exception was noted for the *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed* (CXG 90-2017),⁵ where Members exhibited less familiarity. The conclusions related to specific Codex texts are detailed below:

1. *The General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995)² received a high rating in terms of use and impact, and particularly in increasing stakeholder awareness of food safety and quality issues, as well as supporting evidence-based interventions and recommendations. It is widely utilized and generally receives high satisfaction ratings.
2. The *Guidelines on nutrition labelling* (CXG 2-1985)³ received high satisfaction ratings for its format, structure, language, and dissemination. Stakeholders find these guidelines highly satisfactory and effective in meeting their needs.
3. The *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999)⁴ is a text that is highly regarded. The large majority of respondents reported using it extensively as a baseline for informing food legislation, policies, regulations, programmes, and practices. The high scoring of this text is not surprising as it provides essential information to Codex Members on monitoring of implementation of many different standards.
4. The *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed* (CXG 90-2017) was the text least familiar to respondents among the selected Codex texts, yet those familiar with it expressed a high degree of satisfaction with its format, structure, language, and dissemination. The responses regarding its effectiveness in meeting national priorities and needs were varied globally. This may be due to the fact that the text is more recent and does not include specific methods of analysis but rather performance criteria. Also, this text targets specific audience working on methods of analysis for pesticide residues which is considered a "niche", hence only those directly involved with it may consider it particularly useful.



3.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

In line with the detailed, action-oriented recommendations from the 2022 Codex survey,¹⁰ the 2023 recommendations are proposed to include specific actionable steps and address barriers to the effective use of Codex texts. The focus is on enhancing awareness, capacity building, and improving dissemination in a structured manner:

1. **Enhance awareness and use of Codex texts:** Targeted awareness-raising campaigns in regions where knowledge gaps are identified, to improve understanding and application of Codex texts would be beneficial. These campaigns could include multimedia materials, local workshops, and stakeholder meetings. It is important that Members, with relevant collaborators as needed e.g. the Codex Secretariat, FAO, and WHO, increase advocacy for use of Codex texts, aligning with Goal 3 of the *Codex Strategic Plan*¹ to boost the recognition and use of standards.
2. **Promote high-level commitment to food safety and quality:** Given that lack of resources and implementation capacity were the key impediments to standard implementation in LMICs, the need for high-level political commitment to food safety and quality governance and standards adoption and implementation is key for many countries. High-level advocacy at national level and demonstration of the benefits of food control systems and standards implementation for consumer health and trade may help secure such support. Members could consider the tools, information and actions needed to achieve such support at national level reaching out to the wider Codex community.
3. **Strengthen capacity building and training:** Members could request support from FAO and WHO for capacity-building programmes targeting the gaps and challenges identified in implementing Codex standards in LMICs.
4. **Improve dissemination and accessibility:** While the Codex Secretariat can continue to enhance the digitalization initiatives for Codex texts to ensure they are easily accessible and can be updated swiftly, a variety of channels are needed to ensure they reach a broad audience, including non-traditional stakeholders. This broader reach could be achieved through the efforts of multiple players including Member and Observer contact points, and FAO and WHO and looking for partners that could provide access to relevant stakeholders.
5. **Facilitate communication and collaboration:** With the support of the Codex Secretariat, Members could foster dialogue and exchange on best practices and dissemination of success stories, case studies, and lessons learned, including through the regional coordinating committees.
6. **Increase resources and support:** Members could continue advocating at the national and international level to support data collection to ensure Codex standards are relevant to Members needs and contexts; to support the activities of FAO and WHO in providing timely scientific advice that is based on broad range of contexts and supporting standards that are optimally reflective of Member needs. Enhanced support at the Member level could help overcome specific challenges such as timely country input into Codex text development and the updating of national food safety laws to align with international standards.
7. **Implement M&E of Codex texts.** The Codex Secretariat could continue with implementing a structured M&E framework to assess the impact of Codex texts on national and global food safety practices. In addition to continuing the annual surveys and case studies, the Codex Secretariat could strengthen partnerships with the WTO to provide additional insights on the trade impacts of Codex texts.



These recommendations aim to address the identified barriers effectively and enhance the use and impact of Codex texts globally. By focusing on these targeted actions, Codex can ensure its standards are not only up-to-date and relevant but also widely understood and integrated into national and international food safety strategies.





ANNEX A

SURVEY 2023 – USE AND IMPACT OF CODEX TEXTS

SURVEY SPECIFICATIONS:

- > streamlined process for providing survey responses;
- > one survey response per Member. Survey to be submitted by CCP. CCPs are provided sufficient time to consult with national colleagues, as required;
- > work with regional coordinating committees, as a means to engage national Codex committees and ensure relevant stakeholders are consulted;
- > target as many completed Member surveys as possible. Survey results are not attributed to specific countries, but are reported at the aggregated level (either globally and/or regionally); and
- > available in all UN languages.

SAMPLE INTRODUCTION LETTER:

Dear Codex contact point,

Thank you for your country's participation in this survey. The Secretariat of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) has commissioned the annual Member survey to measure the use and impact of Codex texts.

The 2023 survey will address the following high-level questions:

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

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



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

In order for your country's responses to be included in the survey analysis, please complete the survey by 25 October 2023. If you prefer, you can obtain an electronic copy of the survey in MS Word format by email request to codex@fao.org. If you are experiencing technical problems to access the survey, please contact us at codex@fao.org.



1. You are responding to this survey on behalf of which Member State?

2. Please select your region

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

**3. In which language does your country work with Codex?
(Please select all that apply)**

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

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

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

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

- ☐ *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995) ([Go to Q6](#))
- ☐ *Guidelines on nutrition labelling* (CXG 2-1985) ([Go to Q7](#))
- ☐ *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999) ([Go to Q8](#))
- ☐ *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed* (CXG 90-2017) ([Go to Q9](#))
- ☐ Unfamiliar with any of the selected Codex text ([Go to Q10](#))



6a. To what extent does the Codex text entitled *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995) meet your country's priority food safety and quality needs?

5 = Extremely useful	4 = Mostly useful	3 = Somewhat useful	2 = Marginally useful	1 = Not at all useful
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

6b. To what degree has your country gained additional knowledge from the Codex text entitled *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995)?

5 = A great deal	4 = Quite a bit	3 = Somewhat	2 = Very little	1 = Not at all
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

6c. To what extent has the Codex text entitled *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995) been used as a baseline to inform your country's food legislation, policies, regulations, programmes and/or practices?

5 = A great deal	4 = Quite a bit	3 = Somewhat	2 = Very little	1 = Not at all
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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

(open text) _____

6d. Please rank your country's level of satisfaction with the following features of the Codex text entitled *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995).

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

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

(open text) _____



6e. Please rank the degree that your country recognizes the Codex text entitled *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995) as being:

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

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

(open text) _____

6f. Regarding the use and impact of Codex texts, to what degree has the Codex text entitled *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995) been incorporated into your country's practices/procedures for the following interventions:

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

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

(open text) _____

6g. What is your country's level of satisfaction with the Codex text entitled *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995)?

5 = Very satisfied	4 = Satisfied	3 = Neutral	2 = Dissatisfied	1 = Very dissatisfied
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



7a. To what extent does the Codex text entitled *Guidelines on nutrition labelling* (CXG 2-1985) meet your country's priority food safety and quality needs?

5 = Extremely useful	4 = Mostly useful	3 = Somewhat useful	2 = Marginally useful	1 = Not at all useful
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

7b. To what degree has your country you gained additional knowledge from the Codex text entitled *Guidelines on nutrition labelling* (CXG 2-1985)?

