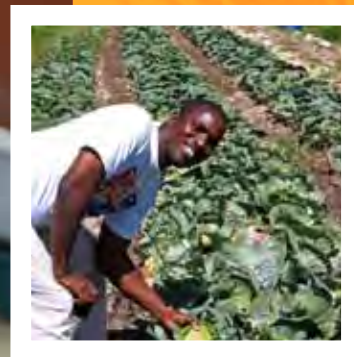


Fulfilling our commitment to the : Caribbean Region



2012-2013 Special Report on Key Projects and Achievements

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commitment to the
**Caribbean
Region**



2012-2013 Special Report on Key Projects and Achievements

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Victor M. Villalobos
Director General

FOREWORD

As the Institute gets ready to launch a new Medium-term Plan (MTP), we wish to report on some of the key achievements made in the Caribbean Region in fulfillment of the strategic objectives of the 2010-2014 MTP and the Strategic Plan. This Special Report provides a summary of key results obtained in 2012-2013 through the implementation of projects and initiatives undertaken by our IICA offices across the fourteen (14) Member States in the Caribbean Region.

The document also reports on results achieved at the regional level, including the initiation of two major EU-funded projects which IICA will be executing in the Caribbean over the coming four years.

The first is the Agriculture Policy Programme (APP) which we will be implementing in partnership with CARDI and CARICOM. The second regional project is an SPS capacity building project which is aimed at increasing production and trade in agriculture and fisheries through support for legislation, coordination among institutions and between public and the private sector, and training and capacity building.

In addition to these projects, we are also pleased to report on the achievements of two projects on roots and tubers and on small ruminants being implemented in the Caribbean under the IICA-funded Competitive Fund for Technical Cooperation (FonTC) programme.

The Institute will continue in its efforts to provide relevant and tangible support to the Region's agricultural and rural sectors, and to fulfil its commitment to promoting competitive and sustainable agriculture in the Americas"



SUMMARY OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

IMPROVING PRODUCTIVITY AND COMPETITIVENESS OF THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

Antigua and Barbuda

Pig farmers and Ministry of Agriculture technicians in Antigua and Barbuda were introduced to low cost bio-digester technology, for the management of waste and low cost energy production on the farm. The small ruminant sector was also assessed and recommendations provided for improving the organization, management and productivity of pig farms.

Dominican Republic

The Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environment, and several producers' associations acquired knowledge of innovative, intensive silvopastoral systems. The application of these systems by over 50 crop farmers and livestock producers, led to increased production yields and reduced costs.

Grenada

Organic production in Grenada was advanced through the establishment of the Grenada Organic Agriculture Movement (GOAM), and training by IICA of 20 agriculture technicians and 18 GOAM members in national standards for organically produced foods.

Haiti

Under a project funded by the Common Fund for Commodities and CARDI, 44 technicians from the public and private sectors received intensive training in protected agriculture. The training covered installation of greenhouses, commercialization of products and the creation of the National Association of Greenhouse Producers. The Ministry of Agriculture was supported by IICA in identifying six geographic regions for the installation of six greenhouses.

Jamaica

Through horizontal cooperation with Mexico, greenhouse managers and sorrel producers



in Jamaica obtained first-hand experience on study tours in Mexico. The Coconut Industry in Jamaica also benefitted from shared experiences with experts at the *Centro de Investigación Científica de Yucatán* (CICY) and Universidad de Chapingo with respect to the control of Lethal Yellowing Disease in coconuts.

St. Lucia

Twenty small ruminant farmers received the new forage species of *Tithonia* and Mulberry for the establishment of forage banks on their farms to address the problem of insufficiency of high quality feed and improve the productivity of their farms.

Four technical officers from the Extension Department of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Production, Fisheries and Rural Development, as well as two private farmers, received training in Mexico in vegetable production under Protected Agriculture Structures, as part of a "Train the Trainer" programme.

