

# Société québécoise d'initiatives agro-alimentaires

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# SOQUIA

## SPECIALIZATION

Société québécoise d'initiatives agro-alimentaires (SOQUIA) is a state-owned firm of the government of Quebec whose mandate is to further the development of the food, agriculture and fishery sectors of Quebec industry.

## THE COMPANY

SOQUIA, founded under a special law, is a publicly funded firm whose shares are assigned to the Minister of Finance.

SOQUIA's objectives are:

- to further the establishment, modernization, expansion, development, consolidation or grouping together of firms in the food sector;
- to participate or intervene in the production, processing, packaging and marketing of products related to the agriculture, food or commercial fisheries sectors.

## ACTIVITIES

SOQUIA's main activities consist of acquiring shares and granting shareholder loans to Quebec firms active in the food and agriculture sectors. With an authorized capital of \$85 million, SOQUIA carries out its mandate chiefly by acting as a capital shareholder in firms, usually in a minor capacity. As an associate, SOQUIA can also acquire privileged shares, grant loans and securities, advise the firm and conduct feasibility and profitability studies on new development projects. In seeking out associates, SOQUIA favours innovative projects and firms who play a leadership role in their subsectors. Besides financial participation, SOQUIA provides administrative and technical support to associate firms and is represented on the boards of directors of the latter proportionally to the percentage of shares it holds in the firms in question. Among SOQUIA's associate firms and Culinar Inc., Montreal; involved in pastry, preserves, biscuits, cheeses, prepared meats and the restaurant subsectors; Nutribec Ltée, Quebec City, involved in protein supplements and grains; Snyder & Fils Inc., Bedford, Quebec, involved in frozen vegetables.



SOQUIA is active in certain specific areas through wholly-owned subsidiaries which are either firms servicing the agricultural community or specialized development organizations. These subsidiaries are:

- C.D.M.V. Inc. (Centre de distribution de médicaments vétérinaires) which markets veterinary instruments and medicines both in Quebec and abroad;
- Usine de congélation de Saint-Bruno Inc. which offers freezing and storage facilities for blueberries and other food products;
- Centre d'insémination artificielle du Québec (C.I.A.Q.) Inc. devoted to improving the genetic make-up of dairy and beef cattle herds in Quebec;
- Société québécoise des pêches whose sole function is to further the development of fisheries in Quebec;
- Société québécoise des biotechnologies agro-alimentaires (BIO-AGRAL) whose mandate is to participate in the development of biotechnological industries related to the food and agriculture sectors.

SOQUIA and its subsidiaries are responsible to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Government of Quebec (Ministre de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation).

## INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

SOQUIA welcomes enquiries of all types, related to the food, agriculture and fisheries sectors.

## INFORMATION

Information may be obtained by contacting:  
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