5 = A great deal	4 = Quite a bit	3 = Somewhat	2 = Very little	1 = Not at all
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

7c. To what extent has the Codex text entitled *Guidelines on nutrition labelling* (CXG 2-1985) been used as a baseline to inform your country's food legislation, policies, regulations, programmes and/or practices?

5 = A great deal	4 = Quite a bit	3 = Somewhat	2 = Very little	1 = Not at all
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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

(open text) _____

7d. Please rank your country's level of satisfaction with the following features of the Codex text *Guidelines on nutrition labelling* (CXG 2-1985).

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

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

(open text) _____



7e. Please rank the degree that your country recognizes the Codex text entitled *Guidelines on nutrition labelling* (CXG 2-1985) as being:

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

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

(open text) _____

7f. Regarding the use and impact of Codex texts, to what degree has the Codex text entitled *Guidelines on nutrition labelling* (CXG 2-1985) been incorporated into your country's practices/procedures for the following interventions:

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

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

(open text) _____

7g. What is your country's level of satisfaction with the Codex text entitled *Guidelines on nutrition labelling* (CXG 2-1985)?

5 = Very satisfied	4 = Satisfied	3 = Neutral	2 = Dissatisfied	1 = Very dissatisfied
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



8a. To what extent does the Codex text entitled *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999) meet your country's priority food safety and quality needs?

5 = Extremely useful	4 = Mostly useful	3 = Somewhat useful	2 = Marginally useful	1 = Not at all useful
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

8b. To what degree has your country gained additional knowledge from the Codex text entitled *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999)?

5 = A great deal	4 = Quite a bit	3 = Somewhat	2 = Very little	1 = Not at all
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

8c. To what extent has the Codex text entitled *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999) been used as a baseline to inform your country's food legislation, policies, regulations, programmes and/or practices?

5 = A great deal	4 = Quite a bit	3 = Somewhat	2 = Very little	1 = Not at all
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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

(open text) _____

8d. Please rank your country's level of satisfaction with the following features of the Codex text entitled *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999).

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

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

(open text) _____



8e. Please rank the degree that your country recognizes the Codex text entitled *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999) as being:

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

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

(open text) _____

8f. Regarding the use and impact of Codex texts, to what degree has the Codex text entitled *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999) been incorporated into your country's practices/procedures for the following interventions:

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

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

(open text) _____

8g. What is your country's level of satisfaction with the Codex text entitled *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999)?

5 = Very satisfied	4 = Satisfied	3 = Neutral	2 = Dissatisfied	1 = Very dissatisfied
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



- 9a. To what extent does the Codex text entitled *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed* (CXG 90-2017) meet your country's priority food safety and quality needs?

5 = Extremely
useful

☐

4 = Mostly
useful

☐

3 = Somewhat
useful

☐

2 = Marginally
useful

☐

1 = Not at all
useful

☐

- 9b. To what degree has your country gained additional knowledge from the Codex text entitled *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed* (CXG 90-2017)?

5 = A great deal

☐

4 = Quite a bit

☐

3 = Somewhat

☐

2 = Very little

☐

1 = Not at all

☐

- 9c. To what extent has the Codex text entitled *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed* (CXG 90-2017) been used as a baseline to inform your country's food legislation, policies, regulations, programmes and/or practices?

5 = A great deal

☐

4 = Quite a bit

☐

3 = Somewhat

☐

2 = Very little

☐

1 = Not at all

☐

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

(open text) _____

- 9d. Please rank your country's level of satisfaction with the following features of the Codex text entitled *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed* (CXG 90-2017).

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

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

(open text) _____



- 9e. Please rank the degree that your country recognizes the Codex text entitled *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed (CXG 90-2017)* as being:

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

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

(open text) _____

- 9f. Regarding the use and impact of Codex texts, to what degree has the Codex text entitled *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed (CXG 90-2017)* been incorporated into your country's practices/procedures for the following interventions:

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

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

(open text) _____

- 9g. What is your country's level of satisfaction with the Codex text entitled *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed (CXG 90-2017)*?

5 = Very satisfied	4 = Satisfied	3 = Neutral	2 = Dissatisfied	1 = Very dissatisfied
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



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

5 =	4 =	3 =	2 =	1 =
Extremely useful	Mostly useful	Somewhat useful	Marginally useful	Not at all useful
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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

5 =	4 =	3 =	2 =	1 =
A great deal	Quite a bit	Somewhat	Very little	Not at all
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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

5 =	4 =	3 =	2 =	1 =
A great deal	Quite a bit	Somewhat	Very little	Not at all
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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

(open text) _____

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

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

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

(open text) _____



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

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

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

(open text) _____

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

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

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

(open text) _____



16. In general, to what degree do Codex texts support national, regional, and global food trade efforts:

	5 = Completely	4 = Mostly	3 = Somewhat	2 = To a minor extent	1 = Not at all	Do not know
Codex texts influenced your country's domestic food trade regulations and standards, resulting in improved compatibility with international trading partners	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Adherence to Codex texts enhanced the safety and quality of your country's food products, leading to increased consumer confidence and higher export potential in global markets	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Adherence to Codex texts 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	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Codex texts have been leveraged to promote regional harmonization of food regulations and facilitate smoother intraregional trade	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Codex texts have facilitated the resolution of trade disputes related to food safety and quality standards	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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

(open text) _____

17. In general, to what degree do Codex texts support national, regional, and global food trade efforts:

5 = Very well	4 = Well	3 = Fair	2 = Poor	1 = Very poor
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



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

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

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

(open text) _____

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

5 = Very satisfied	4 = Satisfied	3 = Neutral	2 = Dissatisfied	1 = Very dissatisfied
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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





ANNEX B

LIKERT SCALE OVERVIEW

B1 REQUIREMENT

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

B2 LIKERT SCALE DEFINITION

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

B2.1 LIKERT SCALE: HOW TO USE IT

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

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

FIGURE A1 Likert scale

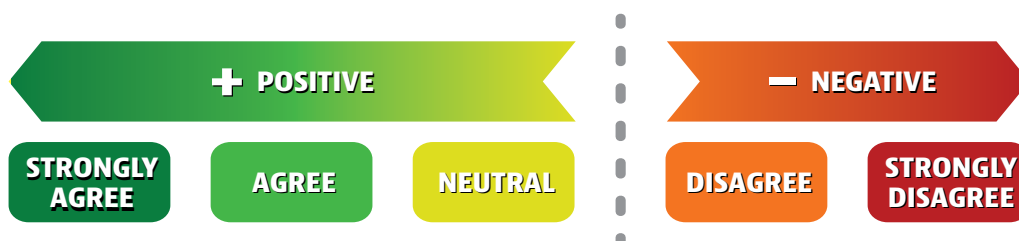




FIGURE A2 Likert scale examples



B2.2 ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF A LIKERT SCALE

Advantages of using a Likert scale in a survey include:

- > **ease of implementation:** this universally accepted scale can be easily understood and applied to various stakeholder satisfaction surveys;
- > **quantifiable answer options:** quantify Likert items with no apparent relation to the expression and conduct statistical analysis on the received results;
- > **analyse the rank of opinions:** there may be a sample with varied views about a particular topic. Likert scale offers a ranking of the views of these people surveyed; and
- > **simple to respond:** respondents can understand the intent of this scale and quickly answer the question.