Linking Producers to Markets

Bahamas

Three agricultural cooperatives and six producers' associations improved their networking and participation in marketing chains, through support from IICA in carrying out studies and in establishing cooperative groups in livestock and egg production and aquaculture. The Institute received support from the Department of Cooperative Development the Bahamas Cooperative League, and the Bahamas Agricultural and Industrial Corporation (BAIC).



Barbados

As part of a local agro-tourism programme, IICA is working with Grapefruit Molasses Foodies Inc. to breathe new life into the St. Thomas community. Fifteen members of Grapefruit Molasses Foodies Inc. participated in agro-processing training. The programme



modules included Basic principles of food safety; food processing and food preservation techniques and starting and maintaining a small food processing business. One of the most significant outputs from this activity was the production of a small scale agro-processing manual for distribution to the participants.

Grenada

Through negotiations with a national private sector partner and with advisory support from IICA, the Grenada Chapter of the Caribbean Network of Rural Women

Producers (CANROP) successfully concluded arrangements to launch an income-generating activity through the sale of members' agro-products, under a partnership agreement with a supermarket chain.

Guyana

IICA supported five training sessions, market intelligence and fact-finding missions to overseas markets resulting in 200 entrepreneurs and producer organizations becoming better placed to access regional and international markets. To date, two producers have increased the varieties and volumes of products exported to Canada. As many as 85 farmers and householders adopted shade technology as a result of a joint effort involving the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), Ministry of Education (MoEd), National Agricultural Research and Extension Institute (NAREI), the FAO, Partners of the Americas (PoA), and Caribbean and African Self Reliance International (CASRI).

St. Kitts and Nevis

The value of the tourism product has been enhanced through the preparation of a project to establish and develop a rural agro-business in agro-tourism. The progress of this project is due to the excellent collaboration of IICA with stakeholders within the industry.

St. Lucia

Production and marketing systems for pineapple agribusinesses were enhanced through the establishment of a Dialogue Platform among stakeholders of the pineapple industry to oversee the development of the pineapple value chain over the next five years.

St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Pork industry stakeholders are positioned to collectively influence and direct the development of their industry through the

establishment of a Dialogue and Action Platform of chain actors to lead a participatory process for industry transformation.

Suriname

Through field expert visits organized by the Institute, chili pepper entrepreneurs are now aware of strategies for accessing the European market for organic chili pepper. Their management skills have also been strengthened, thereby enhancing their competitiveness for penetrating international markets.

Modernization of markets

Grenada

20 banana producers and 16 agricultural technicians received support to enable them to participate actively in the reorganization and modernization of the country's banana industry.

St. Kitts and Nevis

As a result of four training sessions organized by IICA on increasing competitiveness in the marketplace, 36 small and medium-scale farmers and value-adding enterprises have improved their technical skills in processing of sweet potatoes and cassava, as well as business management and organizational capacities.

St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Under the project Improving Agribusiness Competitiveness and Market Transparency in the CARICOM Region, six technical officers



of the Ministry of Agriculture were trained in the practical application of the CADIAC Methodology for the development of agro-industries. A Dialogue and Action Platform and Action Plan have been developed for the pork industry.

Trinidad and Tobago

Groups of farmers in Trinidad and Tobago have improved skills in food processing techniques for value-added products from goat's milk, roots and tubers, fruits, vegetables, goat meat and lamb.

Implementation of agreements and participation in meetings on sanitary And phytosanitary measures

Dominica

Consumer confidence in Agricultural Health and Food Safety (AHFS) systems improved as a result of an operational National Codex Committee in Dominica, the development of a National Codex Guideline Manual and training for private and public sector personnel on the work of Codex and national food safety programs, all of which were supported by IICA.

In collaboration with the Bureau of Standards, the Dominica Export-Import Agency and the Division of Agriculture, IICA trained over 28 farmers, extension workers and inspectors through workshop sessions on food safety systems with specific focus on GAPs, GMPs, food laws and food safety regulations. IICA also hosted in collaboration with the Division of Agriculture, a training workshop for 20 agro processors in GMPs and product development.



