



Grenada



Significant Achievements 2020

- Four producer organizations, consisting of 42 agro-processors, beekeepers and small farmers in Grenada, benefited from capacity building services under an IICA-FAO project. Capacity assessments were conducted of Genesis and the Grenada Association of Beekeepers, reviewing various aspects of governance to establish if they were in keeping with acceptable governance protocols, as determined by an Organizational Capacity Assessment Tool (OCAT) that was specifically developed for this purpose. Two separate workshops on advanced governance and on marketing and financial management, respectively, were conducted for three of the producer groups, namely Genesis, Grenada Association of Beekeepers and the North East Farmers' Organization. Trade and marketing facilitation was supported through the provision of labels, equipment for freezing, and fertilizer for the Grenada Association of Beekeepers, Genesis, and GRENFOF, respectively. The interventions of the IICA-FAO project contributed to enhancing food security and nutrition.
- The Institute supported the Grenada Country Forum of the Caribbean Agricultural Extension Providers Network (CAEPNet). Under the Last Mile Programme (LMP) of the Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services (GFRAS), the Grenada Country Forum obtained funding to assist in building the capacities of rural advisory service (RAS) providers, through strengthened public-private partnership (PPP) platforms and the increased availability of new knowledge products. The overall objective of the LMP is to enhance the capacity of rural advisory services to effectively facilitate knowledge and technology exchange within agricultural innovation systems (AIS), in ways that foster equitable, resilient, sustainable and market-oriented smallholder agriculture. The Grenada Country Forum has made measurable progress in the execution of its 2020 work plan, having established its secretariat; held a virtual launch of the Forum; and created its vision and mission statements. Moreover, it hosted a webinar discussion about the role of RAS in emergency mitigation (COVID 19); completed a baseline assessment of the Forum; conducted training workshops for its members on grant and proposal writing, while also establishing a website for the Country Forum and CAEPNet.
- IICA trained staff members of the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands, as well as banana farmers, on the establishment of pilot banana production plots, as part of the Ministry's Covid-19 Mitigation Response Actions. Fifteen farmers and extension staff received hands-on training in lining and spacing, and in the planting of tissue culture banana plants. This activity was complemented with the handing-over of a Banana Tech-pack that was specifically designed and developed for banana farmers who were participating in the Ministry's Banana Development Pilot Project. One of the features of the Banana Tech-pack was the 'due-done' form to guide farmers as to when an activity or an input is due on the banana farm and to enable them to record when it has been completed.
- Five farmers' organisations, namely, the Grenada Cocoa Association (GCA), the Grenada Cooperative Nutmeg Association (GCNA), the Northeast Farmers' Organisation, the Chambeaux Farmers and La Digue Farmers' Cooperative, in addition to two institutions that house vulnerable youth and abused women, benefited from IICA's Special COVID-19 Fund for the Caribbean Region. This fund was geared at promoting food and nutrition security. The two institutions were provided with training in backyard garden production and the farmers' organisations received direct assistance in the form of fertilizers and small farm tools to assist in production and to enhance productivity. At the end of the backyard garden activities, one of the institutions began to construct a larger pen to rear additional chickens, including layers, whilst the other institution continued the rearing of chickens and the production of vegetables, thus ensuring sustainability and the ability to guarantee some level of food security.