

## Fact Sheet – Bolivia Coca Cultivation Monitoring Report, 2021

Variables	Source	2020	2021	% Change 2020-2021
<b>Area under coca bush cultivation<sup>1</sup></b>				
Area under coca cultivation in Bolivia (rounded to hundred)	UNODC	29,400* ha	30,500* ha	+4%
Area under coca cultivation verified in the field in Bolivia (rounded to hundred) <sup>2</sup>	Plurinational State of Bolivia	-	29,200* ha	-
Area under coca cultivation in the region of the Yungas de La Paz	UNODC	18,302 ha	18,756 ha	+2%
Area under coca cultivation in the region of Tropico de Cochabamba <sup>3</sup>	UNODC	10,606 ha	11,270 ha	+6%
Area under coca cultivation in the region of the Norte de La Paz	UNODC	510 ha	464 ha	-9%
Permitted coca production area in Authorized Zones <sup>4</sup>	Plurinational State of Bolivia (Law 906)	22,000 ha	22,000 ha	-
<b>Potential production of sun-dried coca leaf<sup>5</sup></b>				
Yungas de La Paz	UNODC	20,800* – 23,900* mt	21,300* – 24,500* mt	+2%
Tropico de Cochabamba	UNODC	21,700* – 29,300* mt	23,100* – 31,100* mt	+6%
Norte de La Paz	UNODC	530* – 640* mt	480* – 580* mt	-9%
Total production of sun-dried coca leaf in Bolivia	UNODC	43,000* – 53,800* mt	44,900* – 56,200* mt	+4%
<b>Trading, prices and seizures of coca leaf and controlled substances</b>				
Coca leaf traded in authorized markets in Bolivia	Plurinational State of Bolivia (DIGCOIN)	19,274 mt	23,895 mt	+24%
National nominal weighted average price of coca leaf in authorized markets <sup>6</sup>	Plurinational State of Bolivia (DIGCOIN)	9.7 USD/kg	9.5 USD/kg	-2%
Estimated value of coca leaf in Bolivia <sup>7</sup>	Plurinational State of Bolivia (DIGCOIN) – UNODC	USD 365 – 449 million	USD 352 – 431 million	-4%
Value of coca leaf production in percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) <sup>8</sup>	INE – UNODC	1.0 – 1.2%	0.9 – 1.1%	-10% ~ -8%
Value of coca leaf production in percent of the value of the agricultural sector <sup>9</sup>	INE – UNODC	7.2 – 8.8%	7.0 – 8.0%	-3% ~ -9%
Coca leaf seizures	Plurinational State of Bolivia (DG-FELCN)	309 mt	296 mt	-4%
Cocaine base seizures	Plurinational State of Bolivia (DG-FELCN)	9,792 kg	11,923 kg	+18%
Cocaine hydrochloride seizures	Plurinational State of Bolivia (DG-FELCN)	5,867 kg	7,805 kg	+25%
Coca cultivation rationalization/eradication in Bolivia	Plurinational State of Bolivia (DIGPROCoca-CEO)	2,177 ha	9,458 ha	+334%

\*Figures rounded

<sup>1</sup> The area affected by coca cultivation at the end of 2021 was determined based on the interpretation of satellite images of 50 cm pixel size.

<sup>2</sup> Figures at the national level reported by the Plurinational State of Bolivia, backed up with field verification.

<sup>3</sup> This includes the coca-producing zones of Ichilo province in the department of Santa Cruz and of Moxos province in the department of Beni.

<sup>4</sup> Since 2017, the area under coca cultivation in Authorized Zones has been regulated by the General Coca Law, Law 906, promulgated in March 2017 (limited to 22,000 ha).

<sup>5</sup> The potential production of sun-dried coca leaf is expressed using non-statistical limits based on different previous studies. The sum of the regional figures to calculate the result at the national level was made with non-rounded numbers, but the figures in this fact sheet are rounded to hundred. For this fact sheet, a single percentage change has been placed for the ranges of potential production for the lower and upper limits.

<sup>6</sup> The national nominal weighted average price of coca leaf, based on estimates from the two authorized markets, reported by DIGCOIN, is represented in US dollars (USD). For this calculation we have used the official exchange rate of the Central Bank of Bolivia was used: 6.96 Bs., as of 12/31/2021.

<sup>7</sup> The figures were calculated assuming the trading of the estimated potential production of coca leaf (lower and upper limits) using the nominal prices from the authorized coca leaf markets in Bolivia. For this fact sheet, a single percentage change has been placed for the ranges of value of coca leaf for the lower and upper limits.

