



St. Vincent and the Grenadines



Significant Achievements 2020

- The Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) strengthened the capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture's Animal Health and Production Division (AHPD) and of livestock farmers, to expand livestock production and contribute to the food security of the country. Through the implementation of a Rapid Response Action (RRA) entitled, Capacity Building to Support the Development of the Livestock Sector in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, the Institute increased by over 90% the capacity of the AHPD's hatchery to produce day-old chicks; implemented a four-week Farmer Field School training programme in small ruminant nutrition for fifteen persons, including Ministry technicians and farmers; and provided equipment and tools to enhance the AHPD's services in the area of small ruminant reproduction.
- The implementation of a project under IICA's Special COVID-19 Fund bolstered the ability of seventy-six farmers to withstand the exogenous shocks to the livelihood of their families, which had been triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic. The initiative—Stabilizing and Enhancing Agricultural Production Among Small Holders in St. Vincent and the Grenadines Affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic—provided technical and material support to the beneficiaries, including seeds, fertilizers and other agro-chemicals, and capacity building to sustain and enhance their production of vegetables. In so doing, it contributed to the overall efforts of the country and to the region's COVID-19 response programme.
- The capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture to provide digital communication services to farmers and other agricultural stakeholders was significantly improved by the development and delivery of an Information and Communication Technology (ICT) application/tool to support the work of the Extension and Advisory Services, in providing technical and other information products to the farming community. The ICT APP was developed by IICA as part of a pilot process in three countries, including St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and is widely available to stakeholders as a smart phone application that allows access to information products on agriculture.
- The capacity of the Beekeepers Association Inc. (BKAI) and the South Windward Farmers in Action Producers Cooperative Society (SOWAPCO) to provide administrative, production and marketing services to their membership and the public was strengthened by IICA's implementation of the project – Services for Capacity Building of Farmers' Organisations. Activities included a five-week training programming in governance, leadership and group administrative procedures; mapping of four major buyers of agricultural produce; development of a commodity profile for sweet corn, sweet potato and honey; material support for labels and packaging for five honey producers; and the initiation of a programme with SOWAPCO for sweet corn production and marketing to reduce imports.

