



sinergia
ANIMAL



**LATIN AMERICAN
CAGE-FREE
TRACKER
REPORT 2021**

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2020: A YEAR OF CHALLENGES

2020 was a year full of challenges. The whole world faced a pandemic which still represents a public health risk in every continent and left most vulnerable populations in an even more fragile situation. But our work for animals didn't stop.

The food industry felt the effects of Covid-19 in various ways. While hotels had to close their doors, supermarkets and food producers found new opportunities. Many restaurants and coffee shops had to rethink their sales channels or, in many cases, close for good. Our corporate strategies took the global situation into account, focusing our efforts on companies that maintained or increased their activities during these times.

While we all deal with this pandemic, billions of animals in the world continue to be exploited for food production. There are more than 500 million hens in the Latin American egg industry, and more than 90% of them spend almost their whole lives in battery cages.

This type of confinement is considered one of the cruelest practices in the animal production system by animal welfare experts, who declare movement restriction and the impediment to performing basic behaviors incredibly damaging for the animals' physical and psychological health.

The following report brings together the results of the information gathering process on the efforts and progress of the food and hotel companies present in Latin America, regarding the commitments to stop using eggs from the cage system.

LATIN AMERICAN CONTEXT

PUBLIC POLICY ADVANCES

Even during these tough times, we have seen our region take steps on this issue. Bills have been put forward on egg labeling in [Colombia](#) and [Argentina](#), there has been a cage-free proposal in [Chile](#), and current regulation in the metropolitan area of Quito and Loja City, both in Ecuador, now [prohibits the use of battery cages](#) in egg production.

NEW CORPORATE COMMITMENTS

We are pleased to announce that Sinergia Animal and other NGOs achieved eight [cage-free commitments](#) in 2020: two in Colombia (Sándwich Qbano and Grupo IGA), two in Chile (Hotel Explora and Hotel Altiplánico), two in Argentina (Tostado Café Club and Harper Juice Bar) and three for the whole region of Latin America (Levapan, Dunkin Donuts, and Papa John's), in addition to two global commitments accomplished in joint campaigns with the Open Wing Alliance, Minor Hotels, and Restaurant Brands International.

SINERGIA ANIMAL'S EXPANSION

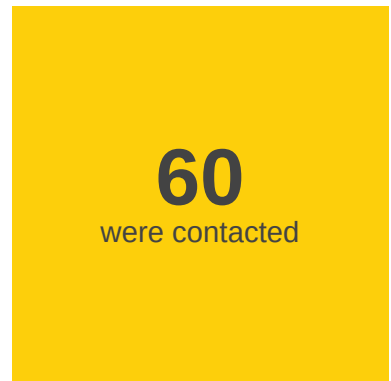
We have decided to expand our corporate outreach efforts to Perú and Ecuador. At the beginning of 2021 we got our first positive result in Ecuador, with the expansion of Crepes and Waffles cage-free policy to the country.



TRACKING PROGRAM RESULTS

PARTICIPATION LEVEL

Within more than 260 companies with welfare policies focused on laying hens in Latin American countries, 67 food or hotel companies operating in Argentina, Chile, or Colombia with a cage-free commitment for their supply chain were identified. Sixty of them were contacted by email or phone calls.



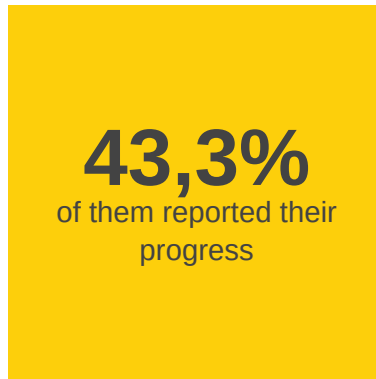
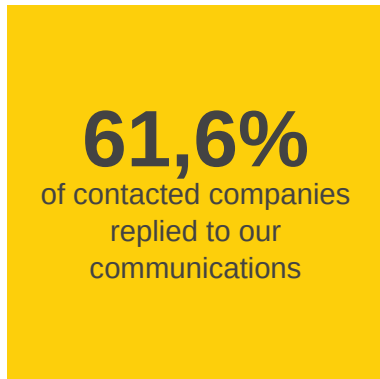
The seven other companies weren't contacted by our team for various reasons:

- Dunkin Brands Group, Papa John's, and Grupo IGA had recent commitments (less than six months old at the beginning of this tracking process), so we left them out of the report so they could have at least half a year to work on the implementation.
- The international company Barilla has publicly reported their complete transition globally. Quiznos closed their operations in Colombia, and they have no representation in Chile or Argentina.
- We were unable to establish contact with Wyndham Destinations and Wyndham Hotels.



