



# Initiative for the Americas" on SPS

Dr. Ricardo Molins





# Objectives:

- Capacity building for compliance with the WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures
  - Creation/strengthening of national SPS Committees
  - Internal coordination of 3 Sister's work
  - Creation of negotiation skills (taking advantage of the SPS Agreement)

# Initiative for the Americas

- Meetings attended: 19 (October 2002 – October 2008)
  - First phase: 3 meetings
  - Second phase: 7 meetings
  - Third phase: 3 meetings (2006)
  - Fourth phase: 6 meetings (2007 and 2008)
- Total cost:
  - US\$1,400.000 (40% USDA – 60% IICA)
- 230 technical staff supported
- 32 countries (all in America except USA and Canada)

**Table 1: Number of countries financed by the Initiative. October 02-October 05**

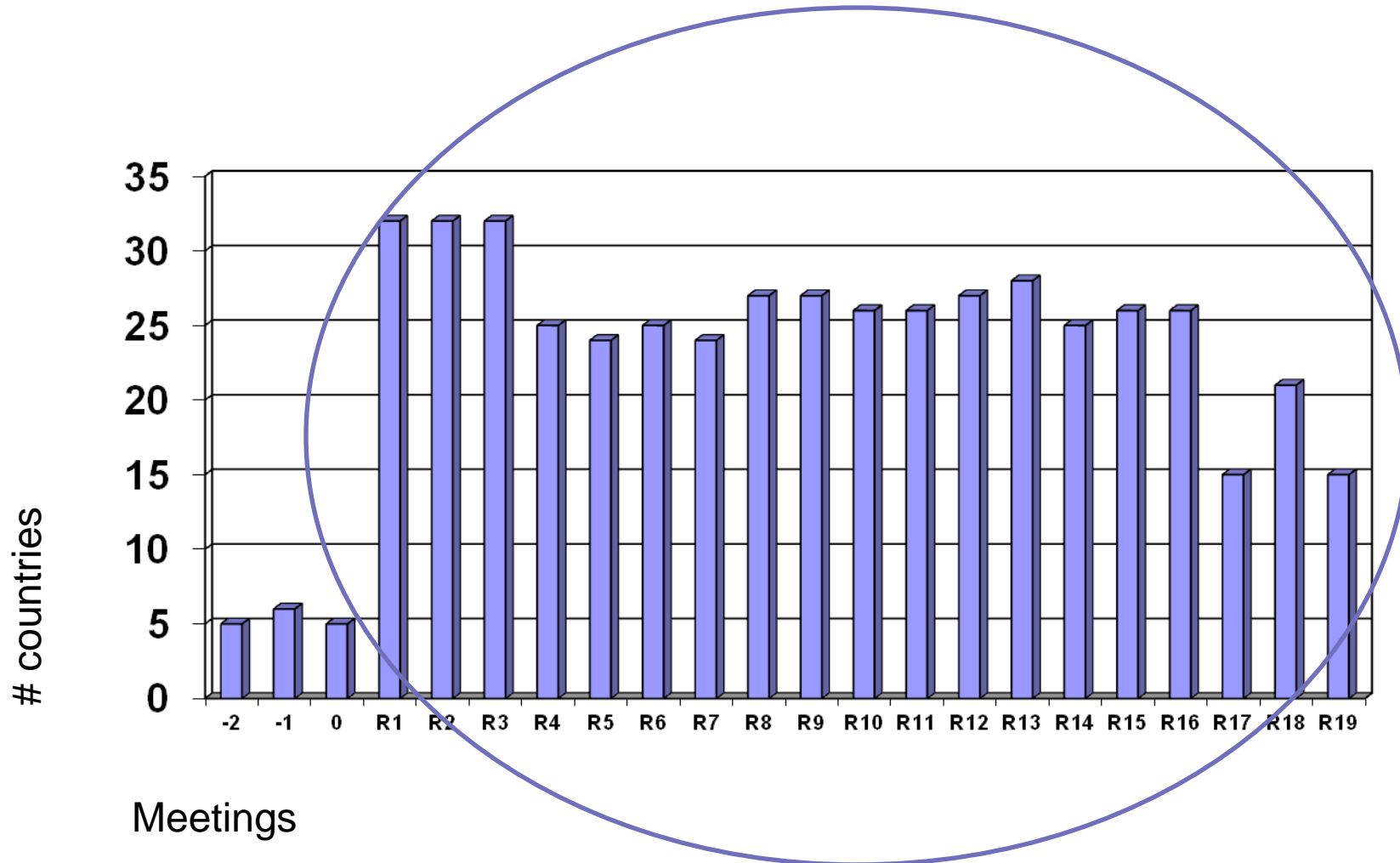
	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Caribbean</b>	<b>Central</b>	<b>Andean</b>	<b>South</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>Total</b>
2002	<b>R1-25</b>	14	7	5	5	1	<b>32</b>
	<b>R2-26</b>	14	7	5	5	1	<b>32</b>
2003	<b>R3-27</b>	14	7	5	5	1	<b>32</b>
	<b>R4-28</b>	12	6	5	2	0	<b>25</b>
	<b>R5-29</b>	10	6	5	3	0	<b>24</b>
2004	<b>R6-30</b>	12	6	5	2	0	<b>25</b>
	<b>R7-31</b>	11	7	4	2	0	<b>24</b>
	<b>R8-32</b>	13	7	5	2	0	<b>27</b>
2005	<b>R9-33</b>	14	7	4	2	0	<b>27</b>
	<b>R10-34</b>	13	7	4	2	0	<b>26</b>

