



**LATIN AMERICA**  
**CAGE-FREE**  
**TRACKER**  
**REPORT 2022**

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## 2021-2022: CONTEXT: PANDEMIC AND REACTIVATION

During 2021, as we lived through the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic, the state of the Latin American economy necessitated the closure of many small and medium-sized businesses. However, towards the end of the year, a gradual reactivation began—even in the most affected sectors, such as the hotel industry. In 2022, the war between Russia and Ukraine severely affected supply chains for the poultry industry, causing considerable shortages and costs increases. Even facing these adverse conditions, our work for animals in the food industry continued unabated.

In some countries where we work, we saw a rise in smaller egg producers adopting a cage-free system, in response to consumers that are more conscious of and interested in food alternatives that are healthier, more sustainable, and more ethical in terms of animal welfare.

There are still billions of animals around the world used for food production, and this is one of the industries that contributes most to global warming. In Latin America, there are over 500 million hens in the egg industry, and over 90% of them live in battery cages.

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Battery cages are one of the most restrictive confinement systems in the food production industry, and they prevent hens from carrying out the most basic behaviors, such as foraging, perching, nesting, establishing social hierarchies, and dust bathing, among others, causing a severe deterioration in hens' well-being.

During the last couple of years, Sinergia Animal has worked with several food and hospitality companies to make the commitment to stop sourcing eggs from battery-cage systems, in order to build a more animal-friendly industry and reduce the suffering of thousands of animals.

The following report compiles the efforts and progress of food and hotel companies in Latin America that have committed to stop using eggs that come from the cage system.

We are pleased to say that this year we had the participation of 32 companies, an increase of 23% compared to the 26 companies that shared their progress last year. This tells us that a societal commitment to animal welfare has been established and is a market trend that is here to stay.



## NEW CORPORATE COMMITMENTS

Between January 2021 and August 2022, Sinergia Animal, together with other animal protection NGOs in the region, managed to secure twenty-four [cage-free commitments](#) in Latin America: nine in Colombia (Productos La Locura, Cencosud, Hotel Vilar América, Wok, La Lonchera, Crepes & Waffles, Harinera del Valle, Le Pain Quotidien, OFC ), six in Chile (Buffalo Waffles, Cencosud, Fork, Tquila, Le Vice Chocolat, Papa John's), six in Argentina (La Mantequería, Brioche Dorée, Pampa Gourmet, CARNE, Almacén de Pizzas y Cachafaz), one in Peru (the Acurio Restaurants group), one in Uruguay (El Trigal), and one in Ecuador (Crepes & Waffles).

These were in addition to nine global commitments reached in joint campaigns with Open Wing Alliance, de Groupe Le Duff, Minor Hotels, Focus Brands, Krispy Kreme, Dunkin Brands, Bloomin' Brands, Restaurant Brands International, Yum! Brands, and Food Delivery Brands.

## SINERGIA ANIMAL'S EXPANSION

After establishing ourselves in 2017 and consolidating our work in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, and Colombia, Sinergia Animal decided to expand its corporate relations efforts to Peru, Ecuador, and Uruguay. In 2022, we obtained the first positive results in these new countries. In Peru, we secured the commitment of all the brands of the renowned Acurio Restaurantes group. At the beginning of 2022, we celebrated a commitment from Uruguay's traditional food producer, El Trigal. In Uruguay, we are also focusing our awareness campaign efforts on the most important supermarket chains in the country.

We consider it necessary to expand this movement to other South American countries, as well as promoting more compassionate practices within the industry among local and international companies.



