



## Achievements 2022

# Suriname



- The Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) provided technical cooperation for the establishment and operationalization of:
  - Two plant nurseries (6x15x4m in size) and the refurbishment of one plant nursery (12x8x3m in size) in the districts of Nickerie and Coronie. The nurseries, which are equipped with automated irrigation systems, are for training and demonstration of plant propagation techniques for fruit trees, to increase production and access to high-quality seedlings by the members of the producer organizations and agro-cooperatives Kooperatie Groente Verbouwers van Petten Polder (KGVP) and Stichting Agrariers Wageningen (SAW). Funding support was provided under the United Nations Development Programme-Global Climate Change Alliance+ (UNDP-GCCA+) Phase 2 initiative.
  - Two low-cost solar dryers (6mx4mx2.3m) for training and demonstration purposes, to improve the efficiency and quality of local dried salt fish production in the district of Coronie. Ten (10) low-cost hog feeders were also constructed from local wood materials at a female-owned pig farm in Nickerie. The feeders will facilitate training and demonstration to farmers, to improve biosecurity and feed loss on pig farms. Funding was provided by the UNDP-GCCA+ Phase 2 program.
  - Seven vegetable gardens at six primary schools and one youth education center in the districts of Marowijne, Saramacca and Paramaribo.
- The initiative trained primary school students, teachers and agricultural extension technicians in agricultural production using climate smart technologies, in protected agriculture structures and in open field conditions, to produce wholesome vegetable crops for the school feeding programs. Funding support was provided by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).
- The Institute strengthened the knowledge capacity of sixty-six farmers and agroprocessors from Kooperatie Groente Verbouwers van Petten Polder (KGVP) in Nickerie in plant nursery management using climate smart technologies and in mass reproduction via vegetative propagation (grafting techniques) of various fruit crops. Moreover, thirty agroprocessors from the cooperative enhanced their knowledge capacities in food hygiene and in international food processing and food safety standards, with funding support from the UNDP-GCCA+ Phase 2 initiative.
- IICA completed initial field visits and site assessments with the Paramount Chief of the Samaaka Maroon population and the Minister of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries of Suriname, as part of an initiative to establish large-scale agroforestry demonstration plots in select villages. The aim is to train maroon farmers in sustainable agricultural technologies and facilitate



the shift from inefficient traditional shifting cultivation systems to more sedentary sustainable production systems, thereby boosting productivity and income generation opportunities for the maroon population.

- The Institute supported the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries of Suriname in an initiative to revitalize the local coconut industry, by sourcing disease-tolerant in vitro coconut germplasm from the Centro de Investigación Científica de Yucatán (CICY), in collaboration with the Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development of Mexico and the IICA Delegation in Mexico.
- In collaboration with the Rotary Club Paramaribo, the local delegation designed a vegetable garden at an all-girls orphanage; supervised the construction of a shadehouse (7x5x4m) and established seven raised beds (1x4x0.25m), with a low-cost drip irrigation system for vegetable production, with the aim of minimizing the orphanage's monthly food bill and guaranteeing daily fresh produce for the kitchen.
- IICA supported female-owned agri-businesses and members of the Suriname Network of Rural Women Producers (SUNRWP), by establishing 0.5 hectares of cassava (MPER 183 variety) for training and demonstration of good cassava agricultural

practices and assisted seven farmer and producer organizations to formulate agricultural proposals and business plans for access to microfinancing.

- IICA conducted two visits with the Minister of Agriculture of Suriname to agricultural production facilities and research institutions in Costa Rica to sensitize and expose the minister to successful models in Costa Rican agriculture, in order to replicate similar programs in Suriname, where possible. A key outcome was the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE) and the Ministry to collaborate on agricultural innovation and research projects.
- The Delegation provided direct technical backstopping to the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries under two major projects—the Agricultural Competitiveness Program (SU-L1020) and the Sustainable Agricultural Productivity Program (SU-L1052)—by working with technical officers from the Ministry's Department of Crop and Livestock to implement activities in a timely manner and propose solutions with respect to the required technology. The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) provided financing.