



# ANNUAL REPORT 2018

Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture  
Delegation in Grenada | Annual Report 2018

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## 1. Foreword

The Grenada Delegation of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) wishes to compliment our stakeholders for their contributions and support to the achievements in this Annual Report for 2018. The achievements of the technical cooperation activities undertaken this year are to inform stakeholders and partners of our shared accomplishments. We have consulted with various stakeholders' groups during our planning process and are now accounting through the report that provides the opportunity for stakeholders to evaluate what was achieved.



There will be an opportunity to comment on this report during our Annual Accountability Seminar and also to provide inputs for the strengthening of IICA's contribution to the agriculture sector. It is our duty to provide to the Government of Grenada and by extension the stakeholders in the agriculture sector technical cooperation of excellence.

The achievements listed in this report contributed to territorial development and family farming; international trade and regional integration; climate change, natural resources and management of production risks and agricultural health, safety and food quality. Stakeholders from the public and private sectors including agriculture extension staff, food safety practitioners, abattoir staff and producer groups benefited from the fostering of capacity building and support for institutional strengthening. These achievements would not have been possible had it not been for the contributions through the collaborative efforts of the stakeholders and strategic partners.

IICA's new Director General, Dr Manuel Otero, is committed to improving the institution's programs to align with the institution's mandate to better meet the demands of stakeholders. In the new approach to improve the agricultural sector in the hemisphere, the development of a differentiated strategy will be implemented to provide support to the region, in enhancing the capacity and competitiveness in agriculture. Based on this, in 2018, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed with the OECS to strengthen collaboration with IICA.

On behalf of the Director General (Dr Manuel Otero) and on my own behalf, we thank you for your unwavering support and collaboration in advancing the technical and institutional strengthening of the agriculture sector to improve the health and nutrition of the farming community and by extension the people of Grenada.

***John Henry King***

***IICA Representative in the ECS***

## **2. Executive Summary**

In 2018, the technical cooperation activities of the Grenada Delegation were developed from two Medium Term Plans (MTPs). At the beginning, the activities relating to the 2014-18 MTP were implemented; whereas, towards the latter half of the year activities relating to the 2018-22 MTP were executed.

IICA's technical cooperation relationship strengthened with the direct involvement of the Ministries of Agriculture and Foreign Affairs in the consultation process of its 2018-2022 Medium Term Plan. This was followed by a visit to Grenada by IICA's Director General, Dr Manuel Otero, and his Caribbean Advisor (Dr Arlington Chesney) where a number of meetings with government officials and field visits informed the situation of Grenada's agriculture.

Grenada's agriculture benefited from two major interventions by IICA this year. One being an assessment of the Mirabeau Abattoir to determine its operational effectiveness of an Abattoir that is intended to serve as the livestock production catalyst and meat-processing model in Grenada. The recommendations from the assessment targeted measures for obtaining adequate food quality and safety to protect the health of human and the safety of workers at the abattoir. This assessment was followed by a food safety training in anticipation of the almost 100% increase in the number of animals that was processed at the Abattoir during December compared with that of November 2018.

The second most impactful activity was the staging of a symposium on the management of the citrus greening disease (HLB) in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture. The objective was to share knowledge, experience and best management practices from countries that have already built their technical and management capacities to keep the disease under control.

Most of the Grenada Delegation technical cooperation work was conducted in collaboration with its principal client, the Ministry of Agriculture. However, there were activities that involved horizontal cooperation with other IICA Delegations and with strategic local and regional partners.

## **3. Introduction**

A brief overview of the state of agriculture sets the stage for laying out the achievements of the technical cooperation activities of IICA in Grenada. It gives an analysis of the agriculture sector including the situation, the constraints and the activities that have been undertaken by the different development organisations in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture to improve the sector.

Climate Change and its relevance to the agriculture sector focused highly in terms of projects undertaken to strengthen the adaptive capacity of the farmers and communities. Many of the



projects were locally conceived and implemented whereas others were aligned to regional activities.

Some of IICA's collaborative partners engaged their stakeholders and conducted accountability seminar/open day to give accounts of their activities during the preceding year and obtain feedback on proposals for the ensuing year.

The achievements from the activities conducted by the Grenada Delegation in 2018 were based on the work plan developed and executed in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and strategic partners.

The ten major achievements by IICA in 2018 contributed to territorial development and family farming; international trade and regional integration; climate change, natural resources and management of production risks and agricultural health, safety and food quality. Stakeholders from the public and private sectors including agriculture extension staff, food safety practitioners, abattoir staff and producer groups benefited from the capacity strengthening activities.