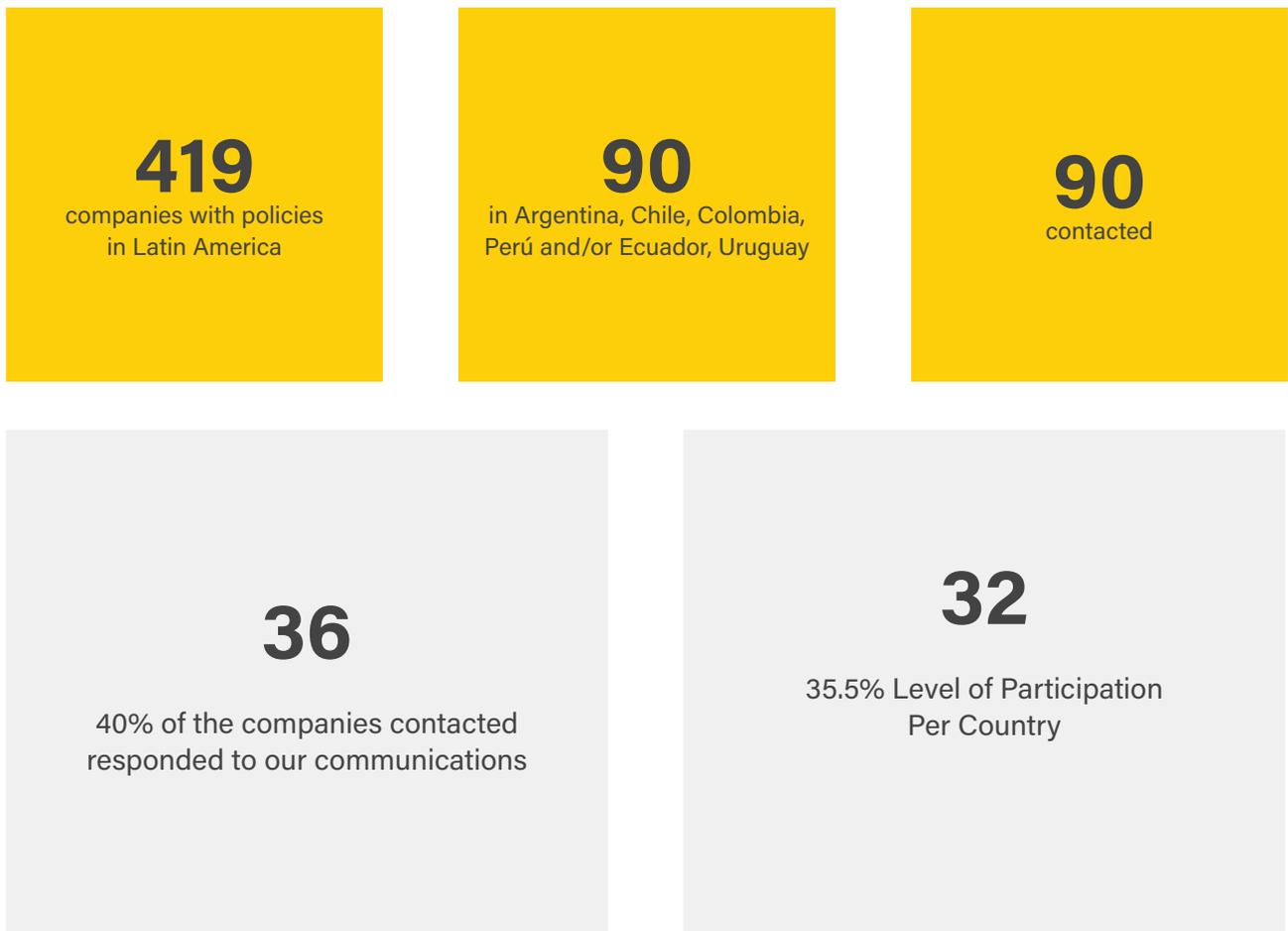
# TRACKING PROGRAM RESULTS

## PARTICIPATION LEVEL

This report covers companies that made a cage-free commitment for their egg supply chain between January 2021 and August 2022.

Many companies with recent commitments have reported their progress, setting a great example to those that have long-standing cage-free policies but do not have a defined mechanism for reporting progress in their transition.

Of more than 400 companies with welfare policies for laying hens in Latin America, 90 food or hotel companies operating in Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, and/or Uruguay were identified as having a cage-free commitment for their supply chain. We contacted all 90 via email and/or phone calls.



# LEVEL OF PARTICIPATION PER COUNTRY

## COMMITMENTS IN ARGENTINA: 15

- **8 reported (53.3%):** Grupo Jaka (Green Eat, Tea Connection), Café Martinez, Harper Juice Bar, Le Pain Quotidien Argentina, CARNE, Pampagourmet, Brioche Dorée, Cachafaz.
- **1 didn't report (6.66%):** Carrefour Argentina.
- **6 didn't respond (40%):** Havana, Freddo, Tostado Café Club, Almacén de Pizzas, La Mantequería.



15

Argentina

## COMMITMENTS IN CHILE: 13

- **3 reported (23%):** Hotel Explora, Clementina, Fork.



13

Chile

- **1 didn't report (7.6%):** Hotel Altiplánico.
- **10 didn't respond (69%):** Lo Saldes, Unifood, G&N Brands, Carl's Jr. Chile, Buffalo Waffles, Tquila, Dominó, Le Vice Chocolat, Cencosud Chile.