Of the 60 contacted companies, 37 (61.6%) replied to our communications, but only 26 of them (43.3%) reported their progress through the form. The other 11 companies decided not to participate in our program.

Of all companies contacted, 23 (38.3%) didn't reply to our invitation to participate in this edition of the cage-free tracker.



Of all companies we contacted, nine are from Argentina, eight from Chile, 19 are from Colombia, and 24 are multinationals. Unlike in 2020, this year we obtained reports from at least three companies per country.

It is important to highlight that the participation level doubled compared to [last year](#), from 13 to 26 participants. We hope this number increases year after year until we reach the total number of companies committed to sharing their progress transparently.



PARTICIPATION LEVEL PER COUNTRY

9 ARGENTINIAN COMPANIES

- **Reported:** Freddo, Tostado Café Club, Harper Juice Bar, Le Pain Quotidien Argentina



- **Didn't report:** Green Eat, Tea Connection, Café Martinez
- **Didn't reply:** Havana, Carrefour Argentina
- **Participation level in Argentina:** 4 companies reported (44.4%), 3 companies didn't report (33.3%), 2 companies didn't reply (22.2%)

8 CHILEAN COMPANIES

- **Reported:** Hotel Explora, Hotel Altiplánico, Unifood, Clementina



- **Didn't report:** G&N Brands, Carl's Jr. Chile
- **Didn't reply:** Melting Cook, Lo Saldes
- **Participation level in Chile:** 4 companies reported (50%), 2 companies didn't report (25%), 2 didn't reply (25%)



19 COLOMBIAN COMPANIES

- **Reported:** Pan Pa'Ya!, Servihoteles, Alimentos Colomer, Crepes and Waffles, Sandwich Qbano, Oma, Presto, Jenos Pizza, Hoteles Estelar, Juan Valdéz, Vapiano Colombia



- **Didn't report:** Colombina, Mikaela, International Meal Company
- **Didn't reply:** Takami, Café Santino, Levapan, Carnival Corporation, Bioparque
- **Participation level in Colombia:** 11 companies reported (57.8%), 3 companies didn't report (15.7%), 5 didn't reply (26.3%)

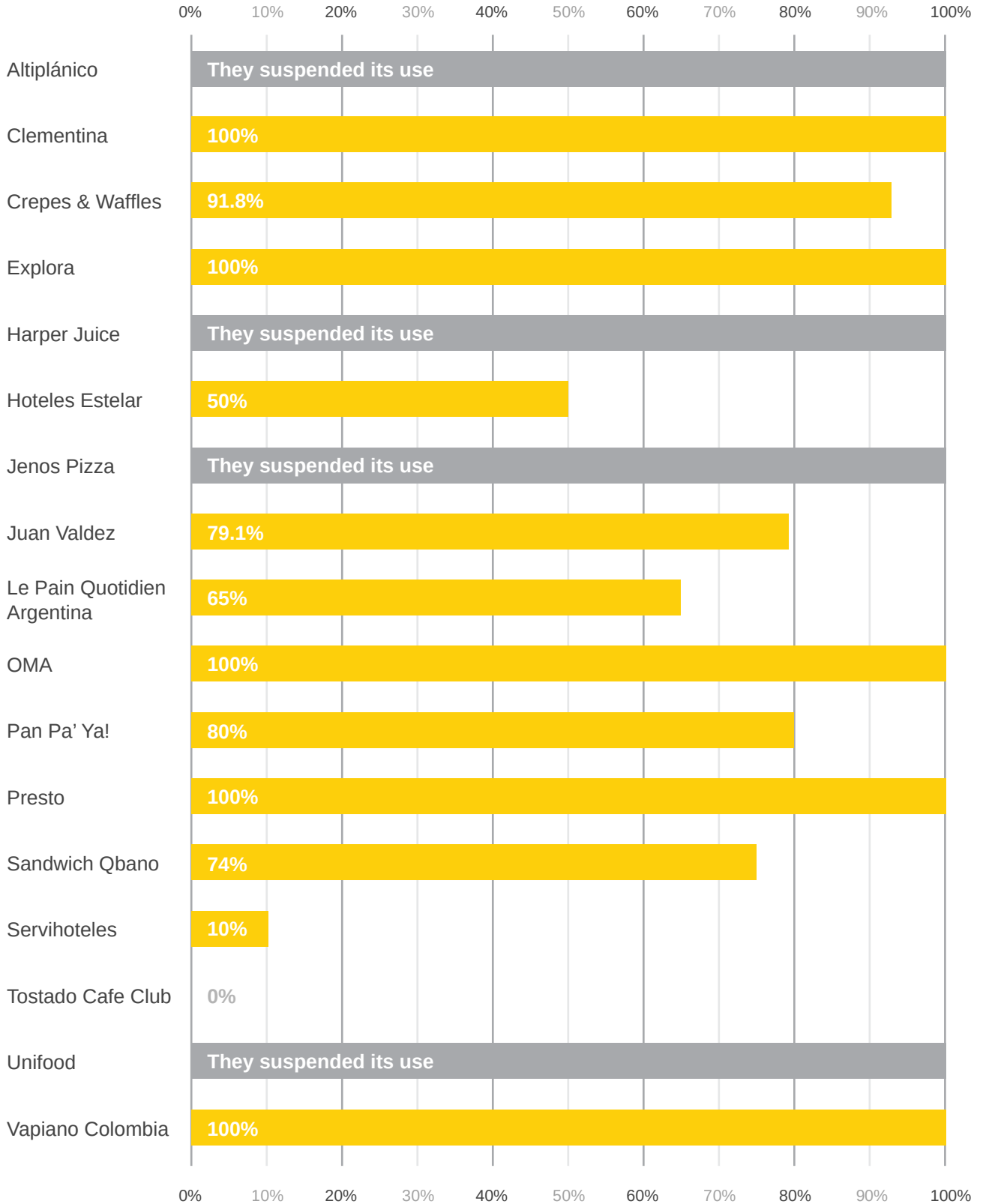
MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES

