

# *Cuba: Broad foreign presence characterized Fiagrop 2023*

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**Foreign presence at the 24th International Agro-industrial Food Fair**

Havana, March 24 (RHC)- The 24<sup>th</sup> International Agro-industrial Food Fair (Fiagrop-2023) ended this Friday with broad foreign participation in conferences that promoted the exportable potential of the sector and identified opportunities for foreign investment in Cuba.

At the closing of the event, the director of International Relations of the Ministry of Agriculture, Orlando Díaz, reported that the number of participants from other countries tripled compared to previous editions.

The event, from March 20 to 24, welcomed 24 foreign firms and 54 national companies at the Rancho Boyeros fairgrounds in Havana, which occupied most of the exhibition area.

Among its multiple activities, Fiagrop 2023 contemplated the presentation of the Portfolio of Opportunities for foreign investment in the agri-food sector, which includes a portfolio of 59 projects destined for multiple locations.

Idalberto Aparicio, official of the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Foreign Investment of Cuba (Mincex) stressed that at the end of 2022, 35 businesses with foreign capital were signed for a value of 402 million dollars, distributed in 40 countries.

It expanded that 101 new projects were added to the Opportunities Portfolio, three of them located in the Mariel Special Development Zone, together with the consolidation of the Single Window that includes the approval of a differentiated financial scheme (in foreign currency) and the flexibility of the requirements requested to the foreign partner.

As a novelty, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) related to the sector were present, including EnvaCaribe, dedicated to containers and packaging.

This edition of the event showed the results of innovation within the framework of food and nutritional sovereignty, business opportunities and foreign investment, and contributed to promoting the exportable potential of the agricultural sector.

Fiagrop 2023 took place in the midst of a complex economic context, exacerbated by the US blockade on the island. Even so, the meeting constituted a space to articulate the economic actors of the country and promote foreign investment, essential elements to achieve food sovereignty. (Source: Prensa Latina)

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