<sup>8</sup> Value calculated from the GDP 2020 and 2021 (INE).

<sup>9</sup> Value calculated from the GDP of agricultural sector 2020 and 2021 (INE).

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2021 Coca Crop Monitoring Report is the 19th report published by UNODC in coordination with the Plurinational State of Bolivia. This document provides quantitative information on the extent of coca cultivation and potential coca leaf production in the Plurinational State of Bolivia. This report also presents complementary information from state institutions about coca leaf prices, coca leaf trade, rationalization/eradication, and other related topics.

The monitoring results for 2021 show a 4% increase in the area under coca bush cultivation compared to 2020, with an estimated area of 30,500 ha<sup>10</sup> of coca crop. 62% of the area cultivated with coca was in the region of the Yungas de La Paz, 36% in the Tropico de Cochabamba and 2% in the Norte de La Paz. Compared to 2020, Yungas de La Paz and Tropico de Cochabamba showed an increase of 2% and 6% respectively, but in the Norte de La Paz showed a decrease of 9%.

The UNODC has reported 30,500 ha of coca in Bolivia following an approved methodology used in previous years whose parameters allow historical comparability. The UNODC methodology establishes parameters for delineation according of monitoring target, the size of the elements and the display scale.

The Plurinational State of Bolivia, carrying out field work and using different delineation parameters, estimated that the area planted with coca would be 1,300 ha lower, that is, 29,200 ha. The identified differences suggest the need to update the crop interpretation parameters.

The surface of satellite images acquired for 2021 monitoring was 15,076 km<sup>2</sup>. Unlike 2020, where a larger area was acquired with the purpose of explore new zones and to realize the validation of rationalization/eradication (R/E) tasks. For the acquisition of satellite imagery 2021, some zones were not considered where the coca crop area was insignificant in 2020. Ratifying that the majority of coca cultivation area in 2021 is identified in zones that UNODC is monitoring regularly.

The provinces that showed the higher increases were Murillo and Inquisivi in the region of the Yungas de La Paz; Abel Iturralde and Bautista Saavedra in the Norte de La Paz; Ayopaya and Carrasco in department of Cochabamba and Moxos in department of Beni of the region of Tropico de Cochabamba. The largest increases in protected areas occurred in Cotapata, Carrasco and Apolobamba.

The potential production of sun-dried coca leaf in Bolivia was estimated in a range of 44,900 mt for the lower limit and 56,200 mt for the upper limit, which represents an increase to 4% for both ranges compared to 2020. Calculation made with yield factors estimated prior to 2010.

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<sup>10</sup> Figures rounded to the nearest hundred

Data reported by the Plurinational State of Bolivia about rationalization/eradication, trade, prices and seizures of coca leaf and controlled substances correspond to the period January to December 2021.

In 2021, the Plurinational State of Bolivia made an extreme effort to control excess coca cultivation by resuming the tasks of rationalization in Authorized Zones and eradication in Unauthorized Zones (in accordance with the General Coca Law, Law 906), reaching 9,458 ha, which represents an increase of 334% compared to 2020 (2.177 ha), containing this way the higher increase in coca crops surface.

Of the total area of rationalization/eradication reported by the Plurinational State of Bolivia, the UNODC reach to validated 6% through accompanied the tasks of R/E and Ex-Post validation missions.

According to official data from General Directorate of the Coca Leaf and Industrialization (DIGCOIN) of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, the volume of coca leaf traded in the two authorized markets reached 23,895 mt, which represents an increase of 24% compared to 2020. 38% of the coca leaf was destined for the department of Santa Cruz; 15% for Tarija; 13% for Cochabamba; 13% for Potosí; 9% for Oruro and the remaining 12% was destined for other departments.

The national nominal weighted average price of coca leaf sold in authorized markets, reported by DIGCOIN, decreased by 2% from USD 9.7 per kilogram in 2020 to USD 9.5 per kilogram in 2021, according to the official exchange rate of the Central Bank of Bolivia (6.96 Bs). This reported price is not corrected according to annual inflation.

Based on pre-2010 yield data, potential coca leaf production was estimated at 44,900 – 56,200 metric tons with an estimated value of US\$ 352 – 431 million.

According to official data from the Plurinational State of Bolivia, seizures of coca leaf decreased in 4%, reaching 296 mt in 2021. Compared to 2020, the seizures of cocaine base increased by 18% (11,923 kg) and the seizure of cocaine hydrochloride increased by 25% (7,805 kg).