

Important achievements in 2016

- The institutional framework for Agricultural Health and Food Safety (AHFS) governance was strengthened with the Ministries of Agriculture and private sector companies in Barbados and the Region with respect to coordination of national and regional actions; application of model legislation developed for food safety, plant and animal health; and capacity building (over 1500 persons trained), through the implementation of the EU-SPS project and hemispheric actions, including webinars and FSPCA training.
- Ministry of Agriculture technicians and private sector stakeholders have increased knowledge about climate change and its impacts, and have tools to improve adaptation and build resilience, as a result of their participation in CCSA Forums, the construction of ferrocement water storage tanks under UNDP GEF projects with the St. George Farmers cooperative and Deighton Griffith school, and IICA's participation in establishing the Terms of Reference of the Ministry's Climate Change Unit.
- The application of innovations in beekeeping has been enhanced and institutional governance of the Barbados Beekeepers' Association strengthened through the construction, distribution and installation of 30 Perone hives, and the appointment of IICA to the Board of the Barbados Agricultural Society as Vice President of the Beekeepers' Association.
- The institutional framework for Agribusiness development and linkages between tourism and agroindustry was strengthened at the regional and international levels through support for the launch of an IICA online training course in Agrotourism; the establishment of Agrotourism linkage committees in 6 ECS countries; development of proposals for a Caribbean Culinary Alliance; facilitation of participation by 6 Caribbean chefs and knowledge sharing with Pacific chefs at CWA 2016; inputs to Guyana's Coconut and Rum sector development; and strengthened collaboration with partner agencies and donors, including the CTA, TBT & DEVCO in Europe, Barbados Tourism Product Authority, Caribbean Hotel & Tourism Association, and Caribbean Tourism Organisation.
- Under the IMPACT project, new occupational standards for agriculture were validated and approved for national use; IM.P.A.C.T administered 6 new Caribbean Vocational Qualifications and 3 National Vocational Qualifications (Agro-food II & III, and Livestock I). For each qualification, IICA's assessment teams have developed question banks for candidate assessments, assessor portfolios, and internal verifier portfolios which will be used to guide future assessments. Nine complete training packages were developed by subject matter experts with resource kits and manuals for future training. 24 N/CVQ assessors were trained by the TVET Council under the IM.P.A.C.T Project. Of these, 15 are now certified assessors approved for working with TVET in their area(s) of expertise.

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