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Agricultural Interests In United States Reportedly Want To Invest In The Republic Of Cuba.

Are There Any Public Examples, With Details, Of A Specific Desired Investment?

“We’re Losing” What Exactly?

Government Of The Republic Of Cuba Has Yet To Authorize.

United States-Based Agricultural Interests Should Focus In Public Towards Advocating The Diaz-Canel-Valdes Mesa Administration (2019-) Issue Regulations For Direct Investment And Direct Financing Regulations When Sourced From The United States. Awaiting Two Years For Those...

We’re Not Losing.... They’re Losing. And, Thus Far, They Are Content With That.

OFAC Did Its Part On 10 May 2022- Issued The First License. They Too Await Decision By Government Of The Republic Of Cuba.

Agricultural And Other Interests Seeking To Export, Import, Service Provision, Direct Investment, And Direct Financing Opportunities In Cuba Do Not Need *Consultants*.

They May Need An Attorney. They Should Interact Directly With Representatives Of The Government Of The Republic Of Cuba- Or Wait Until They Can Do So.

Don’t Create A Triangle Where There Should Be A Straight Line.

Reuters

London, United Kingdom

U.S. farming businesses want Biden to allow more investment in Cuba

By Nelson Acosta

HAVANA, April 4 (Reuters) - U.S. agro-businesses, on a trade tour in Cuba, said on Tuesday they were "losing" in their bid to boost commerce with Cuban farmers and called on the Biden administration to ease restrictions and allow them to invest in private agriculture on the island.

U.S. President Joe Biden last May [loosened restrictions](#) on travel, remittances and migration, and promised the United States would do more to support the fledgling private sector in Cuba.

Change, however, has been too slow to come, said Paul Johnson, chair of the U.S. Agricultural Coalition for Cuba, a more than 100-member organization that includes national and state farm organizations, corporations and producers.

"We're losing, and we're tired of losing," Johnson told reporters on the sidelines of the gathering at a hotel in Havana. The U.S. businesses are keen to both sell their own product to Cuba and to invest in private sector farms and cooperatives to help them develop.

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Little has changed on the island since a similar group of would-be investors arrived last April. Many farms have been shuttered by lack of investment, equipment, fuel and supplies, leading to widespread shortages of food across Cuba.

"It's frustrating to us in the United States, because we believe it's something that we can fix. We need to go back to our government ... and insist that the private sector is a path forward to development," said Johnson.

Cuba, a long-time foe of the United States, swapped capitalism for socialism shortly after Fidel Castro's 1959 revolution, preferring state over private enterprise. But in August 2021, the communist-run government [lifted a ban](#) on private companies that had been in place since 1968. Upwards of 7,000 such businesses have opened since, according to an Economy Ministry list updated on March 23.

Investors from countries including Mexico, Venezuela, Vietnam, China, Spain and Russia, among others, have previously participated in state- and private business in Cuba.

The United States remains an outlier. The U.S. Treasury Department [Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC)] last May authorized a company owned by entrepreneur John Kavulich [[U.S.-Cuba Trade and Economic Council](#)] to invest in a small private business in Cuba's services sector, the first such approval in decades.

But many other similar requests remain unanswered, Johnson said. "Obviously that's just not good enough," Johnson said. "We're capitalists. We invest in private business all around the world. Why can't we do it in Cuba?"

Despite the loosening of some restrictions, a Cold War-era U.S. embargo on Cuba remains in place, prohibiting some trade and financing between the two countries and complicating investment ties.