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





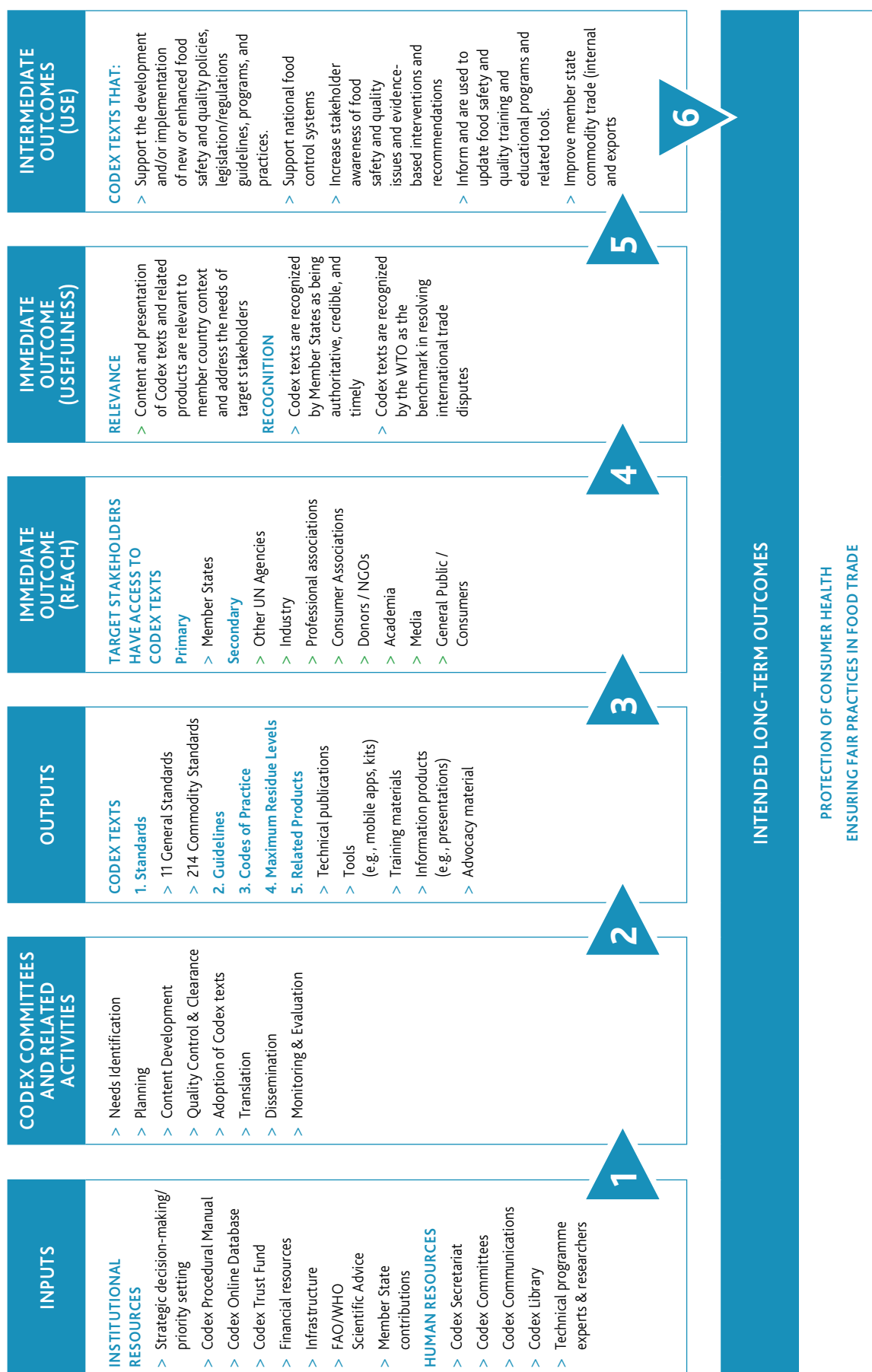
ANNEX C

ALIGNMENT WITH CODEX M&E FRAMEWORK FOR USE AND IMPACT OF CODEX TEXTS

The Codex M&E framework to measure the use and impact of Codex standard is founded on a theory of change that can be summarized in the Logic Model below and identifies five broad measurement areas (i.e. outputs, reach, usefulness, use and contribution to intended long-term outcomes) that serve as the basis of performance planning, monitoring, and reporting.



FIGURE A3 Logic model – Use and impact of Codex texts





The **Table A1** lists the indicators that are supported by the data from Codex survey 2023, as identified in the performance measurement framework for the use and impact of Codex texts. These performance indicators form the basis of the survey analysis.

TABLE A1 Performance measurement framework

OUTCOMES	INDICATORS
A) IMMEDIATE OUTCOMES	
Immediate outcome – reach Target stakeholders have access to Codex texts. ♦ Primary stakeholders (i.e. national competent authority)	Intended reach ♦ Stakeholder perceptions regarding the appropriate and sufficient dissemination of Codex texts Satisfaction with method of dissemination ♦ Stakeholder satisfaction with method of dissemination for Codex texts Language ♦ Stakeholder perceptions of the extent to which CAC dissemination strategies, policies and plans target different language audiences for Codex texts
Immediate outcome – usefulness (relevance) Content and presentation of Codex texts and related products are relevant to Member Country context and address the needs of target stakeholders	Member State engagement ♦ Degree of satisfaction with the Codex texts Stakeholder satisfaction ♦ Degree of satisfaction by stakeholders who rate the content of a specific Codex text ♦ Degree of satisfaction with Codex texts (need, quality). Stakeholder priorities ♦ Extent to which a specific Codex text is useful in meeting a Member State's priority food safety and quality needs. ♦ Extent to which Codex texts are useful in meeting a Member State's priority food safety and quality needs.
Immediate outcome – usefulness (recognition) Codex texts are recognized by Member State as being authoritative, credible, and timely	Authoritative ♦ Stakeholder perceptions of Codex texts versus others (e.g. industry standards, etc.). Credible ♦ Stakeholder opinions of quality and credibility of a specific Codex text and Codex texts in general. Timely ♦ Stakeholder opinions on the timeliness of the development and implementation of a specific Codex text and Codex texts in general
B) INTERMEDIATE OUTCOME (USEFULNESS/RELEVANCE)	
Intermediate outcome – use 1. Codex texts support the development and/or implementation of new or enhanced food safety and quality policies, legislation/regulations guidelines, programmes, and practices.	♦ The extent that newly developed Member State food policies, regulations, programmes and practices use Codex texts as a baseline. ♦ The adoption or use of a specific Codex text by Member States.
Intermediate outcome – use 2. Codex texts support national food control systems	♦ Degree that Member State food control systems have become more harmonized.
Intermediate outcome – use 3. Codex texts increases stakeholder awareness of food safety and quality issues and evidence-based interventions and recommendations	♦ Level of stakeholder awareness of Codex texts. ♦ Level of industry adoption of Codex texts.
Intermediate outcome – use 4. Codex texts informs and is used to update food safety and quality training and educational programmes and related tools.	♦ Degree of satisfaction by stakeholders who report knowledge gained from Codex texts. ♦ Degree that stakeholders have used Codex texts to inform and to update food safety and quality training and educational programmes and related tools.
Intermediate outcome – use 5. Codex texts improves Member State commodity trade (internal and exports)	♦ Stakeholder perception of the impact of the impact of Codex texts on Member State commodity trade (internal and external).





