

for the development of a Roadmap in Ecuador, El Salvador, Cuba, Paraguay and Dominican Republic ¹¹, a Circular Economy Driving Group established in 2021 as a multi-sectoral public-private initiative (driven by MIC and MADES), and a roadmap for the packaging sector.

The Circular Economy Programme (POC), created in the framework of the European Union's MiPYME COMPITE programme, in articulation with the IDB Lab through the Asunción Circular Programme, is one of the initiatives launched in 2022 to promote the circular economy as an economic approach that seeks to reduce waste generation and promote the reuse, recycling and regeneration of products and materials to maximise value and minimise environmental impacts. Despite the success of the programme, and the interest expressed by companies, only a limited number of projects have been funded. The design of products that facilitates reuse and recycling requires further support for development.

Elaboration and implementing a circular economy strategy, which include raising awareness on the benefits of the circular economy and its contribution to sustainability, as well as climate change mitigation and adaptation; expanding international cooperation with organisations and other countries to share knowledge and experiences in this area; and promoting better access to finance and technology are important challenges for Paraguay.

Analysis of Key Stakeholders

Government actors

There is a wide and varied group of actors that have an impact on the development of sustainable value chains and sustainable production in Paraguay.

Ministry of Industry and Trade (MIC)

The MIC is the institution whose mission is to promote public policies that underpin the sustainable development of the business sector by increasing its competitiveness. It is responsible for promoting industrial production by installing new establishments and improving existing ones; regulate, facilitate and promote the distribution and consumption of goods and services of domestic and foreign origin that are not regulated by special laws, and promote the growth of domestic and international trade. In order to achieve these objectives, it works in coordination with other official organisations, in adopting the most appropriate economic policy for the country, related to the sources of supply of goods and services, to the volume of current and projected demand for these goods and services, the trade of these goods, and the problems related to transport (See Law 904/63, Law 2961/06, Ministerial Resolution 1295/19).

The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG)

The **MAG**, in accordance with the mandate conferred by Law No 81/92, leads the roles and responsibilities of the agricultural sector, contributing to the sustainable and competitive development of the country. It is the institution responsible for preparing, coordinating and protecting agricultural, forestry, agro-industrial and other productive activities, as well as promoting the modernisation of the sector and its industrialisation, in coordination with other ministries. The MAG also coordinates and implements the country's agricultural policy, through strategic actions, plans, programmes and projects, ensuring intra and inter-institutional participation, including of decentralised institutions, and public and private sectors participation.

To organise the management of agricultural and rural development, in accordance with the guidelines and policies defined by the National Government, the Decree No 169/2008 created the '**Integrated Management System for Agricultural and Rural Development (Sigest)**'. The Sigest is chaired by the MAG, assisted by the Viceministeries, and is composed of the following sectoral institutions and autarcies:

- Instituto Nacional de Desarrollo Rural y de la Tierra (INDERT).
- Agricultural Enabling Credit (CAH).

¹¹ Diagnóstico de la situación actual de la Economía Circular para el desarrollo de una Hoja de Ruta en Ecuador, El Salvador, Cuba, Paraguay y República Dominicana, DEUMAN, 2022.