The report also highlights the Delegation's Accountability Seminar for the year 2017; the visit by its Director General in 2018 and Stakeholders' consultation on IICA Medium Term Plan. Those activities strengthened the relationship between IICA and its principal client, the Ministry of Agriculture, its stakeholders and strategic partners.

#### **4. The State of Agriculture in Grenada**

The National Agriculture Plan identified the agriculture sector as one of the key growth sectors and economic drivers. It is expected to play an important role as a source of employment, particularly in rural communities, food and nutrition security, and international trade. Opportunities for linkages with other areas of the economy such as tourism and health, in particular, were also identified.

Agriculture continued to play a major role in the economy in 2018 where the rural communities depended on the incomes from the two major traditional export crops of nutmeg and cocoa. Production of those crops has re-bounced since Hurricanes Ivan and Emily but there are still challenges with markets, prices and pest and diseases. There has been a resurgence in the production of sugarcane in Grenada. Renegade Rum has collaborated with the agricultural company CaneCo that propagates, cultivates, and harvests premium sugar cane for the production of rum. Between 2016-2018, a total of 203 acres of sugarcane was planted with 57 acres planted in 2018. The construction of the Renegade Rum Distillery, which started in 2018, is expected to be completed in 2019 where all the sugarcane produced by CaneCo will be processed into top quality rum. The rum will be matured in barrels and be available by 2022.

### **Agro-processing**

Agricultural production is comprised mainly of tree crops (nutmeg, cocoa and other spices), fruits, vegetables, root crops, livestock, fisheries, and forestry products. Production is carried out mainly by low resource farmers on small farms averaging 2.5 acres. The agro processing sector is comprised of approximately 265 small and nine medium sized processors 65% of whom are female operating at cottage level.

There are five small to medium sized chocolate factories producing both organic and conventional chocolates for the local and export markets. Additionally, there are two fruit-juice factories; one is already producing for the local market and to a lesser extent the export market. The second one is in the process of fine-tuning its productive capacity with trial runs of juice making. Two other medium sized agro processing factories produce pepper sauces and jams and jellies, respectively for the local and export markets.

### **Climate Change and Agriculture**

This year, Grenada hosted a four-day Structured Dialogue on the Green Climate fund with the Caribbean. This was aimed at catalysing greater regional cooperation to address the challenges of climate change in the Caribbean. This Dialogue provided the opportunity to reflect on the progress and captured lessons learned towards strengthening and streamlining implementation and exploring further investment opportunities with the private sector. Fostering sustainable country ownership and programming and building effective partnership were some of the goals.

A number of climate change projects were at various stages of implementation that would have complemented other actions undertaken by the Ministry of Agriculture to strengthen the resilience of agriculture to the adverse effect of climate change.

The Mirabeau Propagating station benefited from the UNDP-JCCCCP Project under the Japan Caribbean Climate Change Partnership Project where sustainable agriculture was one of the priorities.

Integrated Climate Change Adaptation Strategies (ICCAS) Programme, implemented by GIZ and UNDP, continued in 2018 and focused on increasing resilience to climate change risks through integrated adaptation strategies. In collaboration with the German Company Okobit GmbH, a number of small biogas systems were installed using organic waste from pig units. Although energy is the main product, an important source of energy that can be used by agro processors in their homes; natural fertilizers are by-products. In addition, external benefits of reduced environmental and marine pollution are achieved through the process.

Grenada benefited from the Caribbean Aqua and Terrestrial Solutions (CATS) based in St Lucia. The programme targeted various demographics by way of building their capacity in various areas but also raising their awareness of key matters as well as fostering a sense of ownership of their patrimony.

Increasing the resilience and sustainability of farmers facing Climate Change and variability through the adoption of Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) Practices is one of the components of the Climate-Smart Agriculture and Rural Enterprise Programme (SAEP) that is being finalized for implementation. The Programme implementation period will be six years. It is estimated that the total cost of the project will be USD 12 million, which will be financed by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB).

The Grenada GEF Small Grant Programme continued the implementation of projects in 2018. This included capacity building among students and public awareness of rainwater harvesting. The aim was making agriculture production in selected school gardens more sustainable and resilient to the impacts of climate change. Climate Smart Agriculture and sustainable gardening practices were two of the GEF Projects that had good prospects of success.