ANNEX D

QUALITATIVE RESPONSES FROM CODEX SURVEY 2023

TABLE A2 Relevance of *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995) (GSFA) (Q6a-Q6c)

REGION	COMMENTS
AFRICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ The codex is being popularized in my country. A standards agency was created in 2022 to address the country's normative vacuum. It is for this reason that the agency is doing its best to set up a national codex commission and intends to adopt 71 codex standards by the end of November (<i>Translated from French</i>);◆ [COUNTRY] has adopted this Codex standard, and it is referenced in all technical regulation;◆ The food regulations in [COUNTRY] are based on the above document and it is very useful;◆ In course, revision of our legislation, based in Codex standards;◆ Regulation of the use of food additives in the country is entirely based on the GSFA;◆ Currently [COUNTRY] is drafting food safety regulations and has referred to Codex Standard on food labelling after domestication into [COUNTRY'S] standard;◆ Established limits of Codex references in legislation.
ASIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ The existing technical regulation on food additives is based on Codex General standard for food additives (CXS 192-1995). Further it is used as a reference document for the formulation of National standards for food and agricultural products;◆ [COUNTRY] adopted Codex standards as national standard;◆ Codex standard on food additive is adopted in the [COUNTRY] Food Regulations 1985 under Regulation 19 Food Additive;◆ Codex Text is main reference document for setting standards.
EUROPE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ According to Commission Regulation (EU) 112/2011, Recital 4, the food category system from the GSFA has been used as a starting point for developing the Union system;◆ Our national legislation is fully harmonized with the EU legislation since 1994. However, the Codex process (discussions and sharing of knowledge and expertise) and the final standards are considered. To us Codex is important to promote and strengthen effective rules-based multilateral cooperation and to facilitate international trade;◆ According to Commission Regulation (EU) 112/2011, Recital 4, the food category system from the GSFA has been used as a starting point for developing the Union system.

TABLE A2 Relevance of *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995) (GSFA) (Q6a-Q6c) (cont.)

REGION	COMMENTS
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ The options in question 6(a) appear incomplete, for greater precision, a "useful" option without qualifiers would be necessary (<i>Translated from Spanish</i>);◆ [COUNTRY] has established a simplified approach to approve food additives in the case that CXS 192-1995 lists the use and that there is interested from [COUNTRY'S] food industry ;◆ RTCA Basis 67.04.54:18 Processed Food and Beverages. Food Additives Corresponds to Codex Stan 192-1995 current version (<i>Translated from Spanish</i>);◆ NTON/RTCA 67.04.54.18 Processed Food and Beverages. Food additives (<i>Translated from Spanish</i>);◆ Even in the revision of Central American regulations, of which [COUNTRY] is a member, it has been used as a consultation (<i>Translated from Spanish</i>);◆ Codex standards are to a large extent the basis for national and regional legislations (<i>Translated from Spanish</i>);◆ [COUNTRY] adopts Codex standards, including the General standard for food additives; However, it was identified that some items are not harmonized with the specific standards, which generates controversy for the national decision. (<i>Translated from Spanish</i>);◆ We adopted 48 Codex standards as national standards.
NORTH AMERICA AND SOUTH WEST PACIFIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ [COUNTRY] takes careful note of food additive provisions in the GSFA as well as food categories when it is considering requests to add or amend permissions in its regulations;◆ There is no reference to the General standard for food additives (GSFA) or its individual provisions in [COUNTRY'S] legislation or regulations pertaining to food additives. However, [COUNTRY] as a WTO Member is subject to the rights and obligations of the WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures and recognizes that this agreement encourages members to base food safety measures on international standards, guidelines, and recommendations. Codex is the relevant international standard setting organization for food safety in the WTO SPS Agreement. [COUNTRY] reviews the relevant provision(s) of the GSFA when considering requests for authorization of new food additive uses in [COUNTRY] (either new food additives or expanded conditions of use for already-permitted food additives). In addition, certain approaches in the GSFA could be considered in regulatory modernization, such as the approach to Table 3 in the GSFA as an efficient way to authorize the use of specific food additives with ADIs "not specified". Ordering by INS number will be preferable to the current alphabetical ordering (e.g., Table 1 and the listing of food additives in food categories in Table 2);◆ [COUNTRY] has a fully developed domestic regulatory system to review the safety and authorize the use of food additives. As part of our domestic authorization process [COUNTRY] considers the safety evaluations for food additives of the Joint Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA), and levels for the use of food additives as listed in the GSFA. [COUNTRY] also fully participates in the activities of the Codex Committee on Food Additives (CCFA), including the development of the GSFA.
NEAR EAST	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Need to get regular updates on substances that are banned or that cause long-term health problems (<i>Translated from Arabic</i>).

TABLE A3 Reach of *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995) (Q6d)

REGION	COMMENTS
AFRICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ There can be room for improvement where we can transform the text format into a database format; ◆ The GSFA online allows ready access whenever the need arises.
ASIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Need TA support for dissemination to Food producers and manufacture in country; ◆ Codex GSFA has become more complicated to interpret.
EUROPE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ It would also be appropriate to update the on-line searchable database for GSFA because it seems to be outdated (since 2021) to avoid possible disorder in the trade in case that someone is consulting only this database. this also applies for the PDF version of the standard that has not been updated since 2021.
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Progress should be made on the structures and format of Codex texts to facilitate the negotiation process; ◆ In addition to the previous comment, it is suggested that once the modifications to the General Standard on Food Additives are adopted in the CAC, the update will be published in the shortest time. When there are delays in the publication of the update of the general standard, controversy arises with the specific standard.
NORTH AMERICA AND SOUTH WEST PACIFIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ [COUNTRY] appreciates the enormous size and complexity of the GSFA but wonders if there are resources to proof and correct inconsistencies that are noted, especially between food categories, descriptions of these and linkages to Codex commodity standards; ◆ The method of dissemination for CXS 192-1995 could be improved in certain areas, in particular in relation to the "GSFA Online" version that is also available on the Codex Alimentarius website. The versions are not updated at the same time. Notably, even the Print version linked through the GSFA Online portal may not be the latest Print version available through the Codex Alimentarius Standards webpage. The Online version also contains less information than the Print version. We would welcome improvements in concurrent publication and harmonized information for both versions; ◆ Ordering by INS number will be preferable to the current alphabetical ordering (e.g., Table 1 and the listing of food additives in food categories in Table 2); ◆ In general, [COUNTRY] is very satisfied with the features of the GSFA. However, in recent sessions of CCFA there has been a push to increase the complexity of Table 3 of the GSFA related to alignment and specificity of use in foods with a corresponding commodity standard. This level of specificity in Table 3 is unnecessary as it does not promote safety (Table 3 additives are of low toxicity) nor trade (what is important for trade is whether an additive is allowed, not its specific technological function). [COUNTRY] has already been informed by other Codex Member States that the complexity of Table 3 reduces the utilization of the GSFA because Members are unclear how to interpret this section of the GSFA.
NEAR EAST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Absence of Arabic translations of Codex texts on the website (<i>Translated from French</i>).