Source: IICA

# Table1: Number of countries financed by the Initiative. March 06 – October 2008

Meeting	Caribbean	Central	Andean	South	North	Total	
2006	R11-35	13	7	4	2	0	26
	R12-36	14	7	4	2	0	27
	R13-37	14	7	5	2	0	28
2007	R14-38	12	7	4	2	0	25
	R15-39	13	7	4	2	0	26
	R16-40	13	7	5	2	0	26
2008	R17-41	3	6	4	2	0	15
	R18-42	8	7	4	2	0	21
	R19-43	3	6	4	2	0	15

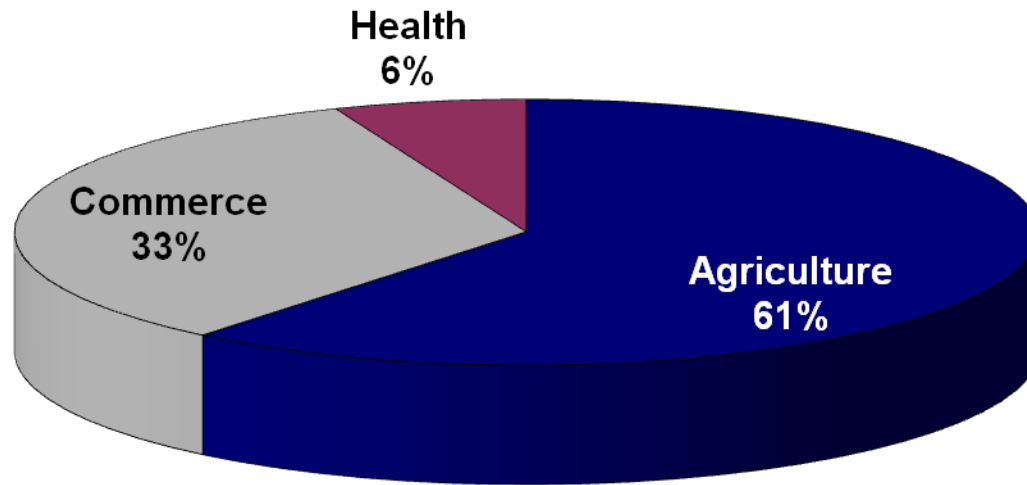
Figure 1: Number of countries financed by the Initiative. October 02 – October 08



**Table2: No. of technical officials financed by the Initiative. October 2002 – October 2008**

<b>Region</b>	<b>Agriculture</b>	<b>Commerce</b>	<b>Health</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Caribbean</b>	54	34	12	101
<b>Central</b>	30	18	0	48
<b>Andean</b>	25	13	0	38
<b>South</b>	30	7	1	39
<b>North</b>	1	3	0	4
<b>Total</b>	140	76	14	230