Jamaica

The status of the National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPO) and the Food Safety Systems in Jamaica was assessed and a modernization strategy formulated using the IICA Performance, Vision, Strategy (PVS) tools, within the framework of the Agricultural Competitiveness Programme (ACP) financed by the Inter-American Development Bank and executed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MOAF).

Modernization of national animal and plant health services

Bahamas

IICA promoted the modernization of the plant and animal health services of Baha-



mas by applying the Performance, Vision, and Strategy (PVS) instrument to the country's veterinary services, and facilitating the participation of Bahamian officials in training meetings and events on the Codex Alimentarius, food safety, black sigatoka, and international standards.

Guyana

IICA supported the capacity building efforts of the technicians from the Ministry of Agriculture National Carambola Fruit Fly (CFF) Programme, the development of CFF operational manuals and the execution of national monitoring and surveillance activities (baiting and trapping) to increase the early detection of CFF infested areas in Guyana.

Haiti and Dominican Republic

Through implementation of the Project to Strengthen International Quarantine in Haiti and Dominican Republic, IICA assisted the Ministries of Agriculture in their efforts to

reinforce their quarantine services, facilitate trade, purchase equipment, and revise and update standards for the countries' quarantine services.

Jamaica

Through the successful implementation of the EU-BSP Apiculture Project, the country now has an improved pest and disease management system for the apiculture (beekeeping) sector. As a result, the incidence of American Foul-Brood Disease is under effective control. IICA's support in the implementation of this project enabled beekeepers in six parishes to be trained in apiculture and business management. Additionally, IICA facilitated the establishment of commercial apiaries for the two beekeeping associations; a refurbished apiculture laboratory at the Bodles Agricultural Research Station and the documentation on apiculture pest and diseases, beekeeping regulations and the American Foul-brood protocol.





Suriname

Through the Performance Vision and Strategy (PVS) tool developed by IICA, the public and private sectors in Suriname and Guyana have strengthened their capacity to evaluate the performance of, and promote a common vision for, the development of the official plant protection services.

Trinidad and Tobago

Elements of a national GAP programme are being developed in collaboration with the National Agricultural Marketing and Development Corporation, NAMDEVCO, which when finalized will improve conditions under which food is produced. A forum for exchange of ideas and increased knowledge on matters relating to the CODEX committee on food import and export certification, the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) and advances in biotechnology and biosafety, has been established.

Food safety

Barbados

The capacity of ministries of agriculture and health, in the area of food safety audits was strengthened through the conduct of IICA

workshops on Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) and the auditing of food safety for the food industry in Barbados. A total of 21 officials from the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Agriculture were trained and received the International HACCP Alliance certificates.

St. Vincent and the Grenadines

As a result of IICA's continued implementation of the VEP project and the hosting of a simulation exercise conducted with 27 staff members of the ministry's Animal Health and Production Division, as well as the subsequent evaluation and report containing recommendations on ways to improve the system, the animal disease surveillance and detection systems of the Ministry of Agriculture have been strengthened, and the ministry has been positioned to refine its response systems to address the potential entry of exotic diseases.

The Ministry of Agriculture and related public sector organizations, together with private sector businesses, have been provided with technical information on developing agricultural health and food safety issues (Black Sigatoka Disease, US Food

Safety Modernization Act and biotechnology). This is aimed at improving decision making at the policy and technical levels, as well as the quality of services and products offered to producers, thereby contributing to the competitiveness of small-scale agribusinesses involved in production for domestic consumption and trade.

Trinidad and Tobago

As a result of 13 training sessions led by IICA, stakeholders in the agrifood sector now have a greater awareness of agricultural health and food safety issues relating to biosafety and biotechnology, the US Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA), Black Sigatoka, Good Manufacturing Practices, Good Agricultural Practices and Codex.

