



Significant achievements in 2017



Trinidad and Tobago



- The capacity of 20 persons from the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries; the Institute of Marine Affairs; the Environmental Management Agency; the University of the West Indies; the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management; and the Meteorological Office in Trinidad and Tobago has been developed through a risk mapping workshop to produce risk maps of agricultural areas that are likely to be impacted by extreme weather conditions, in collaboration with the Engineering Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries and the University of the West Indies. The project was coordinated and managed by IICA and financed through IICA's resilience project.
- Two farming groups in Trinidad and Tobago, the Niche Traders Group and the Organic Agriculture Society of Trinidad and Tobago have improved the governance and efficiency of their respective organizations through a capacity-building workshop on the development of the Co-operative model, which was coordinated by IICA in collaboration with the Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development with financial support from IICA's family agriculture project. The groups are now actively pursuing steps to have their organizations registered as co-operatives, in addition to one group actively seeking to have a strategic plan developed for improving the management of the group.
- Thirty-five dairy goat farmers, who are members of the Trinidad and Tobago Goat and Sheep Society (TTGSS), have acquired the know-how and enhanced capacity to produce quality goat milk and meet the requisite standards of packaging and labelling for effective marketing of their milk through a series of capacity building workshops. This result was achieved in collaboration with the Trinidad and Tobago Goat and Sheep Society; the Vet Diagnostic Lab of the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries; and the Chemistry Food and Drug Division of the Ministry of Health (TTGSS). The project activities were managed by IICA and financed by IICA's chains project. The dairy goat farmers also now have the capacity to operate and maintain portable milking machines donated to the Society members through the 10th EDF Agriculture Policy Program (APP).
- A forage demonstration and multiplication plot for increasing the productivity of the dairy goat sector by demonstrating the use of locally grown forages to replace imported concentrate feed was established in collaboration with the Trinidad and Tobago Goat and Sheep Society. Also, a handbook detailing a quality control system for producing good quality goat's milk for dairy goat farmers in Trinidad and Tobago was developed in collaboration with the Trinidad and Tobago Goat and Sheep Society (TTGSS). These results were implemented under IICA's chains project.
- The Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) webinar series, coordinated and led by IICA, has generated a greater understanding of climate change issues and their impact on the agricultural sector for 15 participants of various institutions, including the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries; the Institute of Marine Affairs; The Environmental Management Agency; The University of the West Indies; The Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management; The Meteorological Office and the Ministry of Planning. This initiative was financed through IICA's resilience project and resulted in the dissemination of useful information and strengthened collaboration, on issues related to climate change and the agricultural sector.
- The training capacity of 17 persons from both the public and private sectors in Trinidad and Tobago to

become lead instructors and trainers for the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) requirements for businesses wishing to export processed foods and fresh produce to the USA has been realized through 2 training workshops in collaboration with the USDA-FAS Program, with IICA as the implementing agency, and financed through the IICA-USDA Cooperation Agreement. Lead Instructors and Qualified Individuals (12 persons) were certified through the Food Safety Preventative Control Alliance (FSPCA) for Preventive Controls Human Food Rule, and 10 persons received Produce Safety Alliance Trainer Certificates for the Produce Safety Rule, resulting in a cadre of certified trainers who will then train local exporters, producers, farmers, regulators and educators.

- The functioning of the National *Codex* structure has been strengthened through support for effective participation of its members at 8 international meetings, with financial support from the IICA-USDA Cooperation Agreement. Further sustainable institutional arrangements are being developed to promote effective contribution to the *Codex* Standard setting process and food safety in Trinidad and Tobago, through a collaborative south-south cooperation project undertaken by the Chilean Food Safety and Quality Agency (ACHIPIA) and IICA to bring countries closer together as a region, and strengthen their capacities to participate in *Codex* activities. The project was financed by Chile, with IICA providing technical leadership and implementing the activity.

- An IICA publication entitled “Characterization of Family Farms in the Caribbean: A Study of Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines”, was completed through a series of consultations based on the collection of studies that were previously carried out in order to characterize the typical systems of family farming in those countries, in collaboration with the University of the West Indies, and financed by IICA’s family agriculture project. The publication was launched in Trinidad and Tobago and addressed key aspects such as the characteristics of family farms, contributions to society in terms of financial contribution, food production, and cultural identity, in addition to possible scenarios that can strengthen and facilitate sustainable development of Family Farming.
- An action plan to achieve food security through the provision of adequate planting material to farmers for tree crops (coconuts, citrus, breadfruit and avocado) was developed through a national seminar to critically review and prioritize actions for implementation in the short and medium term to achieve the desired results. The seminar was held in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries and CARDI for 70 extensions officers, researchers, farmers, propagators, and agriculture associations. IICA provided technical support and managed the process for the Ministry of Agriculture in planning, implementing and executing the activity with financial support from the IICA-CARDI Agreement.



INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR
COOPERATION ON AGRICULTURE

www.iica.int