## COMMITMENTS IN COLOMBIA: 25

- **10 reported (40%):** Alimentos Colomer, Crepes and Waffles, Sandwich Qbano, Juan Valdéz, Vapiano Colombia, Takami, Le Pain Quotidien Colombia, La Lonchera, Jenó's Pizza, Bimbo Colombia.
- **1 didn't report (4%):** Levapan.
- **14 didn't respond (56%):** Carnival Corporation, Pan pa ya, Servihoteles, Oma-Presto, Hoteles Estelar, Colombina, Mikaela, International Meal Company, Grupo IGA, OFC, Productos La Locura, Hotel Vilar América, Harinera del Valle, Wok.



## COMMITMENTS IN PERU: 1

- **1 reported (100%)** Acurio Restaurantes.



## COMMITMENTS IN URUGUAY: 1

- **1 reported (100%)** El Trigal.



## COMMITMENTS IN ECUADOR: 1

- **1 didn't report (100%)** Crepes and Waffles Ecuador



## MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES: 34

- **7 reported (22.8%):** Marriott, Barilla y Restaurant Brands International, Accor, Aramark, Danone, Kraft Heinz\*



Le Pain Quotidien, and Bimbo were contacted for their global commitments but only reported on some countries.

- **1 didn't report (2.8%):** Royal Caribbean.
- **26 didn't respond (74.2%):** Starbucks, Unilever, Hyatt, Hilton, Nestlé, Sodexo, Kellogg, Mondelez International, Pepsico, Arcos Dorados, Alsea, Norwegian Cruise Line, Compass Group, Best Western, Wyndham Hotels, Intercontinental, General Mills, Subway, Bloomin' Brands, Yum Brands, Dunkin Brands, Minor Hotels, Papa Johns, Focus Brands, Krispy Kreme, Food Delivery Brands.

\*Accor, Aramark, Danone, and Kraft Heinz reported through public reports on their websites. **The reports on websites were only considered valid if they specify data for Latin America.**

**Data from Vapiano, Takami, Crepes & Waffles, and Sandwich Qbano were obtained from their reports to the Welfare Progress site.**

## IMPORTANT OBSERVATIONS

The level of participation of multinational companies remains extremely low compared to domestic companies.

In addition, those that report progress publicly on their websites omit, for the most part, regional information on progress for Latin America.

We highlight Barilla as a positive example of a company that has an international commitment, that has a complete [public report](#) on its website, and that answered our questionnaire. We hope that more companies will follow their example in the near future.

# PERCENTAGE OF FRESH EGGS USED ACCORDING TO REPORTING COMPANIES



# KEY POINTS: THE REPORT IN NUMBERS

## FRESH EGGS

- 13 companies report regional progress for fresh eggs:

**10**  
(66.6%) companies report using 100% fresh eggs.

**1**  
(6.66%) company reports a cage-free transition of 75% or more for fresh eggs.

**2**  
(13.3%) companies report regional progress of close to 50% for fresh eggs.

## PROCESSED EGGS

**13**  
companies report regional progress for processed eggs:

- 6 (46.15%) using 100% cage-free processed eggs.
- 1 (7.69%) using close to 80%.
- 1 (7.69%) using close to 50%.

## EGGS AS INGREDIENTS

**19**  
companies report regional progress on outsourced egg-containing products:

- 6 (31.57%) using 100% cage-free ingredients.
- 3 (15.78%) using over 75%.
- 3 (15.78%) using over 75%.



\*Data from Vapiano, Takami, Crepes & Waffles, and Sandwich Qbano were obtained from their reports to the Welfare Progress site.



## IDENTIFIED CHALLENGES AND COMMENTS

Obstacles	N°	Percentage
Price	<b>10</b>	<b>37%</b>
Availability	<b>9</b>	<b>33.3%</b>
Minimum purchase very high	<b>2</b>	<b>7.4%</b>
Deficient Traceability	<b>1</b>	<b>3.7%</b>

## OTHER KEY POINTS

- Companies with the commitment published permanently:

**27 yes 84.3%**

**5 no 16.6%**

- Companies that have identified cage-free suppliers:

**32 yes 100%**



## NEXT STEPS

Sinergia Animal will continue to work on the adoption and implementation of cage-free corporate policies in both Latin America and Southeast Asia. We will begin closer work with committed companies to encourage the reporting of progress and assist with any difficulties they face in their transition.

We will work hand-in-hand with international organizations to resolve the information gap between countries in the Global North and countries in the Global South (in this case, Latin America) with regards to multinational companies' reporting on their performance in this area. We urgently need to begin the transition in order to meet the deadlines for commitments in all countries.

Because Sinergia Animal's work is not limited to the corporate sector, we will continue to promote changes at the legislative and public awareness levels. We will work with authorities and expand our media presence to ensure the consideration of animals is a frequent topic on the public agenda.



## 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.