STRENGTHENING THE CONTRIBUTION OF AGRICULTURE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF TERRITORIES AND THE WELL-BEING OF THE RURAL POPULATION

Strengthening of Family Agriculture

Bahamas

Three agricultural cooperatives and six producer associations were able to boost their organizational skills and capacity to





participate in marketing chains, thanks to the assistance provided by IICA with the conduct of assessments; the creation of groups in the livestock, egg production and aquaculture sectors; the implementation of three agribusiness exhibitions; and the promotion of the purchase of local products by hotels and food service providers. The Institute received support from the Department of Cooperatives and the League of Cooperatives for the work with the three cooperatives, and from the Bahamas Agricultural and Industrial Corporation (BAIC).

Female craft artisans on the Exuma Islands have been able to diversify into alternative activities with assistance from IICA and UN Women. The project also benefitted craft artisans living on other islands who are members of the Bahamas National Craft Association (BNCA).

Barbados

Technical capacity among youth and community groups interested in agriculture was strengthened through the Youth Farm School Programme which was developed by IICA and validated by the Barbados Technical Vocational, Education and Training Council (TVET). Fifteen young farmers improved their skills in amenity horticulture, crop management, sustainable farming methods, post-harvest principles and agribusiness management.

The technical capacity and knowledge of over one thousand students and youth increased with respect to the opportunities in Barbados Blackbelly Sheep production for meat, hides, crafts and value added products. Market interest in Barbados Blackbelly Sheep was promoted through television appearances, newspaper articles, and

the dissemination of promotional literature during AgroFest.

Dominica

Fifteen women from the north and north-east districts of the country were able to diversify their incomes as a result of training provided by IICA and UN Women in onion production. In addition, 20 young persons were introduced to beekeeping in interactive training workshops organized in collaboration with the Dominica Bee Keepers Cooperative. The participants received hives, protective gear, and basic honey processing equipment.

Eighteen members of a new vegetable and onion cluster improved their leadership and networking, through the establishment of a cluster facilitated by IICA.

Guyana

Members of the Women Agro-Processors Development Network (WADN) strengthened

their capacities through workshops on food safety and product development conducted by IICA.

Haiti

In a project funded by the EU, IICA assisted in strengthening 67 community-based organizations involved in the mango value chain, resulting in the grafting of more than 53,000 mango trees.

Jamaica

Community groups and staff members of the Social Development Commission (SDC) in three parishes (Westmoreland, Hanover and St Mary) have increased project and business management skills through training provided by IICA in project proposal writing, project management and business plan writing.

St. Lucia

Youths in St. Lucia now have a greater appreciation of Agriculture as a business and viable





career option as a result of the HOOPSS project (Helping Out Our Primary and Secondary Schools) project. In addition, members of the Saint Lucia Agriculture Forum for Youth (SLAFY) improved their skills in proposal writing and funds procurement through training in project proposal writing and funds procurement to improve access to funding sources for their development projects.

St. Vincent and the Grenadines

The St. Vincent and the Grenadines Network of Rural Women Producers adopted a strategic focus to position itself as a major producer organization in the country. In addition, 21 members of the Women in Agriculture for Rural Development are now positioned to pursue a new diversification alternative in vegetable production as a result of IICA's support to the consultative processes within the organization, as well as for the development and submission of a project proposal for small grants funding to the Australian Agency for International Development.

As a result of IICA's technical support for the existing poultry operations, and the development

and submission of three project proposals for funding by international organizations, the South-Central Windward Producers Cooperative Society is now positioned to expand small-scale poultry production among its membership and gain recognition as the primary farmers' cooperative nationally and within the ten contiguous villages comprising the district.

The Rose Hall Development Organization is currently being assisted by IICA with the development of an agro-tourism project proposal for the development of a recreational and eco-tourism site next to the village of Rose Hall.

Suriname

Indigenous communities in Suriname are benefitting from developments in rural tourism which will assist in diversifying incomes, validating patrimony and improving market access for rural producers, through a CART-Fund project being implemented by IICA, with funding from the Caribbean Development Bank.

