

Main achievements

2012

Belize

- Six non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and producers' organizations associated with organic agriculture received support from IICA in providing technical assistance on organic certification to over 1000 producers in the districts of Toledo and Cayo.
- The Institute worked with the Ministry of Rural Development to establish the Belize Rural Area-based Development Strategy (BRADS), aimed at improving living conditions in rural communities. It also financed a pilot project and assisted in the negotiation of two projects - tilapia production and agrotourism - in the Belize River Valley, which will contribute to the economic development and food security of more than 100 families.
- In San Vicente and Jalacte, in the district of Toledo, 60 farmers adopted technologies that enabled them to increase yields of maize and bean crops by 30 % and reduce their post-harvest management costs by 70 %.
- IICA implemented a project in support of the Sugar Industry Research and Development Institute (SIRDI), for which the European Union is contributing USD3.2 million in funding, aimed at transferring improved technologies to sugar cane producers and providing extension services.
- The Institute designed a strategy and a national policy on irrigation and drainage for agricultural lands for the Ministry of Natural Resources and Agriculture (MINRA), which will be used as a starting point to design projects in that area.