TABLE A4 Recognition of reach of *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995) (Q6e)

REGION	COMMENTS
AFRICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ The standard is used as a baseline for decision-making.
ASIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ The food legislation recognizes relevant CAC and National Standards; however, National requirements take precedence if there is difference between the two;◆ [COUNTRY] has translated and adopted CXS 192 -1995 as a national standard but has not been updated since 2015.
EUROPE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ The major progress of the ongoing general review of the GSFA and the improvement of the process for proposing new provisions are greatly contributing to improve these different aspects;◆ Authoritative: Codex texts are by nature voluntary. National legislation (fully harmonized with EU legislation) is the authoritative texts to us. Also, as risk manager Codex is operating only within its narrow mandate, as national risk managers our mandate is broader. So, to better understand what you are looking for here, we would have liked some more explanation from the author of the review. This is an important text; however, we find it difficult to rank it without further explanation.
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ It is not clear to us that we would be expressing reliably in terms of the rule. <i>(Translated from Spanish)</i>;◆ It is suggested that once the amendments to the General standard for food additives are adopted in the CAC, the update should be published in due course, in the shortest possible time. When there are delays in the publication of the update of the general standard, controversy arises with the specific standard. Likewise, the permanent updating of the standard is requested. <i>(Translated from Spanish)</i>
NORTH AMERICA AND SOUTH WEST PACIFIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ The timeliness of updates is an issue, but it is understood that changes cannot be made official until accepted by the CAC meeting months after CCFA meetings;◆ As required by [COUNTRY] policy for regulatory development, Codex maximum levels (MLs) for food additives are generally considered by [COUNTRY HEALTH AGENCY] when new [COUNTRY] MLs are being established or when existing MLs are updated;◆ We note GSFA is still to be completed by the CCFA which affects its use as a food additive standard for a country.
NEAR EAST	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ [COUNTRY] adopts Codex standard No. 192 in national regulations, but we referenced in some additives that had not existed in 192 to EU regulation because these additives used in national industries. So , we suggest revising the Codex Standard 192.

TABLE A5 Use and impact of *General standard for food additives* (CXS 192-1995) (Q6f)

REGION	COMMENTS
AFRICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The national food control system is not well established and coordinated. Therefore, there are gaps in the implementation of established measures such as the maximum use levels for a number of food additives. Additionally, there is room for improvement concerning stakeholder awareness related to food additives and their use in line with standards. However, there is growing integration of food additives issues in food safety and quality training and education programs with a few academic research studies aligned to the use of food additives. With respect to commodity trade, the GSFA is normally cross-referenced in all commodity (food) standards and as part of the mandatory product certification process, conformance to the requirements of the GSFA is evaluated. However, the limited risk assessment capabilities in the country limit evidence-based interventions and recommendations to support the work at JECFA and Codex with respect to establishing food additive provisions; ◆ Capacity-building (<i>Translated from French</i>).
ASIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ [COUNTRY] has completely harmonised its legislation with CXS 192-1995 except few additives; ◆ For Exports, the requirements of the importing countries are followed; ◆ Education needs to include this standard in the curriculum; ◆ There is buyer specification in named vegetable oil which is slightly deviate from Codex.
EUROPE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ In negotiations between exporting and importing countries, the Codex texts are helpful in providing a joint understanding of the frameworks of trade and in providing common guidelines to be adhered to by both parties. Countries involved in trade often have national regulations that differs from one another, and a common ground for discussion is proven necessary for ensuring stable trade.



TABLE A6 Relevance of Guidelines on nutrition labelling (CXG 2-1985) (Q8a-Q8c)

REGION	COMMENTS
AFRICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The standard is used in conjunction with other standards; ◆ Continued training; ◆ All Codex standards are used as source documents for standards development.
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ In our view, Question 7(a) is poorly worded. Nutrition labelling is not related to safety. Therefore, we consider only the aspects related to nutritional quality (<i>Translated from Spanish</i>); ◆ The Guidelines on nutrition labelling were used as a reference for the revision of nutrition labelling regulations in [COUNTRY] (RDC 429/2020 and IN 75/2020); ◆ The nutritional information presented on prepackaged foods is regulated by Resolution No. 281-2012 (COMIECO-LXII) of May 14, 2012, which publishes the Central American Technical Regulation http://www.pgrweb.go.cr/scij/Busqueda/Normativa/Normas/nrm_texto_completo.aspx?param1=NRTC&nValor1=1&nValor2=73307&nValor3=89923&strTipM=TC RTCA 67.01.60:10 "Nutritional Labelling of Prepackaged Food Products for Human Consumption for Population Over 3 Years of Age" Executive Decree No. 37295-COMEX-MEIC-S; This RTCA is based on the international standards of Codex: Guidelines on nutrition labelling (CAC/GL 2-1985) and Nutrition and Health Claims (CAC/GL 23-1997) (<i>Translated from Spanish</i>); ◆ The labelling standard as well as guidelines have contributed much to the development of [COUNTRY'S] labelling regulations (<i>Translated from Spanish</i>); ◆ RTCA 67.01.60:10; ◆ Although the Codex texts entitled Guidelines on nutrition labelling (CXG 2 1985) set out the amounts of vitamins and minerals for labelling, information is required on the maximum permissible limits to be considered in an industrialized food (<i>Translated from Spanish</i>).
NORTH AMERICA AND SOUTH WEST PACIFIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Capacity development within the food control system. Food chain labelling guidelines for stakeholders from farm gate to market; ◆ The Codex Text has been referred to in the development of food policy and regulation regarding labelling of prepackaged foods. In general, there needs to be clearly justifiable reason to develop policy or regulation for the labelling of prepackaged foods that would not align with Codex text. (Align doesn't mean match exactly; ◆ There is food regulation in [COUNTRY] (ref.7c). As food safety officer, we need to communicate with our nutrition department in strengthening our collaboration in awareness for our general population to understand why that information are required in food labelling; ◆ The ongoing update to allergen declaration and precautionary allergen labelling (PAL) guidelines is quite helpful.
NEAR EAST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Some information is outdated and needs to be revised.

TABLE A7 Reach of Guidelines on nutrition labelling (CXG 2-1985) (Q7d)

REGION	COMMENTS
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ There would be no alternative to qualify it as "useful" in 7(a) (<i>Translated from Spanish</i>).
NORTH AMERICA AND SOUTH WEST PACIFIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Lacks enforcement on labelling using common English text apart from other foreign text; ◆ The provision of Codex texts on the Codex Website make access to such Standards very easy; ◆ For the method of dissemination, Codex has its website, and all texts are available. It is us or CCP that need to continue to make awareness informing food processors, food handlers, health promotions, food safety officers, agriculture officers, fishery officers, political leaders and consumers of this Codex text - Nutrition labelling.
NEAR EAST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ It is suggested to be more complete and deal with more issues.

TABLE A8 Recognition of *Guidelines on nutrition labelling* (CXG 2-1985) (Q7e)

REGION	COMMENTS
AFRICA	◆ [COUNTRY] has adopted this Codex standard.
ASIA	◆ The country has not updated the standard since 2017.
EUROPE	◆ Authoritative: Codex texts are by nature voluntary. National legislation (fully harmonized with EU legislation) is the authoritative texts to us. Also, as risk manager Codex is operating only within its narrow mandate, as national risk managers our mandate is broader. So, to better understand what you are looking for here, we would have liked some more explanation from the author of the review. This is an important text; however, we find it difficult to rank it without further explanation.
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	◆ The guidelines on nutrition labelling are reliable because they are developed through a process of consultation and consensus involving experts from various countries, representatives of the food industry and consumer organisations, based on the review of scientific evidence and risk assessment, which reinforces their credibility. In addition, these guidelines enjoy widespread international recognition and are widely used as a reference in the development of food regulations by numerous countries and organizations, underlining their importance and validity at the global level. In addition, the support of entities such as FAO and WHO in their development increases their reliability, and their constant updating process ensures that they keep up with scientific advances and changing needs (<i>Translated from Spanish</i>).
NORTH AMERICA AND SOUTH WEST PACIFIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Enforcement lacks though legislation is passed; ◆ The process for updating Codex labelling texts has been slowed considerably by the shift to 18 monthly meetings. This affects the timeliness of required updates. For example, updates requiring 2-3 meetings to complete are now 1 year to 18 months slower than they would have been when meetings were held annually; ◆ Codex text is recognized because Codex has a process to develop its standard/text. For [COUNTRY], we do not have the capacity to develop it by ourselves but to rely on standards/texts that is developed by Codex; ◆ Much of the current text is outdated and could benefit from revision. For example, as noted about the work to update the text on allergen declaration guidelines on PAL is important. Text on claims, nutrient declaration and ingredient declarations would benefit from modernization. [COUNTRY] did not find the outcome of the guidelines on Front of Pack (FOP) labelling to be particularly helpful.
NEAR EAST	◆ Currently, more business issues have been addressed and it is suggested to address more safety and health issues.