IICA developed and disseminated a national baseline document that outlined the institutional framework for addressing climate change in Grenada's agriculture sector. This inventory summarizes the main public policy instruments that exist at the national level that are relevant for addressing climate change in Grenada's agricultural sector. Programs or projects currently or recently executed by institutions and coordination mechanisms through which the agriculture-focused organizations interact with other sectors and stakeholders to promote low carbon, climate resilient agriculture are included. A wide variety of stakeholders contributed their knowledge during the workshops and throughout the formulation of this document.

The Caribbean Policy Development Center (CPDC) in collaboration with partners in Grenada including IICA continued its project "Promoting Sustainable Livelihoods among Eastern Caribbean Farmers. In 2017, Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) opportunities were introduced to Grenadian small farmers, whereas in 2018 assessments of farms were conducted by a representative of CPDC along with technical experts in Grenada, in the areas of agronomics, marketing and extension services. Most of the farms visited were between one and five acres and were in the rural areas of the country. The follow-up intervention will provide more in-depth information and specific solutions to their individual challenges and situations.

### **Fruit Production and Marketing**

The shipment of one of Grenada's most popular fruit, the golden apple, better known as June plum in Jamaica, recommenced in 2018 to the USA market. Shipments to this market were terminated for a number of years due to the fruit fly problem. Current golden apple shipments are irradiated on arrival as a precaution to prevent the entry of the fruit fly into the USA.

Soursop continued to be in high demand locally and on the international market. The Ministry of Agriculture has been working relentlessly with various organisations including the FAO to develop the value chain and to look into some of the agronomic constraints that are affecting the production of this fruit.

There was a continued decline in the production of citrus among farmers due to the vexing Citrus Greening disease (HLB) that has plagued the citrus farms in the past years. Due to infestation of this disease, the main supplier of propagated citrus plants to farmers suspended operations in 2018. IICA and the Ministry's Pest Management Unit organized a symposium for farmers, input suppliers, vendors, agronomists, quarantine officers and agricultural extension personnel to discuss the status of citrus farms and strategies to combat the transmission of the bacteria that cause the disease. In 2019, IICA and the Ministry of Agriculture will collaborate with a private sector entity to establish demonstration plots to advise farmers on how best to manage this disease using chemical inputs.

### **Vegetable Production and Marketing**

The production of vegetable was in much demand with the commissioning of one major hotel on the island. Seasonal variations continued to be a problem for farmers thus limiting their potential to satisfy negotiated agreements and developing respectful partnership with hotels and supermarkets chains. Well-organised small-farmer producer groups are key in terms of capability of market access, especially the hotels and supermarkets for fresh fruits and vegetables. Any opportunity on cost reduction strategies should be embraced by small farmers in terms of economies of scale for the provision of inputs and commercial logistics. Hotels and supermarkets prefer to deal with fewer producers with larger volumes rather than many small producers with small volumes. Collective actions of effective producer groups are likely to challenge some of the constraints affecting individual small farmers.

### **Constraints to Production**

Some of the major constraints affecting the development of agriculture are pest and disease, the ageing farmer population, access to lands and limited technology. In fact, there has been a reduction of lands available for agriculture and the number of farms. Changes in rainfall patterns continue to be a threat to production. Longer drought periods combined with heavy rains retard plants' growth, as most agricultural production are rain fed, and wash away the fertile top soils respectively. In 2016, heavy rains caused significant damage especially to cash crops in the East and North of the island, and in 2018 a similar situation occurred in the South East. In the recent past, emerging pests and diseases have adversely affected Grenada's local and export markets for some crops in terms of reduced yields and poor quality of the produce.

### **Crop Insurance**

The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture conducted a scoping mission in 2018 to evaluate the feasibility of agriculture risk insurance. Increased uncertainties are faced by farmers in relation to changes in the conditions for the production of crops and livestock because of the changing climate. Any risk mitigating measure to assist in the recovery process after an unfavourable event brought about by the changing climate would be welcome by farmers.



### **Accountability / Open Day of Collaborative Partners**

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Sub-Regional Office for the Caribbean in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture conducted an Accountability Seminar that reviewed the progress in implementing the Country Programming Framework for 2016-2019. Its achievements for 2017 and the agreed work programme for 2018-2019 were presented. In addition to a sum of money for the Country Programme Framework (CPF), a catalytic fund is also available for any country to submit applications. For each priority area there shall be no more than three targets that must be of high impact and have a capacity-building component. Sustainable agriculture, forestry and fisheries production; food and nutrition security; and climate change resilience and disaster risk management were the three priority areas identified by FAO and the Ministry of Agriculture for the period 2016-2019.

