



Project description

The inception phase of the Strategic Sector Cooperation (SSC) between Mexico and Denmark in the area of food production has been focused on developing a project that seeks to modernize and strengthen the food safety and quality in the whole value chain of pig production.

The main partners are the Mexican Ministry for Agriculture and Rural Development (SADER), The National Agro-Food Health, Safety and Quality Service (SENASICA) and The Commission for the Prevention of Sanitary Risks (COFEPRIS).

Key activities in 2018

A number of activities were carried out in 2018:

- In January a delegation of Mexican project partners from both public institutions and producers' organizations participated in a study tour to Denmark. The tour showcased the Danish model of pig farming and formed basis for discussions on themes for the SSC.
- The Danish Veterinary and Food Administration (DVFA) undertook a number of visits to Mexico in the first half year of 2018 with the aim of meeting with project partners and developing the descriptions of the project with a focus on improved use of data in pig production.
- In April, the Danish Minister for Environment and Food visited Mexico with a business delegation. During the visit, the SSC was discussed between ministers, who reconfirmed the strong interest in a collaboration with the signing of a Memory of Understanding.

Main achievements and lessons learned in 2018

The activities in 2018 and the dialogue with Mexican partners have on one hand shown great interest in the cooperation, also from the private sectors of Mexico and Denmark who have declared interest in contributing directly to the SSC project.

However, with the Mexican elections on July 1st 2018, and the subsequent change in Government with effect from December 1st 2018, finalization of the inception phase and signing of the project document was effectively put on hold for a major part of the reporting year.

Both before and after taking office on December 1st 2018 the new Mexican government underlined its interest in continuing the project and cooperation with Denmark, including at ministerial level. However, by the end of 2018, the Embassy and DVFA were still awaiting concrete feedback from the new Government on how they wish to pursue this cooperation.

On the backdrop of change of Government in Mexico, it is important to allow time for the project partners to enter into renewed dialogue on the substantial content of the cooperation. Furthermore, it is expected that some level of changes/adjustments, maybe even major ones, to the project description will be needed.

Status: Preparation phase

Partners: Mexican Ministry for Agriculture and Rural Development (SADER), The National Agro-Food Health, Safety and Quality Service (SENASICA) and The Commission for the Prevention of Sanitary Risks (COFEPRIS)

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