TABLE A9 Use and impact of *Guidelines on nutrition labelling* (CXG 2-1985) (Q7f)

REGION	COMMENTS
EUROPE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ In negotiations between exporting and importing countries, the Codex texts are helpful in providing a joint understanding of the frameworks of trade and in providing common guidelines to be adhered to by both parties. Countries involved in trade often have national regulations that differs from one another, and a common ground for discussion is proven necessary for ensuring stable trade.
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ [COUNTRY] takes this into consideration when regulating nationally, but in the case of exports, many countries have their own legislation, ignoring Codex. <i>(Translated from Spanish)</i>; ◆ We have national standards; however, they are prepared on the basis of the Codex Alimentarius standards. <i>(Translated from Spanish)</i>.
NORTH AMERICA AND SOUTH WEST PACIFIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ We need to do more consultation to inform our general public on nutrition information for products sold locally or for export. This is still a gap and we need to strengthen as this information is a requirement for trade and for consumers information.
NEAR EAST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The issues described are few, and do not meet today's needs.

TABLE A10 Relevance of *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999) (Q8a-Q8c)

REGION	COMMENTS
AFRICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The standard is used in conjunction with other standards; ◆ Continued training <i>(Translated from French)</i>; ◆ All Codex standards are used as source documents for standards development; ◆ For the average grading is not about dissatisfaction with the documents however, we are new and it is early to have informed opinion about them since we haven't but them into practice.
ASIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Any validated test methods are generally accepted based on the availability of the resources; ◆ [COUNTRY] has referenced and used it for the development of the existing national standard for methods of analysis and sampling. It is crucial for Mongolia to formally adopt this standard in the future.
EUROPE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ In the European Union, a large number of CEN methods that are enforceable on the European Union market are often integrated into the CXS 234.
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ It is used for certain benchmarks in the establishment of health criteria for certain products (fishery products) <i>(Translated from Spanish)</i>;
NORTH AMERICA AND SOUTH WEST PACIFIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ We have answered 'quite a bit' but not 'a great deal'. Our rationale for this response is that in [COUNTRY] there is a statutory process under legislation that requires a risk assessment to be conducted when standards are developed and adopted into the Food Standards Code. This requires an assessment of national needs, food consumption data etc. So, while we harmonise as far as practicable with Codex standards, there are local considerations to be incorporated into [COUNTRY'S] food standards. Codex standards however are recognised as the international benchmark, as a WTO signatory, and have utility as a risk management tool; ◆ We have exported fish and fishery products (Tuna) to the international markets. To maintain our access to market, we need to meet their requirements for the parameters in an accredited laboratories which is related the recommended methods of analysis and sampling (CXS 234-1999).
NEAR EAST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ There some of sampling methods and methods of analysis are not included in the Codex standard no. 234.

TABLE A11 Reach of *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999) (Q8d)

REGION	COMMENTS
NORTH AMERICA AND SOUTH WEST PACIFIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The accuracy of the CXS 234 data has improved significantly in recent years and likely to be optimal after the CXS 234 workable package reviews. These recent reviews are also: incorporating method performance criteria (were possible instead of specific Type II & III methods); addressing safety concerns e.g., use of mercury as catalysts or replacement of carcinogenic chemicals in methods; implementing the 'Comprehensive guidance for the process of submission, consideration and endorsement of methods for inclusion in CXS 234' guidance e.g., clearly defining 'equivalent' and 'complementary' methods. While we are relatively satisfied with the way Codex texts are presented, we have chosen a 'neutral' ranking because there are a couple of shortcomings that we have identified but acknowledge are difficult to address and strike the right balance for. There is a compromise between 'harmonisation' of methods and 'specific parameters' to achieve performance over multiple commodities. Ensuring the commodity standard 'provisions and sections on 'Methods of analysis and sampling' are continually harmonised with CXS 234. That wherever possible methods have supporting Inter-laboratory validated data. The language and method of dissemination within Codex is reasonably good, but that is dependent on Standard development organisations - who publish methods, and sometime have competing objectives to maintain their viability; ◆ The Standard could be placed in a database format so users can easily look up the information by selecting the appropriate commodity and finding relevant details from there; ◆ The review of the dairy methods means that the information contained in CXS 234 is current; ◆ For method of dissemination, CCP need to make more awareness for better informed of this text to food processors, lab technicians, and other important stakeholders and why they are important for trade. Make a simple awareness of how to access Codex web site and show them where they can access the text.

TABLE A12 Recognition of *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999) (Q8e)

REGION	COMMENTS
AFRICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where [COUNTRY] does not have own standards, Codex standards are used as mandatory.
NORTH AMERICA AND SOUTH WEST PACIFIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The endorsement 'methods of analysis' are often a compromise between technical advancement, optimal sensitivity, accuracy, and achieving a balance with practicality, availability, feasibility across 'most laboratories'. So, methods that might be 'obsolete' in some regions are still in common use in others; while other methods commonly available in some regions do not have sufficient infrastructural support for use in others. The 'method performance criteria' is addressing this with type II & III methods but has difficulties with 'Defining' type I methods. We believe the credibility has improved with data accuracy within CXS 234, and when we can ensure harmonisation of 'provisions and sections on 'Methods of analysis and sampling' in commodity standards with CXS 234, this will be optimal. The timeliness is also improving as there was a tendency to wait for background international technical harmonisation before attempting 'new work' to document within Codex, while recently there has been greater emphasis on addressing new and emerging issues. While we have rated Codex texts as being only 'mostly' timely, we recognise timeliness is to a degree necessarily sacrificed to ensure Codex texts are authoritative and credible. Any efficiency gains in getting Codex texts drafted would need to consider the paramount importance of the consensus and science-basis of Codex standard setting. One place where efficiency gains could be made while respecting current process would be to improve resourcing of the independent joint WHO/FAO risk assessment bodies'; The typing system has a level of subjectivity.
NEAR EAST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are some quality criteria that are stipulated in commodity standards, but there are no analysis methods for them in standard No. 234; Reliability and credibility exist, but it is impossible to apply due to the lack of equipment necessary for testing, difficulty in maintaining and lack of retrograde materials (<i>Translated from Arabic</i>).

TABLE A13 Use and impact of *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling* (CXS 234-1999) (Q8f)

REGION	COMMENTS
AFRICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [COUNTRY] is a net importer, where appropriate the quality infrastructure of the exporting country has to provide test data. Continued training (<i>Translated from French</i>).
ASIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The accredited test parameters are recognized by the importing countries.
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [COUNTRY] takes this into consideration when regulating nationally, but in the case of exports, many countries have their own legislation, ignoring Codex. (<i>Translated from Spanish</i>) We have national standards; However, these are prepared based on what is established in the Codex Alimentarius standards. (<i>Translated from Spanish</i>).
NORTH AMERICA AND SOUTH WEST PACIFIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For our fish and fishery products exported to the international markets, we used recommended methods and sampling because of market access requirements (Codex). But we have other locally produced products (agricultural), like fermented noni juice and processed kava products that we need to meet recognized methods before we export. we need to do awareness for all stake holders to be informed; [COUNTRY] has a well-established system for assuring food safety when exporting food commodities, however, Codex standards are helpful when working with other countries to harmonize sampling and testing methods.