CARDI Day 2018 ‘Celebrating the Potential of the Region’s Coconut Industry’ focused on CARDI’s work on coconut in Grenada. Technical staff from CARDI and the Ministry of Agriculture gave presentations on the state of coconuts in Grenada and the steps to move forward with strengthening this Industry. As part of the wider CARDI Regional Coconut Project, Grenada will be implementing aspects of this programme in 2019. Through this Regional Coconut Development Project, coconut farmers in Grenada would realize improved income and employment opportunities.

## **5. Achievements - Technical Cooperation Activities in 2018**

The technical cooperation agenda for Grenada included activities identified from the sectoral consultations during the development of IICA’s Medium Term Plan (MTP) 2018-2022; emerging agricultural issues affecting the farming community; recommendations emanating from stakeholders consultations during Accountability Seminars; and specific requests from the Ministry of Agriculture. Together with stakeholders and partners, the IICA Grenada Delegation planned, scheduled and executed the activities resulting in the ten achievements listed below.

### **A. Contributions to: Territorial Development and Family Farming**

#### **Achievement No. 1: Support to Strengthen the Capacity of the Extension Service**

In collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) strengthened the technical capacity of agricultural assistants and extension officers to assimilate and transfer information to farmers using appropriate extension methodologies. An on-the-job assessment of the agricultural assistants by IICA identified insufficient peer-to-peer sharing of extension methodologies among extension officers and agricultural assistants. There was also the need to have proven and tested extension methodologies handed down to the agricultural assistants in keeping with the Ministry’s effort to strengthen its succession planning. The activity involved the senior extension officers coaching the agricultural

assistants in three different subject areas viz. soil health; post-harvest handling; and shade house management in a teaching and learning field activity involving extension officers, agricultural assistants and farmers. Twenty-one extension officers, agricultural assistants and farmers benefited from this activity, which complemented the Ministry's succession plan to develop its knowledge capital.

### **Achievement No. 2: Field Practices for the Management of HLB**

In an effort to bolster some of the Ministry of Agriculture actions in the field to combat the vexing Citrus Greening disease (HLB) that resulted in reduced production and the suspension in the propagation of citrus plants for growers, it turned to IICA for support to host a symposium to chart the way forward. The objective being to share knowledge, experience and best management practices from countries that have already built their technical and management capacities to keep the disease under control. IICA Grenada sought technical assistance from Jamaica that already has a citrus certification programme in place and St Vincent and the Grenadines that is in the process of developing its certification programme, to share their experiences in managing the disease with the stakeholders in Grenada. Twenty-six stakeholders comprising farmers, input suppliers, supermarket personnel, agronomists, quarantine officers and extension staff of the Ministry of Agriculture strengthened their capacity to manage the disease both at the propagation stations and on the farms and developed an action plan for managing the disease thus containing its spread.

## **B. Contributions to: International Trade and Regional Integration**

### **Achievement No. 3: Improving Governance of Producer Groups**

The Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) collaborated with the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and strengthened the governance and management of four producer groups in Grenada through their participation in Workshop Sessions. Both IICA and the FAO are convinced that involving all the members of a producer organisation at the same Workshop will help in team building and improve their overall functioning as a group that will better enable them to engage stakeholders and customers. Improved governance arrangements within each of the organisations help improve communication, efficiency and effectiveness among their members. Thirty producers, which consisted of four different producer groups, benefitted from the capacity building activities aimed at improving the internal structures and management of their organisations. Effective producer groups can contribute to food and nutrition security, a key area identified during the stakeholders' consultation on the IICA Medium Term Plan, 2018-2022.

### **Achievement No. 4: Support to Beekeepers**

Members of the then defunct Grenada Association of Beekeepers together with new beekeepers, many of whom are women, welcomed a training on governance that was conducted by the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture. The objective of the training was to set the stage for the reactivation of the then

defunct association. Participants were introduced to the key considerations in forming an organization both from the point of view of the individual and the organization itself. The principles of good governance were highlighted noting that the members will soon reconstitute their organization and would need to strengthen their capacity to ensure unity among members for the survival of their organization. Twenty-four beekeepers strengthened their capacity in the basic principles of group formation and the responsibility of its members in developing and promoting the organization's strategic objectives to lead a *'whole of group approach'* to governance.