# Figure2: No. Of technical officials financed by the Initiative. October 2002 – October 2008





## Table3: % participation in theSPS Committee with officials from Capital

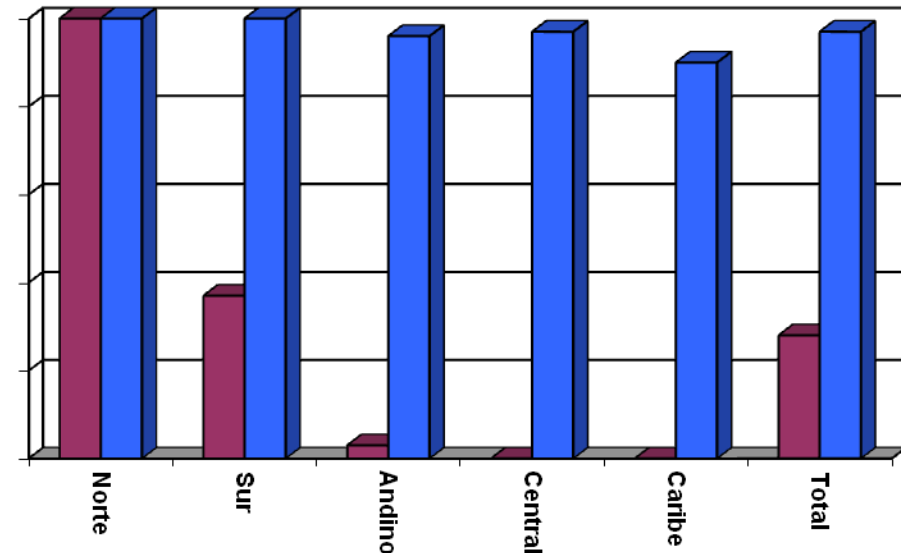
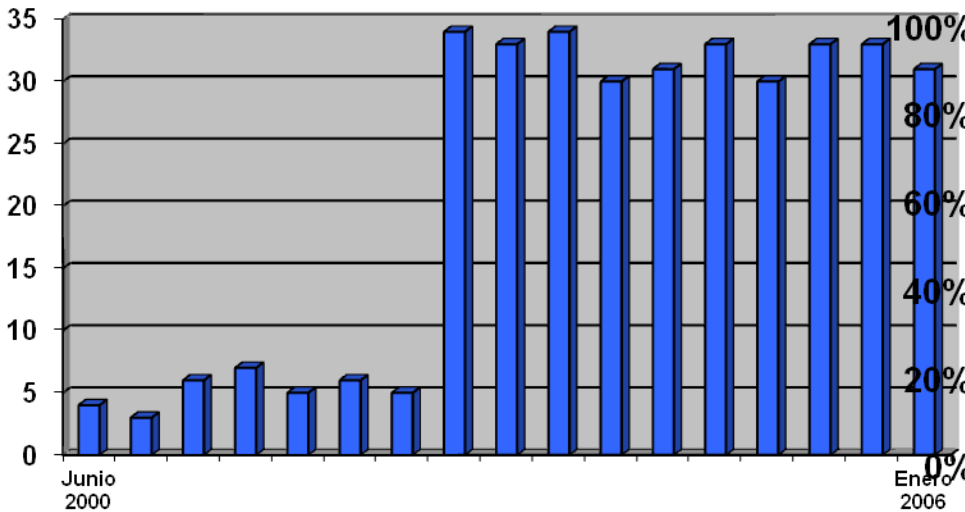
Region	June 2000 June 2002	October 2002 October 2005
Caribbean	0%	91%
Central	0%	97%
Andean	3%	94%
South	37%	100%
North	100%	100%
Total	28%	96%

# Figures 3 y 4: Participation of the Americas in the SPS Committee with delegates from Capital

June 2000 – January 2006

Figure 3

Figure 4



Number os countries

% per region



# Continuous Participation: challenge and need

Country	Name									
		Oct-02	Mar-03	Jun-03	Oct-03	Mar-04	Jun-04	Oct-04	Mar-05	Jun-05
xxx	xxx	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	
	xxx	1								
	xxx		1	1						
	xxx				1	1	1	1	1	1

Some countries have increased their notifications, others still do not notify

- Nicaragua
- Honduras
- Guatemala
- Colombia
- Peru
- Venezuela



- Belice
- Paraguay
- Dominican Republic
- Guyana
- Surinam
- Other in the Caribbean