Trinidad and Tobago

The network of rural women producers of Trinidad and Tobago was strengthened

through the development and submission of a project to mobilize resources and build capacities in farmers' organizations.

IMPROVING THE CAPACITY OF AGRICULTURE TO MITIGATE AND ADAPT TO CLIMATE CHANGE, AND MAKE BETTER USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Reducing the Negative Impact of Agriculture on the Environment

Dominican Republic

The Ministry of Agriculture, other agricultural institutions, and producers received

training in the application of the innovative system of rice intensification. Some 50 producers implemented this system, thereby increasing their productivity and competitiveness, lowering their production costs, and mitigating environmental impacts.

St. Vincent and the Grenadines

The institutional capacity in climate resilient agriculture policies and in climate proofing of sub-sectoral plans, was advanced through the participation of technical officers from the ministries of agriculture and the environment in training workshops under IICA's FonTC Project "Reducing the impact of climate change on agriculture: enhancing institutional capacity to promote and support climate smart agriculture in the Caribbean Region.





IMPROVING THE CONTRIBUTION OF AGRICULTURE TO FOOD SECURITY

Antigua and Barbuda

IICA contributed to the achievement of the objectives of the Zero Hunger Challenge for Antigua and Barbuda in the areas of food safety, backyard gardening and market organisation. The application of the IICA PVS tool allowed for the determination of the areas of need in the National Food Safety System and the assessment of the marketing infrastructure resulted in a set of recommendations for improvement of systems.

Haiti

Following the introduction of new varieties of vegetables, beans and tubers, 23,920

families from six regions in that country have increased their level of food availability by 15%. Similarly, another 5000 families from rural areas, particularly those affected by natural disasters, benefited from a family farm program developed jointly with the governments of Argentina and Canada.

The production of roots and tubers has improved through the organization of two training sessions on integrated pest management for 67 participants in Salagnac and Cayes,

Jamaica

The national school feeding program and the Jamaica Emergency Employment Program (JEEP) were strengthened through support from IICA, thereby facilitating the participation of local community groups to prepare and deliver meals of fruit, vegetables, and fruit juices to local schools.

St. Kitts and Nevis

In collaboration with the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI), IICA enabled farmers and agro producers to strengthen their production and processing capabilities for root and tuber crops, and to enhance food security with new varieties and agro-processing equipment.

CONDUCT OF STRATEGIC ANALYSES FOR AGRICULTURE**Bahamas**

The mechanisms created by the Institute to identify farmers' needs on seven islands made it possible to prepare a basic agricultural development strategy on those islands, and improve the coordination of the efforts of the public and private sectors to tap the country's agricultural potential. This work paved the way for the design of projects aimed at meeting the needs identified.

St. Kitts and Nevis

The Ministry of Agriculture in Saint Kitts and Nevis now has an Agricultural Development Strategy for 2012-2014, as well as specific sectoral development programs and projects, formulated with assistance from IICA specialists.

The effectiveness and efficiency of information dissemination and communication were improved as a result of an assessment

conducted by IICA on the status of the existing information and communication infrastructure and systems at the Ministry of Agriculture. A profile of agriculture among key stakeholders, in particular youth, was established and a website was designed for the Ministry.

Trinidad and Tobago

The Agricultural Planning Division of the Ministry of Food Production now has at its disposal a tool, developed by the Trinidad and Tobago Office, for helping to assess the impact of specific proposed policy interventions on the profitability of farming activities.

The Ministry of Food Production has information available from a study conducted by the IICA Office, on the profitability of rice production for guiding their proposed interventions for developing the rice industry.

The Ministry of Food Production now has information generated from a baseline survey of the livestock sub-sector for guiding the type of policy interventions that will be prescribed in the revised agricultural policy.

