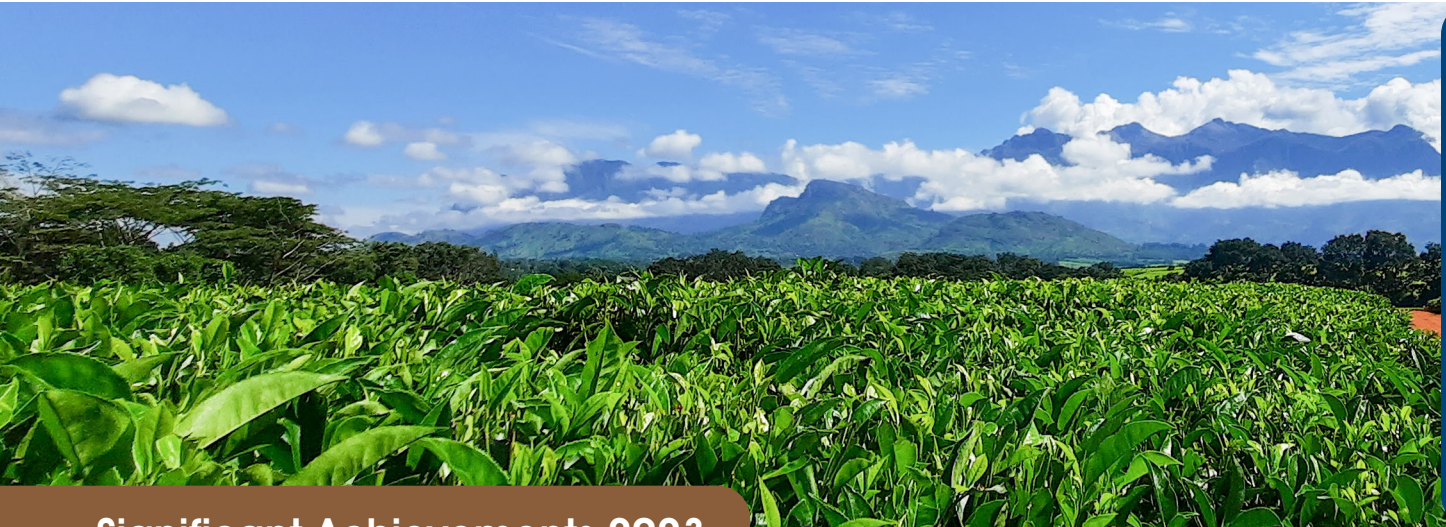




Saint Vincent and the Grenadines



Significant Achievements 2023

- The agricultural, forestry and fisheries sectors in St. Vincent and the Grenadines have been positioned to undertake the necessary strategic changes to facilitate their transformation over the medium term (2024-2029), through the development of new planning instruments during this period. The Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) supported this process through a project entitled, Supporting the Development of an Agricultural Sector Plan and Sector Review for St. Vincent and the Grenadines”, to chart the course for food sector transformation over the medium term. This action included the development of a document reviewing the performance of the agriculture sector over the 2010-2022 period and the development of a new plan for the agriculture, forestry and fisheries sectors for 2024-2029. The revised draft of both documents has been provided for the consideration of the Ministry of Agriculture. This activity included over forty consultative meetings with public and private sector stakeholders, formulation of the draft instruments and organisation and execution of validation fora with stakeholders.
- St. Vincent and the Grenadines position as a leader in the promotion and development of agrifood systems in the hemisphere has been strengthened and the country is poised to further enhance South-South cooperation initiatives in agriculture, as a result of its leadership in the execution of the 2023 workplan of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC). IICA supported the country in the implementation of the agriculture component of the CELAC workplan, by providing human and financial resources that allowed for:
 - Revision of the CELAC plan for food and nutrition security and the eradication of hunger.
 - Support for the participation of Ministers of Agriculture and Leaders of Rurality in hemispheric and regional fora to gain consensus on the development of agrifood systems and the revision of plan for food and nutrition security.
 - Creation of the “Network of Specialists in Good Practices in Food Safety” database, housed on the Agriperfiles institutional database, to include further information on human resources in agriculture, food and rural affairs, as requested by the Minister of Agriculture.
 - Provision of resources for technical support to the CELAC Food Security Centre, to support its implementation of the 2023 workplan.
- IICA helped to strengthen business and associative processes in the fisheries sector in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, enabling primary stakeholders to better access emerging opportunities for fisheries development. This was accomplished through the implementation of a Letter of Agreement with FAO entitled, “Services for Capacity Building of Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises in the Fisheries Sectors in Barbados, Grenada and St. Vincent and the Grenadines”. The product achievements included:
 - A baseline assessment of fisherfolk’s access to financing in St. Vincent and the Grenadines and the preparation of a technical report on the findings.
 - Business development training for twelve stakeholders representing fisherfolk cooperatives and processors from across the country.

- o *A business plan for the Barrouallie Fisheries Development Cooperative, to guide its commercial expansion over the medium term.*
- o *A publication on financial institutions from which stakeholders may access financing for investment in the fisheries sector.*
- In a bid to ensure the improved productivity and competitiveness of the local food system, the Institute facilitated capacity development in the agricultural health and food safety systems of the public and private sectors, by supporting the participation of local professionals in:
 - o *A “Workshop on African Swine Fever Preparedness and Control in the Caribbean”, to prepare the country in the event of outbreaks.*
 - o *A One Health meeting on the importance of interagency collaboration in the hemisphere and in rural communities.*
 - o *The annual meeting of the Caribbean Plant Health Directors.*
 - o *A workshop on SPS certification in the Americas.*
- Our technical cooperation was instrumental in providing support to a small agribusiness—Searles Agriproduct—to ensure HACCP Compliance, thus improving its potential to access additional market opportunities.
- IICA enhanced the capabilities of 53 stakeholders in the agriculture sector of St. Vincent and the Grenadines to pursue integrated strategies for soil and water management and the building of resilience to adverse environmental impacts, by way of a training programme undertaken through the Caribbean Climate Resilience Agricultural Forum. Stakeholders participated in fora on:
 - o *Caribbean-specific agricultural apps to help farmers adapt to climate change.*
 - o *Youth and women’s organisations involved in agriculture, climate action and sustainability.*
 - o *The use of drone technology to build sustainable and climate resilient agriculture.*
 - o *Natural approaches to crop protection and soil conservation.*
 - o *Risk management solutions for supply shortages.*
 - o *Implementation of the agriculture elements of the Nationally Determined Contribution and enhancing ambition for greater adaptation and mitigation actions in the agriculture sector.*