#### Achievement No. 5: GCA Pre-Dossier to Redefine Grenada's Cocoa

IICA Grenada Delegation through the Delegation in Jamaica engaged the Grenada Cocoa Association (GCA) and assisted in its preparation of a Pre-dossier of information for consideration on fine or flavour cocoa production percentages. This Pre-dossier was presented to the ICCO ad hoc panel of fine or flavour cocoa for assessment and feedback.

There are two categories of cocoa under consideration by ICCO, "Fine Cocoa" and "Flavour Cocoa". The following definitions are meant to serve as clarifications in the effort to create a working definition that is part of an ongoing process towards a more meaningful and impactful quality cocoa.

**Fine cocoa** is defined as cocoa that is free of defects in flavour while providing a complex flavour profile that reflects the expertise of the producer and the "terroir", or sense of the particular environment where the cacao is grown, fermented and dried. Fine cocoa meeting these basic criteria may also offer important genetic diversity, as well as historical and cultural heritage.

**Flavour cocoa** is defined as cocoa that has little to no defects in flavour and provides valuable aromatic or flavour characteristics that have been traditionally important in blends. Flavour cocoa that meets these basic quality criteria may also offer important genetic diversity, as well as historical and cultural heritage.

#### Achievement No. 6: Food Processing

The Grenada Delegation collaborated with the IICA-Canada 2018 Research and Internship Assistance Programme and conducted a two-day Agro-processing Workshop for small-scale processors and entrepreneurs with emphasis on local fruits and vegetables of commercial importance. The objective of this workshop was to strengthen the technical capacity of small-scale agro-processors and entrepreneurs on how best to prepare local fruits and vegetables of commercial importance to improve their shelf life. Seventeen agro-processors and entrepreneurs, including women and youth, strengthened their capacity in extending the shelf life of foods. This two-day Workshop took the form of hands-on training as well as classroom style instructions. The process of extending the shelf life of fruits and vegetables and the types of equipment and tools needed to transform such fruits and vegetables were the emphasis of the Workshop.

## **C. Contribution to: Climate Change, Natural Resources, Risk Management**

### **Achievement No. 7: Alternative Materials for Composting**

The Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) collaborated with the Ministry of Agriculture and conducted a workshop for farmers and extension officers. This was aimed at promoting the use of alternative materials, among them Sargassum seaweed, that can be used for composting; the methods of composting; and the measures to be taken to reduce food safety risks when using compost on covered crops. The senior extension staff from the Ministry of Agriculture and the National Specialist at IICA identified emerging and applicable farm technologies and practices and demonstrated how to best transfer such technologies and practices to farmers. Forty extension officers, farmers and agriculture trainees strengthened their capacity in the use of organic materials for farm inputs. The workshop consisted of both theory and practical on-farm sessions where participants observed first-hand the conversion of organic materials to compost.

## **D. Contributions to: Agricultural Health, Safety and Food Quality**

### **Achievement No.8: Food Safety Risk Analysis**

The Grenada Ministry of Health and the Grenada Bureau of Standards with funding from the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) collaborated with the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) and conducted a two-day Workshop for practitioners in the public and private sectors on Food Safety Risk Analysis. The facilitators of this workshop were trained in Food Safety at the University of Nebraska that was supported by the 10<sup>th</sup> EU SPS Project and executed by IICA. The objective of this workshop was to enable practitioners from the public and private sectors who are involved in food safety along the supply chain to develop a structured approach to assessing food safety risks. The Workshop involved both classroom and field exercises where participants had the opportunity to observe food safety principles at two commercial outfits. Twenty-two practitioners strengthened their capacities in assessing food safety risks, managing the risks and communicating such risks as part of their training. With the knowledge of Food Safety Risk Analysis, the food safety practitioners will be better able to assist the farmers, agro-processors and food handlers on best practices in food safety to prevent illness among the population due to the consumption of contaminated food.

### **Achievement No. 9: Food Safety in Poultry Processing**

In collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) strengthened the capacity of 21 poultry processors in biosecurity and food safety that engaged the principles of Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP). The objective being to reduce risks to human health associated with contaminated poultry through a reduction and possibly elimination of hazards; and secondly, to prevent the spread of diseases on poultry farms. This was the first in a series of training for poultry processors organized by the Ministry of Agriculture to ensure that they comply with the standards required for safe foods as

demanded by the retail trade. ‘Certificates of participation’ were presented to the participants as proof of being trained in basic HACCP procedures.