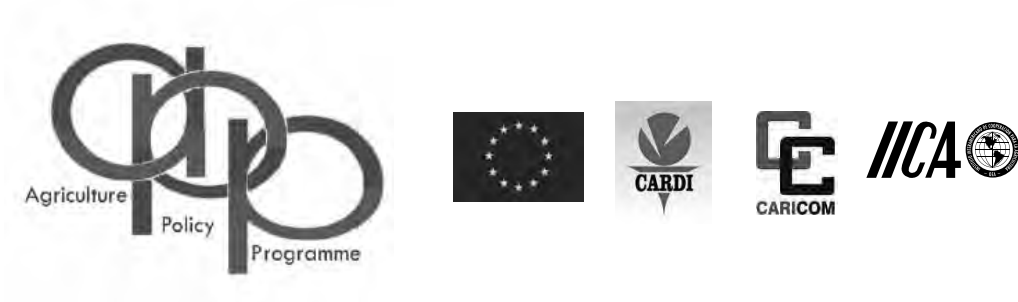
With the support of IICA, a framework for farm management, policy and investment decision making has been developed and is now being utilized by the agrifood sector.





SUMMARY OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS AT REGIONAL LEVEL

PROJECTS FUNDED WITH EXTERNAL RESOURCES



Eu Agriculture Policy Programme (APP)

IICA will be executing two major regional projects over the next four years. These projects are funded by the EU and are valued at 20 million Euros.

The Agriculture Policy Programme (APP) will be implemented in partnership with CARDI and CARICOM. The APP is designed as a multidimensional programme – tackling critical, policy and technical issues, related to an enabling policy and institutional environment, appropriate research, technology and innovation and market development, and with a specific focus on delivering benefits to small producers.

The second regional project is an SPS capacity building project aimed at increasing production and trade in agriculture and fisheries through support for legislation, coordination among institutions and between

the public and private sectors, and training and capacity building. The objective is to ensure that the Caribbean meets international standards while protecting plant, animal and human health and the environment.

EXTERNALLY FUNDED PROJECTS BY COUNTRY

Barbados

- Barbados Youth Farm Training Programme (TVET)

Haiti

- Project to support the strengthening of the Francique mango chain in the Centre Department
- Promoting capacity building for sustainable agriculture in Haiti (USDA-FAS)

- Increased production of vegetables and herbs through the use of protected agriculture in the Caribbean (CFF-CARDI)
- Implementation of the commercialization of disease-resistant bean varieties in Guatemala, Nicaragua, Honduras and Haiti.
- Avian Influenza control and human pandemic preparedness and response.
- Strengthening animal health at the national level for technical support to the control of classical swine fever and control of avian influenza projects.
- Self-production of fresh food – PRO-HUERTA
- Haiti post-earthquake support program and employment generation in affected rural areas.
- Self-production of fresh food project extension at three locations in the Northwest department of Haiti – PROHUERTA
- Construction of water tanks for rainwater collection and storage in Haiti.
- Financing system and agricultural insurance in Haiti.
- Reforestation project and utilization of energy-saving stoves in Arreguy-Jacmel, Haiti

- Research Consortium for the Development of Agriculture in Haiti.
- Availability of proposal and recommendation for the establishment of the model “Field Schools” in Haiti (IFAD).
- Project support to strengthen monitoring of food security in Haiti through observatories.

Jamaica

- Performance, Vision and Strategy (PVS) Evaluation of National Plant Protection. Organizations and National Food Safety Management Control Systems (AIC/IDB)
- Promotion of community-based agrotourism for identified communities and participating agencies.
- Improving Jamaica’s Agricultural Productivity (CIDA A-034263).
- Improving the competitiveness of the small ruminant sub-sector through the development of national grading standards and enhanced market intelligence.

Saint Lucia

- Phase 3 of Helping Out Our Primary and Secondary Schools (HOOPS).