Table4: Comparison in number of notifications presented in two periods

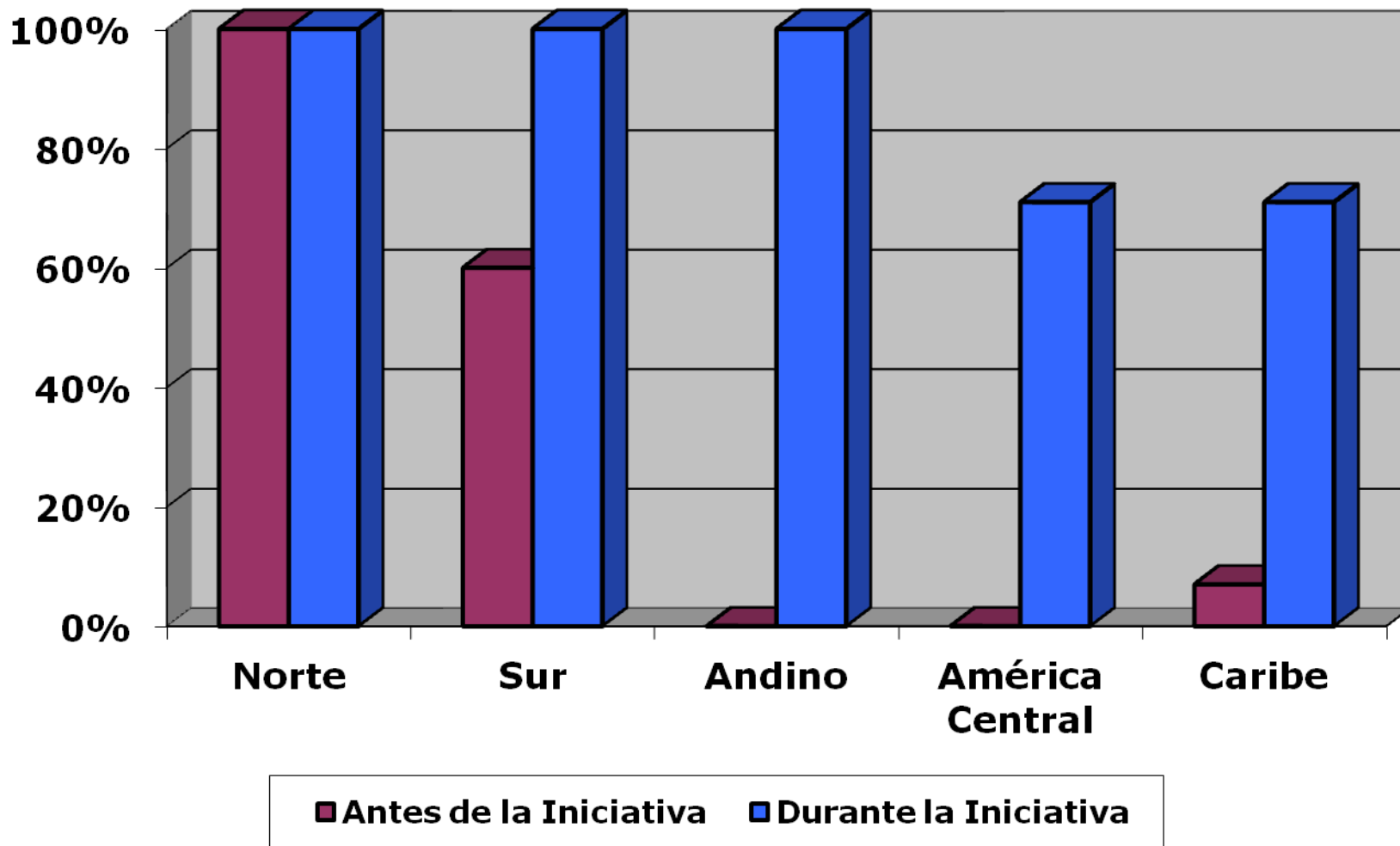
Region	86 months January 95 – July 02	35 months October02 – October 05
North	1.138	857
South	267	149
Andean	96	157
Central	130	111
Caribbean	8	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.639</b>	<b>1.287</b>

# Table 5: National SPS Committees\*, formal or informal, reported by countries

Region	% Countries with SPS Committee Before the Initiative	% Countries with SPS Committees Currently
North	100%	100%
South	60%	100%
Andean	0%	100%
Central	0%	71%
Caribbean	7%	71%
Total	21%	82%

\*National Committees that take care of the WTO SPS Committee agenda, or any equivalent organized institutional entity

