



Canada

Technical Cooperation

Non-programmed activities: 1

IICA resources projects: 4

External resources projects: 3

Main contributions during 2013

- A follow-up video-conference to the 2012 capacity-building exercise, funded by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) and implemented by IICA in COTASA member countries, was undertaken in 2013. The progress reports on the recommended activities presented from Peru, Colombia, Bolivia and Ecuador demonstrated varying levels of progress. Peru reported the most significant result: the documentation and representatives indicated that, as a result of the exposure and training received, 100 new food inspectors had been hired in the country.
- IICA prepared a project to conduct a diagnostic assessment on the innovation system in the goat sector of Ontario as a case for sensitizing and demonstrating to stakeholders the value of such a system. Assistance received from the producer association in Ontario – Ontario Goat – ensured that IICA had access to participants in the value chain. Results of the assessment provided objective information on the flow of innovation and areas to be addressed for improving the sector's productivity and competitiveness.
- IICA organized and coordinated participation of Canadian actors of the small ruminant value chain in the annual Caribbean Week of Agriculture (2013), held in Guyana. As a result of the seminar activity, demonstration workshop (on processing of dairy products) and a closed meeting with the Minister of Agriculture of Guyana, the High Commissioner of Canada to Guyana and the Canadian team, the Minister of Agriculture proposed the establishment of a turnkey dairy operation, with Canadian assistance.
- IICA, with the support of the Ontario Ministry of Agri-Food, introduced the initiative of a Canadian presence at the Caribbean Week of Agriculture in Guyana to the High Commissioner (and Trade Commissioner) of Canada in Guyana. As a result of the successful meetings with local producers, and the Minister of Agriculture, the High Commission's office committed its continued assistance.
- Each year the IICA invites researchers in the Americas to apply for internships to be taken in one of the countries (with the proviso that Canada is the host or home country). A successful applicant from Chile's Universidad de Concepción participated in a fact-finding mission at the University of Laval to learn firsthand how to establish an agroforestry research centre. The evaluation and subsequent interventions proved that the internship was key to obtaining the university's endorsement of the Centre for Agroforestry Research and to obtain a long-term lease of crown land for its establishment.