Dominican Republic

- Project for monitoring agro-tourism linkages in Samana, Dominican Republic.
- Project for strengthening international quarantine between Haiti and the Dominican Republic.
- Innovative Policies for the Development of Rural Areas in Latin America-PIDERAL.
- Expansion and mass production of the fish production center Bombita – CEPRO-PIBO.
- Diversification and expansion of “La cabrita” goat milk production center, Dominican Republic.
- Consolidation of small farming plots with ecological approach of small and medium producers in the Nizaíto River Basin of the Municipalities of Paradise and Enriquillo, Dominican Republic.

Suriname

- Carambola Fruit Fly Control and Eradication Support Project.

Trinidad and Tobago

- Enhancing the value-added processing of roots and tubers in the Caribbean through the transfer of improved technologies



Competitive Fund for Technical Cooperation

The Competitive Fund for Technical Cooperation (FonTC) is an initiative through which IICA uses its own resources to finance multinational technical cooperation projects, which can be complemented with funds from other organizations of member countries or international agencies.

The main objectives of the Fund are to:

- Contribute to the achievement of the objectives outlined in the IICA 2010-2014 MTP.
- Promote technical cooperation of excellence between the technical personnel of IICA, through financing of multinational projects with a focus on innovation.
- Strengthen interaction between the technical personnel of IICA in all its member countries.

- Offer a form of financing that is novel and transparent, and attracts external economic resources for complementing the funding of specific projects within the Fund.
- Develop and consolidate a network of strategic alliances with international, regional and national organizations that possess the same mission and purpose as IICA.
- Promote more productive, competitive and sustainable agriculture, in response to the priorities and demands of the member countries.
- Promote technological innovation for the benefit of agriculture within the member countries of the Institute.

Project: Improving the Competitiveness of the Small Ruminant Subsector through the Development of National Grading Standards and Enhanced Market Intelligence

General objective

Develop national competencies for classifying, processing and identifying opportunities for trade in and production of small ruminants in Barbados, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago.



Training

A manual was prepared to facilitate training in good hygiene practices for the slaughter of small ruminants.

Seventy people from Barbados, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago were trained in the production of high quality meat cuts and slaughter of small ruminants. The persons trained were farmers, personnel from the ministries of agriculture, veterinarians, and meat handlers from supermarkets and abattoirs.

The training help boost the production of high-quality cuts of sheep and goat meat in the Caribbean.

Methodologies and instruments developed

Instrument for carrying out national market studies, validated via questionnaires administered to a sample group of 554 persons directly involved in the subject, such as producers,

agriculture ministry staff and supermarket personnel. This can be used in the future by the players in the sector to enact changes in the market. They can also extrapolate from the information contained in the original data (within the countries participating in the project).

Project: Enhancing the value added processing of roots and tubers in the Caribbean through the transfer of improved technologies

General objective

Transfer improved technologies to producers and processors via horizontal technical cooperation (sharing of experiences, models and





technologies) between the countries of the Caribbean (Barbados, Dominica, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago), and Latin America (IPC, Peru; CIAT-CLAYUCA, Colombia and EMBRAPA, Brazil).

The project also seeks to establish channels and facilitate an appropriate environment for processors to do business and access financing for their operations.

Participating countries: Barbados, Brazil, Colombia, Dominica, Guyana, Jamaica, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago.

Main products and results

Training

Teaching materials and a video were produced for training in the processing of roots and tubers in the Caribbean.

Seventy-one people were trained from the seven Caribbean countries taking part.

The objective of the training was to contribute to: 1) implementation of good practices for product processing, 2) identification of high-yielding varieties of cassava and sweet potato, 3) sharing of new ideas for product development and taking advantage of trade opportunities, and 4) dissemination of knowledge of food safety standards.

Methodologies and instruments developed

Survey for evaluating processors of roots and tubers. This instrument identified the major challenges that producers face in accessing technologies for processing, equipment and good practices. The instrument also facilitated identification of solutions and requests for training in the processing of roots and tubers, so that local and regional workshops can be planned. (Caribbean).

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