



## Guyana

### Significant achievements in 2011

- **Innovation for Productivity and Competitiveness:** Through direct IICA support a comprehensive review of the Curricula of the 2 premier agricultural education institutions (University of Guyana - Faculty of Agriculture & Forestry, and the Guyana School of Agriculture) was completed, which included practical and realistic recommendations for improvement and alignment with the Government Policy of modernizing the agricultural sector.
- **Agricultural Health and Food Safety:** Through a 5-day training course, “Training of Trainers in Good Agricultural Practices and Standards (GAPS) for fruit and vegetables, and aquaculture” organized by IICA and the Guyana School of Agriculture (GSA), 15 persons including staff of the GSA and the MoA are now equipped to train students and producers. Of utmost significance, is that the GSA incorporated GAPS modules in its curriculum and the graduating class of 2011 were the first cohort to complete the modules in partial fulfillment for the Diploma in Agriculture and the Certificate in Fisheries.
- **Agribusiness and Marketing:** Collaboration between IICA, the Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) Guyana and CIDA, resulted in the establishment of the Women Agro-processors Development Network, comprising several rural women’s agro-processing groups dispersed over Guyana -. An umbrella group whose objective is to provide training, improve productivity, market access and livelihoods of the membership. In addition to establishing the governance structures, the WADN has contributed to the restructuring of the CANROP and through IICA AHFS training, two of its members, Blue Flame Agro-processors and Pomeroon Women Processors Association had their processing facilities certified by the Guyana Food & Drug Administration (FDA).
- **Agriculture, Territories and Rural Well-being:** Through an IICA-FAO Partnership, the remote community of Aliko on the Essequibo Coast was able to start a small beekeeping enterprise as an income-generating activity for the village youths. As a

first step, five (5) hives were established and 18 persons have basic competence in hive capture, hive construction, maintenance and safety.

- 35 underprivileged youth in Victoria Village constructed a 3200 sq ft hydroponics shade house and the youth were equipped with basic skills for hydroponics production, a collaborative effort of the Foundation for Real Christian Education (GRECO) at Victoria Village, funded by the Canada Fund for Local Initiatives (CFLI) and with technical support from IICA (project proposal, training and implementation).
- The Carambola Fruit Fly Control and Eradication Supporting Project was advanced through discussions held among the three collaborating IICA Offices (Guyana, Suriname and Brazil). Institutional arrangements were put in place for the execution in collaboration with representatives of the Plant Health Department of the Ministries of Agriculture of Brazil, Guyana and Suriname.