### **Achievement No. 10: Food Safety at the Mirabeau Abattoir**

One of the recommendations from an assessment conducted at the Abattoir was the pre-requisite training in HACCP. IICA therefore collaborated with the Grenada Ministry of Agriculture and strengthened the capacity of the staff and butchers at the Mirabeau Abattoir in food safety, through a training session. The objective of the training was to strengthen the capacity of the staff and butchers at the Abattoir in the prerequisites leading to Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) certification of the abattoir. Seventeen staff and butchers received the training in food safety that prepared them to prevent any food safety issue that may arise due to the increased number of animals processed at the abattoir during the Christmas season. This training was one of the recommendations from an assessment conducted at the abattoir by one of IICA’s Agricultural Health Specialists in June 2018, following a request by the Grenada Minister of Agriculture for technical assistance from IICA for improving conditions at the Abattoir.

### **6. IICA Grenada Accountability Seminar**

IICA Grenada Delegation, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, held its Accountability Seminar that provided a detailed account of the work conducted in 2017 and obtained feedback from its key stakeholders and partners on its effectiveness. Stakeholders also discussed their contributions toward the IICA Medium Plan (MTP) 2018-2022. The Delegation acknowledges the importance of accountability and transparency and as such continues to uphold these principles in keeping with the norms of the Institution.

### **7. Visit by IICA Director General**

The Director General of IICA, Dr Manuel Otero, was inaugurated in January 2018 and visited Grenada later that year to meet with senior members of the government to pledge his continued support to the agriculture sector. He also took the opportunity to discuss with the Ministry of Agriculture the approval, in July, of IICA’s Medium Term Plan (MTP). This was the precursor for the roll out of the Differentiated Strategies for the Caribbean Region and the OECS, respectively.

The Director General intimated that IICA was ready to work with the Government to support the operationalization of the Mirabeau Abattoir and the management of the Citrus Greening Disease. He informed that IICA’s role in the Abattoir has moved on from diagnostic to the solutions phase and will work with the Government to improve the functionality of the Abattoir.

### **8. Consultations on IICA’s Medium Term Plan 2018-2022**

In support for the preparation of the IICA 2018-2022 Medium Term Plan (MTP), 18 Grenadian stakeholders representing nine entities were consulted based on the context and prospects for agriculture in Grenada. The consultations were in the form of an open dialogue and individual

face-to-face discussions. The open dialogue session involved nine senior members of the Ministry of Agriculture. The majority of the face-to-face sessions took place at the stakeholders' workplaces and on farms.

## 9. Conclusion

The thrust of this Delegation's technical cooperation activities was achieved in terms of its planned programme and requests from the Ministry of Agriculture and strategic partners. All activities executed were to the benefit of the Grenadian farming community, be it the farmers, practitioners or technical and administrative staff at the Ministry of Agriculture. The Delegation's achievements are credited to the collaborative efforts of its principal client, stakeholders and strategic partners.

Stakeholders' participation in the consultation on the IICA Medium Term Plan (MTP) 2018-2022 would have boosted IICA reputation of being inclusive, transparent and accountable to its stakeholders. The number of news items produced by this Delegation and posted on the Institution's web page in addition to local media news items contributed to IICA's visibility as an institution of technical cooperation of excellence. Its Annual Accountability Seminar, for example, is etched in the calendars of the stakeholders of the agriculture sector. At the 2019 Budget debate in Parliament, the Minister of Agriculture complimented the IICA Grenada Delegation for its work in fostering the development of agriculture in Grenada.

The momentum in building resilience in the agriculture sector especially in relation to the changing climate must continue unabated. However, there is need to employ other risk mitigating measures in addition to some level of insurance facility especially in the recovery stage of a climate change induced event in the farming community.

The technical cooperation agencies, donors and NGOs need to be more effectively engaged to foster the development in the agriculture sector. This is especially so in relation to the mitigation and adaptation measures to be implemented by the farmers in the face of a changing climate. The process of stakeholder engagement must be mapped out with each contributing its expertise to build a cohesive force of knowledge, experience and best practice to solve problems in agriculture at a reduced cost to the sector.

The work being undertaken by Renegade Rum in partnership with CaneCo has seen a number of abandoned lands being brought back into agricultural production thus providing employment to the rural communities. This model of vertical integration is likely to increase efficiency, promote competitiveness and utilize the unproductive idle lands on the island.

Food safety is gaining the attention of farmers, poultry producers, abattoir staff and practitioners in the food safety system. This momentum should continue in the face of increased organic materials being used on crops and the increase in consciousness of consumers with regard to safe foods. With such a situation, the IICA Grenada Delegation would like to see the reactivation of



the National Agricultural Health and Food Safety Committee and the appointment of a chairperson to replace the one who has since retired.