- **Reported:** Unilever, Marriott, Grupo Bimbo, Intercontinental, General Mills, Subway, Kraft Heinz



- **Didn't report:** Nestlé, Sodexo, Kellogg's
- **Didn't reply:** Starbucks, Danone, Hyatt, Hilton, Royal Caribbean, Mondelez International, Pepsico, Mcdonalds, Alsea, Aramark, Norwegian Cruise Line, Compass Group, Accor, Best Western
- **Participation level from multinational companies:** 7 companies reported (29.1%), 3 companies didn't report (12.5%), 14 didn't reply (58.3%)

FRESH CAGE-FREE EGG USE PERCENTAGE ACCORDING TO THE REPORTING COMPANIES



OTHER KEY DATA: THE REPORT IN NUMBERS



- 19 companies, which represents the 73% of companies who reported, have the commitment permanently published in their website or social media channels.
- 21 companies reported having identified cage-free egg suppliers to cover their demand (representing the 80% of companies who replied to us).
- 81% of companies who participated reported concrete transition and awareness plans towards a cage-free egg supply chain, for their employees, customers and/or providers.

- Companies with a public and permanent announcement:



- Companies who have identified cage-free egg providers:



- Companies with awareness plans:



IDENTIFYING CHALLENGES

11
companies
(42%)

reported the price of cage-free eggs is a challenge to overcome to achieve a full transition by their commitment deadline

9
companies
(35%)

indicated the low availability of cage-free eggs as a market weakness in the countries where they operate

5
companies
(19%)

declared the Covid-19 pandemic was an important obstacle to achieving their supply chain transition plans

4
companies
(15%)

said that logistical problems represent an issue for the company's commitment, especially for those stores far from capitals and main cities

3
companies
(12%)

commented that they haven't seen consumers worried about or committed to this topic yet





NEXT STEPS

Sinergia Animal will continue working on getting companies to adopt and implement corporate cage-free policies in Latin American and Southeast Asia. We will work to include Ecuadorian and Peruvian companies during the next edition of the Cage-Free Tracker Report, as our corporate engagement team has already contacted some companies in those countries.

We consider the reporting process as a way to offer the consumer some transparency. We will evaluate the possibility of developing public awareness campaigns focused on companies that don't share information about their supply chain transition during the years to come.



ABOUT SINERGIA ANIMAL

Rated as one of the world's most effective animal protection organizations by Animal Charity Evaluators, Sinergia Animal is an international campaigning organization working in countries from the Global South (Latin America and Southeast Asia) to reduce animal suffering and promote more compassionate food choices.



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