# Figure 5: National SPS Committees reported by countries



• Comités que llevan la agenda del Comité MSF de la OMC o en su efecto una estructura institucional organizada



# Examples of National SPS Committees

## ■ Paraguay

- Decree No. 6626
- Creates the National Technical Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures
- The coordination of the National Technical Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures is in charge of the Agriculture and Livestock Ministry and will have the support of IICA, which has the Technical Secretariat of the Committee

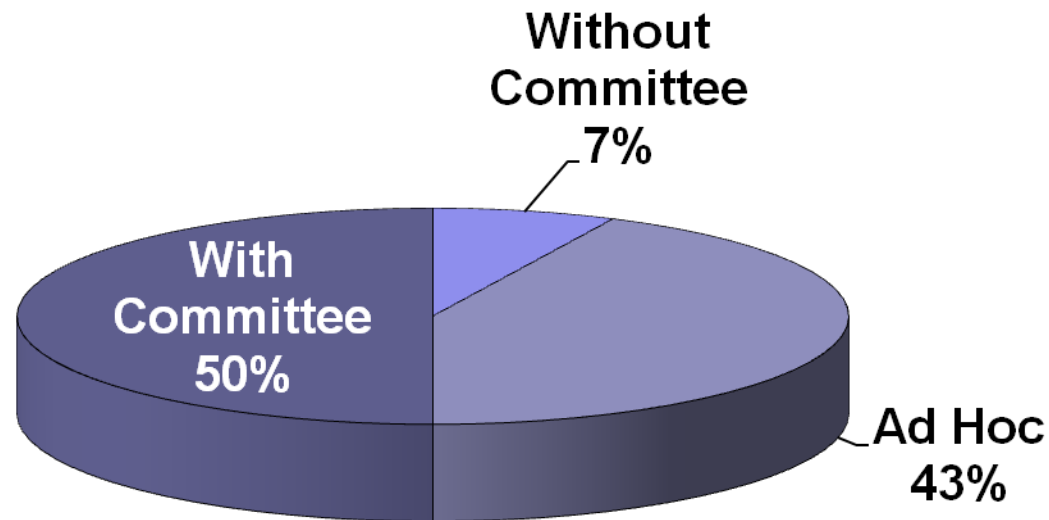


# Examples of National SPS Committees

## ■ Honduras

- Law No. 651-04
- Creates the National Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures
- The Committee includes all relevant national institutions and allows international and regional organizations such as FAO and IICA to join

# % Countries with National Committees covering SPS issues\* (in 28 countries of the Americas)

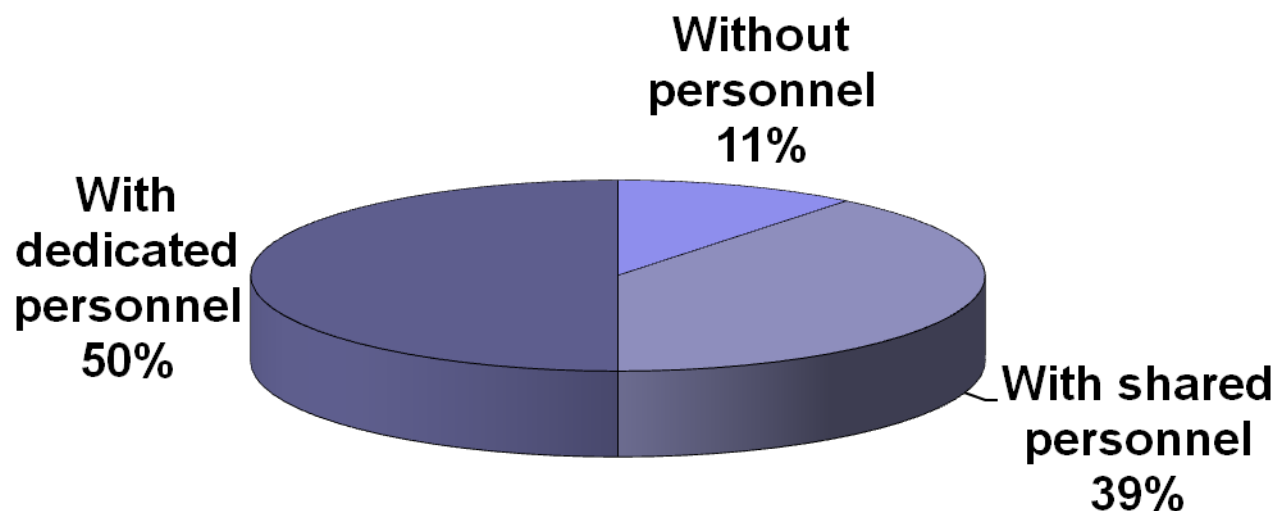


\* SPS issues connected with the WTO SPS Committee

# National SPS Committees

- Went from 7 to 2 countries without a committee
- 12 countries(42%) depend on the leadership of the delegate or other technical official for institutional sustainability
- 14 countries (50%) report having a committee, but a large number indicate the committee does not meet regularly