TABLE A14 Reach of *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed (CXG 90-2017) (Q9d)*

REGION	COMMENTS
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The guideline should be more specific, including acceptance criteria for analytical methods for both quality control and validation. Likewise, it is recommended to review all documents and prepare a unification of related texts (<i>Translated from Spanish</i>); ◆ Updates to the standard are not made in a timely manner (<i>Translated from Spanish</i>); ◆ As this is a standard that refers to the work of laboratories, we consider it pertinent that it be updated periodically, within a reasonable period of time for the workload of the codex committee for pesticide residues.
NORTH AMERICA AND SOUTH WEST PACIFIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ [COUNTRY] has a fully developed domestic regulatory system to regulate pesticides and set limits on the amount of pesticides that may remain in or on foods marketed in the [COUNTRY]. As part of this national regulatory system, the [COUNTRY] has established pesticide residue monitoring programs and laboratory methods to support regulatory compliance. While [COUNTRY] has developed its own guidelines for the monitoring of pesticides in [COUNTRY] food supply, it closely monitors Codex for updated guidance on pesticides and recognizes the importance of CXG 90-2017.

TABLE A15 Recognition of *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed (CXG 90-2017) (Q9e)*

REGION	COMMENTS
EUROPE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Authoritative: Codex texts are by nature voluntary. National legislation (fully harmonized with EU legislation) is the authoritative texts to us. Also, as risk manager Codex is operating only within its narrow mandate, as national risk managers our mandate is broader. So, to better understand what you are looking for here, we would have liked some more explanation from the author of the review. This is an important text; however, we find it difficult to rank it without further explanation.
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ In reference to what is indicated in the appropriate aspect, it is considered that the document is not very specific and does not include terms of reference (<i>Translated from Spanish</i>). ◆ Updates to the standard are not made in a timely manner (<i>Translated from Spanish</i>).
NEAR EAST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The Codex text entitled Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed (CXG 90-2017) is a beneficial and practical document, but as pesticide residue analysis is a progressive knowledge and innovative the Guideline can be improved. ◆ Reliability and credibility are great, but application is difficult due to the lack of necessary equipment, the difficulty of maintaining them, and the lack of reference materials (<i>Translated from Arabic</i>).

TABLE A16 Use and Impact of *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed (CXG 90-2017) (Q9f)*

REGION	COMMENTS
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ [COUNTRY] has established performance criteria for residues for pesticide analysis methods but not in all cases it has been based on the Codex standard (<i>Translated from Spanish</i>)



TABLE A17 Relevance of Codex texts (Q10 – Q12)

REGION	COMMENTS
AFRICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ My country is reviewing the current legislation, Public Health Order of 1970. Key amongst the terms of reference is to base the new legislation with codex guidelines and to ensure that where [COUNTRY] does not have standards, Codex standards prevail;◆ All food standards are based on Codex;◆ We have just started adoption of Codex texts as national standards;◆ Codex texts are directly adopted as standards for application or adapted to suit the country's needs;◆ Current food safety regulations being developed are referencing codex standards.
ASIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Other agencies are not as well aware of Codex standards and guidelines.
EUROPE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Our national legislation is fully harmonized with the EU legislation since 1994. However, the Codex process (discussions and sharing of knowledge and expertise) and the final standards are considered. To us Codex is important to promote and strengthen effective rules-based multilateral cooperation and to facilitate international trade.
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ This may be to the extent that Codex texts are referenced and/or used for development of CARICOM Regional Standards;◆ Recent food safety and quality draft regulations have been used, as a reference, Codex texts;◆ [COUNTRY] develops all of its national legislation based on Codex texts;◆ As long as there is no national regulation, what is established in the Codex Alimentarius is considered (<i>Translated from Spanish</i>).
NORTH AMERICA AND SOUTH WEST PACIFIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ While we have rated Codex texts as being only 'somewhat' timely, we recognise timeliness is to a degree necessarily sacrificed to ensure Codex texts are authoritative and credible. Any efficiency gains in getting Codex texts drafted would need to consider the paramount importance of the consensus and science-basis of Codex standard setting. One place where efficiency gains could be made while respecting current process would be to improve resourcing of the independent joint WHO/FAO risk assessment bodies.
NEAR EAST	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ The legislation is based on [COUNTRY'S] specifications, which are mostly prepared in accordance with the specifications of the Food Code

TABLE A18 Recognition of Codex texts (Q14)

REGION	COMMENTS
AFRICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Capacity-building;◆ Our food control system has its basis on Codex texts. We have just adopted a Codex Risk-based Import Control Manual; this manual refers to most codex text if not almost all codex text.
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ The 5 Keys to safer food are used as an authority for food handlers' certification. It is not known to what extent the 5 Keys for safe production of food is used and promoted as a reference text by itself.
NORTH AMERICA AND SOUTH WEST PACIFIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ It is not clear whether this question is largely aimed at groupings like the European Union. We have taken member states to mean countries rather than states within our country; and that 'internal' refers to intra-bloc trade rather than imports.



TABLE A19 Use and impact of Codex texts (Q16)

REGION	COMMENTS
AFRICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ [COUNTRY] is a net importer of food commodities; however, regional text is agreed easily through use of codex text as source documents. Our region has draft standards on fish and fish products, and honey whose bases stem from codex text; ◆ Regional harmonization of standards at East African Community level and African Organization for Standardization level is based on existing Codex standards.
ASIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ [COUNTRY] did not face any major trade dispute with its trading partners till date.
EUROPE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ These are good questions and equally difficult to respond to. We consider our national legislation the baseline and Codex texts are referred to in negotiations or disputes.
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ [COUNTRY] considers that the lack of a neutral response is biased, there is a very wide margin between "for the most part" and "somewhat".
NEAR EAST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The commodities Codex Standards need to revision.

TABLE A20 Barriers to Codex text use (Q18)

REGION	COMMENTS
AFRICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Our food control system needs to be overhauled such that the fragmented food legislation is put together as a comprehensive legislation under one entity. However, other stakeholders are also expected to play their part as the case may be. Food safety issues are not prioritised in terms of resource allocation (human resource, laboratory equipment, financial resources for attending codex meetings and providing awareness in-country. [COUNTRY] needs to ensure that proper value chains such as in the fresh fish and vegetables are adequately resourced so that the policy holders may see the importance of food safety to food trade and in terms of reducing food safety scares as the case may be. Policy holders need to be adequately briefed on Codex on a continuous basis to woo their support;
ASIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Irrelevance of Codex texts for the national context/reality: In cases where the commodities are not produced/grown/traded.
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Because of the minimal use of Codex texts at this time, we are not yet aware of the barriers that may appear if/when the use of Codex texts increases; ◆ What is the difference between b) and f)?
NEAR EAST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Regarding duration of Codex text development, the timing of standards development should be more coherent and shorter. This can be managed through an electronic system and portal with a specific schedule.



