



Caribbean Nations of MIOA

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Transparency in Agricultural Markets in the Americas

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Americas (MIOA)**



What is Transparency?

- Widely available detailed information on:
 - Price
 - Supply
 - Demand
 - Market conditions



Why is Transparency Important?

- Allows for informed marketing decisions
- Provides a means of value determination for:
 - Dispute resolution
 - Insurance or disaster payment
 - Loan or credit assessment
 - Contract terms



Why is Transparency Important?

- Provides critical information for government policy makers
- Helps to identify markets of opportunity, both domestic and international
- Levels the “playing field” for all market participants



How is Transparency Created?

Market transparency is created through the interaction of market reporters or data collectors with buyers, sellers and other market participants, ending with a public display of the information collected



Who are the Creators of Transparency?

The institutions who create or provide transparency for agricultural commodities are the Market Information Systems (MIS) within each country



What are the Goals for MIS?

- Accurate and timely information
- Widely used and relied upon
- Well supported with secure funding
- Staffed by well trained and dedicated professionals



Realities of MIS in the Americas

- Limited interaction between MIS of the countries
- Varied methodology, terminology and technology
- Wide range in resources and institutional support
- Lack of common or shared vision



History of the Creation of MIOA

The concept of an organization of the MIS and the market information professionals from across the Americas was introduced at a Formative Meeting in 1999 with 10 countries in attendance. The idea was unanimously accepted.



History of the Creation of MIOA

An inaugural meeting was held in 2000, with 19 countries in attendance, to formalize the creation of MIOA through the adoption of Rules of Procedure and the election of officers.



Purpose of MIOA

To facilitate the timely and consistent exchange of market information on agricultural commodities and products between the members of MIOA



Mission of MIOA

To support the strengthening, the harmonization and the sustained development of agricultural market information systems throughout the Americas



Vision of MIOA

To be recognized worldwide as a leader in efforts and initiatives to innovate and improve agricultural market information systems



Objectives

- To create mechanisms that allow for the exchange of agricultural market information among the member countries.
- To facilitate the exchange of technical expertise and identify training opportunities to enhance member market information systems.



Objectives

- To work towards the harmonization of terminology, methodology and technology used.
- To promote the concept that timely and reliable market information contributes to the efficient marketing of agricultural products and helps to identify market opportunities.



Accomplishments

- Website linking all member countries
- Specialized technical workshops
- Regional forums
- Bilateral and multilateral exchanges of specialists and experiences



Accomplishments

- Information sharing, such as:
 - Impact of natural disasters
 - New product availability
 - Changes in regulations
- Data transfer in response to specific requests or needs



Accomplishments

- Strengthened the focus on customer service and quality control
- Promoted the importance of agricultural market information
- Enhanced the visibility and value of MIS in the member countries



Assessment Study

- MIOA agreed to do an assessment of the 19 member countries
- WHY?



Assessment Study

- Establish a baseline for each country
- Help identify appropriate partners
- Share information and experiences
- Build capacity



Assessment Study

- Selected a consultant to conduct the study
- Established evaluation criteria upon:
 - Data collection
 - Data processing
 - Information dissemination



Assessment Study

- Consultant weighted the components as follows:
 - Data collection – 40%
 - Data processing – 20%
 - Information dissemination – 40%

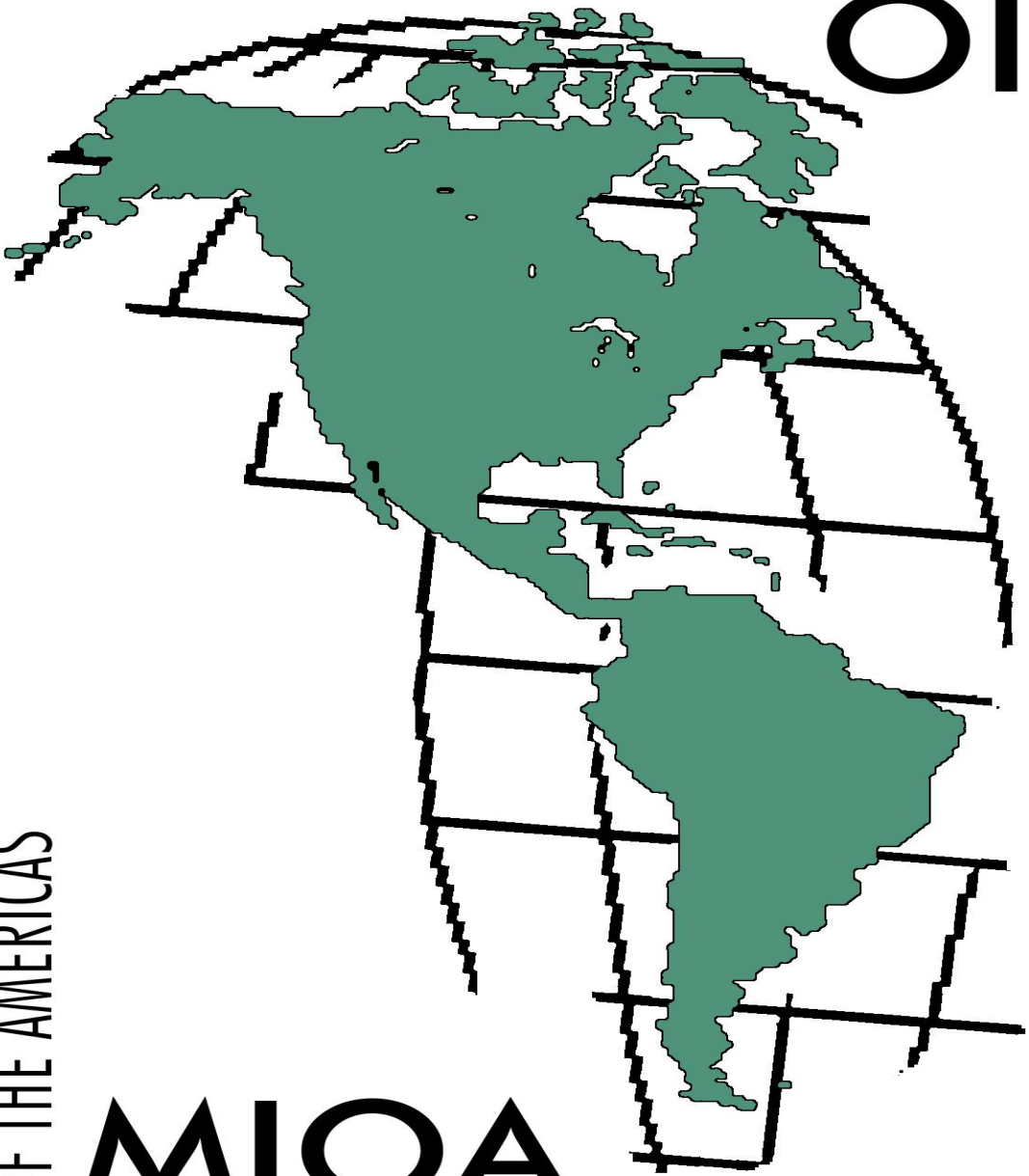


What's Next?

- Technical workshops, regional and MIOA
- Multilateral technical assistance projects
- Add member countries from the Caribbean
- Outreach to other countries in the world

MARKET INFORMATION ORGANIZATION
OF THE AMERICAS

MIOA



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ORGANIZACION DE INFORMACION DE MERCADOS
DE LAS AMERICAS



MIOA Website

www.mioa-oima.org



Questions?