# Personnel dedicated to SPS issues\* (in 28 countries of the Americas)



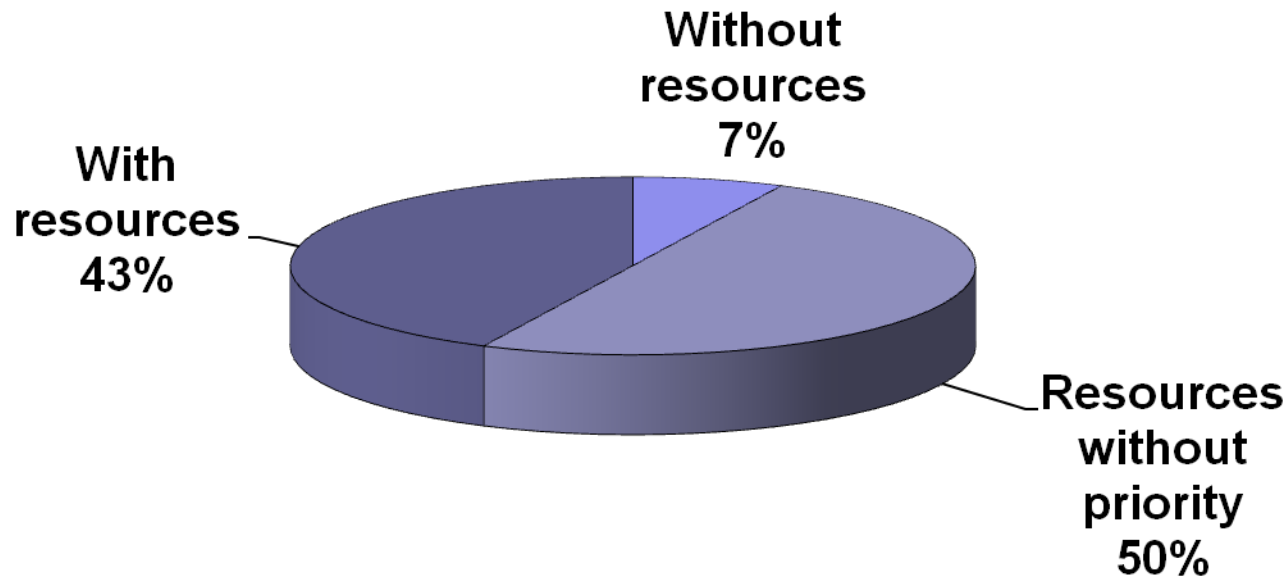
\* SPS issues connected with the WTO SPS Committee

# Personnel dedicated to SPS issues

- There is a high correlation between the existence of dedicated personnel and that of National SPS Committees
- 11 countries(39%) have personnel but not with exclusive dedication
- 14 countries (50%) have dedicated personnel

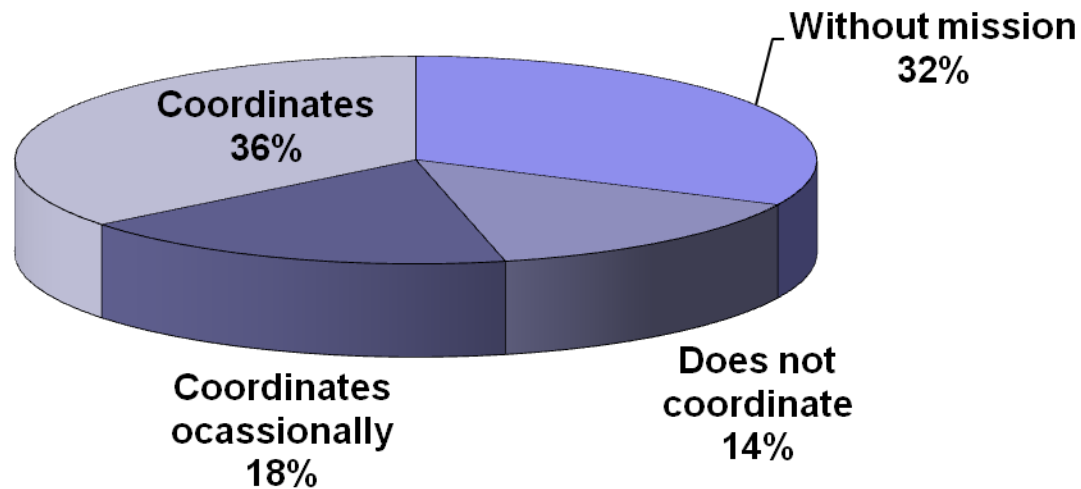
**\*SPS issues connected with the WTO SPS Committee**