TABLE A21 Suggestions to improve reach, usefulness, or use of Codex texts at the national level (Q20)

REGION	COMMENTS
AFRICA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Improve awareness on use of Codex text; ◆ A guide aimed at political decision-makers on the importance of Codex could be prepared. In parallel, meetings may be held between Ministers and other country leaders from different countries demonstrating the impact of adopting Codex Standards at a global level; ◆ Have an independent budget at the national level, stakeholder capacity-building, simplification of the adoption of Codex standards (<i>translated from French</i>); ◆ More capacity development; data availability and quality; improve consensus building; harmonization of national, regional, and global level; ◆ Empowering developing countries to adopt and enforce Codex standards; promote awareness on Codex standards for different stakeholders; consider public and private partnerships to collaborate on and implement Codex standards; ◆ We think that a training package for technicians in the use of Codex texts and the development of standards and regulations based on these texts would be an added value; ◆ To be capacitated in Codex activities; ◆ Better promotion and use by producers and suppliers; integration of Codex texts into legislative texts (<i>translated from French</i>); ◆ Support Member States to create structured awareness to foster implementation of the Codex text; Codex Secretariat to develop information, education, and communication materials based on Codex but in pictorial format and easy to understand language that can be disseminated widely; ◆ Need for more stakeholder awareness on Codex texts, especially those in the agro-food industry; ◆ More national stakeholders' awareness trainings need to be done with Food Business Operators.
ASIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Codex texts are extremely useful, however, due to resource constraints, [COUNTRY] is not able to participate and contribute to the Codex standards setting process and thereby not able to reap the maximum benefits from the works of Codex; ◆ To create internal consultation mechanisms with all relevant stakeholders; ◆ Need to make it in national language and disseminate well; regularly update Codex development; ◆ Facilitating the mechanism for enhancing to translate the Codex text into national law and standards; ◆ Suggest publishing documents in Microsoft Excel format for ease of coding to speed up searching efficiency (e.g., classification of food and feed); ◆ Language use should be clearer so that the users could be understood correctly texts which are described in Codex Standards and relative texts.



TABLE A21 Suggestions to improve reach, usefulness, or use of Codex texts at the national level (Q20) (cont.)

REGION	COMMENTS
EUROPE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Improvement of local capacities and, if possible, a greater presence of Codex at the national level through the holding of Codex meetings that would include competent bodies, subjects in the food business, the scientific community, NGOs and other interested parties; ◆ Strengthen the approval process for new work and capacity for revisions to ensure a high degree of relevance and timeliness of adopted new and revised standards. ; Ensure that adopted standards have the consensus-derived support of the Codex Membership. ; Adopt the One Health approach to Codex standard development. ; Ensure that Codex standards contribute to and do not negatively affect progress towards overarching international goals – SDGs, climate action, biodiversity conservation and the transition to more sustainable food systems. ; Continue enhancing work management practices and systems (SP Goal 5) to facilitate participation of national experts in the standard development process. ; Ensure an easy online access to Codex texts providing usability but keeping transparency and traceability to the development process of the texts. It is important to find the latest changes of a text in an easy way; ◆ Please make them available in Russian as soon as possible after approval. And that they should be translated exactly according to the text of the English original (without ambiguous interpretation). <i>(Translated from Russian)</i>
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Information sharing and activities for campaigns on use and implementation of different Codex standards; ◆ We are often forced to adopt more restrictive standards due to the provisions adopted by our trading partners, who are unaware of Codex when regulating. This is the case for many exporting developing countries <i>(Translated from Spanish)</i>; ◆ Increase participation of SIDS in the development of standards and Codes of Practice to include regional peculiarities that may be excluded otherwise; ◆ Accelerate the process of adoption of Codex standards; support countries in the dissemination of Codex Alimentarius texts <i>(Translated from Spanish)</i>; ◆ Promote workshops in specific committees to increase the participation of the country's members and their understanding of the issues that are debated in their respective agendas and thus improve the application of their application in public policies; Provide material through videos, brochures, simple and with practical examples on the importance of using Codex standards and texts to develop regulations and to be able to produce, manufacture and export food <i>(Translated from Spanish)</i>; ◆ Contribute more resources to the establishment of a more robust Codex infrastructure; Increase awareness especially among non-governmental stakeholders; individuals and groups; ◆ Strengthen Codex guidelines for the formatting and structure of texts, in order to avoid, negotiate structure or formatting <i>(Translated from Spanish)</i>; ◆ It is suggested that the Codex texts be updated in a timely manner; hinting at harmonizing general rules with specific rules <i>(Translated from Spanish)</i>; ◆ More training for the NCC and greater participation in Codex; ◆ The National Codex Committee should have its own specific resources for its operation. In this way, different communication activities could be planned and implemented that would give greater visibility to the work of Codex and the dissemination of the texts.



TABLE A21 Suggestions to improve reach, usefulness, or use of Codex texts at the national level (Q20) (cont.)

REGION	COMMENTS
NORTH AMERICA AND SOUTH WEST PACIFIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ The Codex Secretariat for CCPR spends considerable time and effort on tasks/ documents that are not central to the work of the Committee. This time would be better spent on ensuring that more important work, primarily keeping the Codex MRL database up to date, is completed each year, soon after the CAC adopts new MRLs. This database has a direct use in trade and if not kept up to date, could result in more trade disputes;◆ More awareness;◆ Revision of country focal points contacts to enable fast tracking of country contributions;◆ More awareness and consultation to our stakeholders for them to aware of the importance of Codex texts.
NEAR EAST	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Increasing the use of the Arabic language in the work of Codex committees (<i>Translated from Arabic</i>);◆ The specifications are more detailed and specify the requirements more clearly and in detail (<i>Translated from Arabic</i>);◆ Improve Arabic translation;◆ Distribution of codex texts in various languages other than English; Development of capacity building programs promoting methods to raise the stakeholder's awareness of the Codex tests; Develop programs to strengthen NSBs participation in Codex work;◆ Provide the ability to participate physically in the meetings of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and the committees of this national priority so that we can participate in the preparation and enrichment of Codex standards, especially for countries eligible for Codex Trust Fund support (<i>Translated from Arabic</i>).



NOTES

- ¹ **FAO and WHO.** 2020. *Codex Strategic Plan 2020–2025*. Codex Alimentarius Commission. Rome.
- ² **FAO and WHO.** 1995. *General standard for food additives*. Codex Alimentarius Standard, No. CXS 192-1995. Codex Alimentarius Commission. Rome.
- ³ **FAO and WHO.** 1985. *Guidelines on nutrition labelling*. Codex Alimentarius Guideline, No. CXG 2-1985. Codex Alimentarius Commission. Rome.
- ⁴ **FAO and WHO.** 1999. *Recommended methods of analysis and sampling*. Codex Alimentarius Standard, No. CXS 234-1999. Codex Alimentarius Commission. Rome.
- ⁵ **FAO and WHO.** 2017. *Guidelines on performance criteria for methods of analysis for the determination of pesticide residues in food and feed*. Codex Alimentarius Guideline, No. CXG 90-2017. Codex Alimentarius Commission. Rome.
- ⁶ **FAO and WHO.** 2013. *Principles and guidelines for national food control systems*. Codex Alimentarius Guideline, No. CXG 82-2013. Codex Alimentarius Commission. Rome.
- ⁷ **FAO and WHO.** 2007. *Working principles for risk analysis for food safety for application by governments*. Codex Alimentarius Guideline, No. CXG 62-2007. Codex Alimentarius Commission. Rome.
- ⁸ **FAO and WHO.** 2018. *Maximum residue limits and risk management recommendations for veterinary drug residues in foods*. Codex Alimentarius Maximum Residue Limit, No. CXM 2-2018. Codex Alimentarius Commission. Rome.
- ⁹ **FAO and WHO.** 2021. *Code of practice to minimize and contain foodborne antimicrobial resistance*. Codex Alimentarius Code of Practice, No. CXC 61-2021. Codex Alimentarius Commission. Rome.
- ¹⁰ **FAO and WHO.** 2023. *Use and impact of Codex texts – Report of the Codex Survey 2022*. Rome. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cc8056en>



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