# Availability of financial resources allocated to managing SPS issues\* (in 28 countries of the Americas)



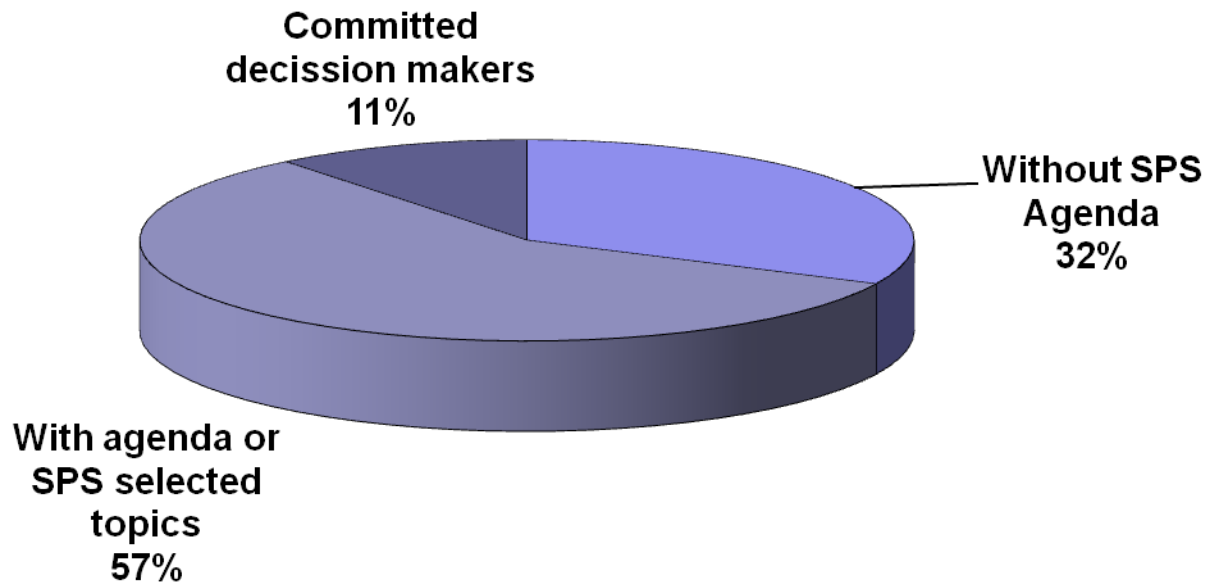
\* SPS issues connected with the WTO SPS Committee

# Degree of coordination between Capital and the Mission in Geneva (28 countries of the Americas)





# Priority assigned to SPS issues (in 28 countries of the Americas)



# Conclusions

- There is a link between having personnel dedicated to SPS issues and the existence of an internal SPS dialogue
- The financial issue acquires importance
- Sustainability depends on political will
- It is necessary to strengthen SPS leadership and awareness among decision makers
- The results of the Initiative were the basis for a subsequent hemispheric project (STDF 108)

# Other Results

- ✓ Bilateral meetings in Geneva between delegates from Capital
- ✓ Regional coordination
- ✓ Interventions in the WTO SPS Committee meeting
- ✓ Establishment of cooperation mechanisms between the delegates from Capital and the Geneva Mission staff
- ✓ Grater knowledge about available technical cooperation opportunities
- ✓ Articulation between the multilateral commerce system and other negotiating SPS fora (what a country says at the SPS Committee and at other fora such as Codex)

# Other Results

