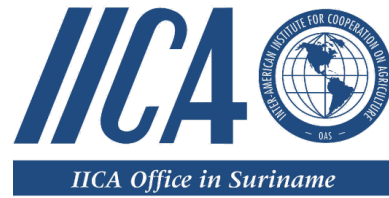


ANNUAL REPORT *2009*

IICA's Contribution to the
**Development of Agriculture
and Rural Communities**

Suriname





2009 Annual Report

*IICA's contribution to the development of agriculture and
rural communities in Suriname*

**Paramaribo, Suriname
February 2010**

© Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA). 2010

IICA encourages the fair use of this document. Proper citation is requested.

This publication is also available in electronic (PDF) format from IICA's Web site at <http://www.iica.int>.

Editorial coordination : IICA Office in Suriname
Layout : Mavis Sabajo
Cover design : Public Information Unit, IICA Headquarters
Printed : IICA Headquarters

Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture 2009 annual report: IICA's contribution to the development of agriculture and rural communities in Suriname / IICA – Suriname: IICA, 2010.

32 p; 22 x 29 cm

ISBN13: 978-92-9248-199-5

1. IICA – Annual report I. IICA II. Title

AGRIS

DEWEY

E14

630

Suriname

2010

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREFACE	4
1. INTRODUCTION	6
2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	8
3. THE STATE OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL LIFE IN SURINAME IN 2009	12
A. The Context for Agriculture and Rural Life	12
B. Changes in Agrifood Production	13
C. Change in Policies that Affect Agriculture and Rural Life	14
D. Changes in the Institutional Framework for Agriculture and Rural Life.....	15
E. Major Developments in the Thematic Areas that Affected the Performance of Agriculture and the Rural Life.....	15
4. RESULTS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGENDA IN SURINAME DURING 2009.....	17
A. IICA’s Contribution to the Repositioning of Agriculture and Rural Life	17
B. Promotion of Trade and the Competitiveness of Agribusiness	19
C. Strengthening Agricultural Health and Food Safety Systems	20
D. Promoting the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and the Environment	20
E. Strengthening Rural Communities based on the Territorial Approach	21
F. Introducing Technology and Innovation for the Modernization and Agriculture and Rural Life	23
5. RESULTS OF INTER-AGENCY COOPERATION	24
6. RESULTS OF HORIZONTAL TECHNICAL COOPERATION.....	25
7. NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION	26
8. MAIN ACTIVITIES ORGANIZED BY IICA	27
9. LIST OF PUBLICATIONS	28
ACRONYMS	30



PREFACE



*Cromwell C. Crawford
IICA Representative in Suriname*

The inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) Office in Suriname is pleased to present its Annual Report 2009 entitled “IICA’s contribution to the development of agriculture and rural communities in Suriname”.

This report is a major component of the institutional process which requires each office to be responsive to the needs of clients and stakeholders through the participatory preparation of national agendas, the implementation of actions based on those agendas, aimed at strengthening the agriculture sector and improving rural life in the countries. Annual reports highlight achievements and major interventions of the respective offices.

Food and nutrition security has been the major focus of the Suriname’s office in 2009 and we are pleased that we were able to assist targeted vulnerable communities in the country to become more food secure.

Our achievements as an office could only be accomplished with the ready support and assistance of our public and private sector partners in the country.

We wish to acknowledge with appreciation the continued support of the Ministries of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries (LVV) and Foreign Affairs our principal public sector partners. Other ministries including Regional Development (RO); Trade and Industry (HI); Labour, Technological Development and Environment (ATM) and Transport, Communication and Tourism (TCT) also provided collaboration support to the office.



We also wish to acknowledge efforts of our other partners in the public sector; private sector, national, regional and international organizations, educational institutions, farmers, women's and youth groups and NGO's in assisting us in implementing our agenda.

I must express my gratitude to the staff of the Institute in Suriname for their dedication and commitment. I also wish to thank the colleagues in the Caribbean and the Hemisphere for their efforts in assisting us to fulfill our mandate.

The IICA Office in Suriname is committed to continuing with all partners in promoting the sustainable development of agriculture and enhancement of rural life in the country.

*Cromwell Crawford
IICA Representative in Suriname*



1. INTRODUCTION

The year 2009 saw the intensification of efforts aimed at ensuring Suriname's food security and the continued diversification of the nation's agriculture.

The Office supported national food security efforts and the development of diversification and other agricultural initiatives under the Agricultural Sector Plan (ASP). Support was also provided to selected groups to enhance production of/and marketing of vegetable crops.

During 2009 IICA's activities were mainly based on the following thematic areas:

- IICA's Contribution to the Repositioning of Agriculture and Rural Life
- Promotion of Trade and the Competitiveness of Agribusiness
- Strengthening Agricultural Health and Food Safety Systems
- Promoting the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and the Environment
- Strengthening Rural Communities based on the Territorial Approach
- Introducing Technology and Innovation for the Modernization and Agriculture and Rural Life

The 2009 Plan of Operation of the Office is comprised of continuation of activities from 2008 and other initiatives following national and international actions and directives:

- The Suriname Agricultural Sector Plan (ASP) 2005 – 2010
- The "Jagdeo Initiative" aiming at revitalizing agriculture in the Caricom members states



- IICA's Medium Term Plan 2006 – 2010
- The Hemisphere AGRO-PLAN 2003 – 2015
- The National Disasters stemming largely from the climate change phenomenon that is significant impacting on the modalities for the repositioning and development of agriculture in the member states.

During 2009 the office intensified the collaboration with organizations and institutions in the areas of Food Security, Agro-tourism Development, Bio-energy, Agricultural Technology Transfer and Management of Natural Resources and Environment.

These activities are in keeping with IICA's mandate to reposition and modernize the agricultural sectors in the member states to introduce and promote the use of biotechnology and to improve the livelihoods of communities in the rural areas and the interior.



2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During 2009, the office in Suriname continued to fulfill its mandate within the ambit of the National, Regional and Hemispheric Agendas. The activities carried out were guided principally by the Annual Action Plan which was elaborated in 2008 and took into consideration elements of the Agricultural Sector Plan (ASP) which is currently being implemented by the Ministry of LVV. Activities undertaken were also subject to inputs received from stakeholders during the Accountability Seminar held in May 2009 and requests from government agencies and the private sector and regional and hemispheric activities organized by IICA Technical Directorate.

Particular emphasis was placed on Food Security issues since several communities in the country were still suffering from the effects of the global economic crisis of 2007 and 2008 and floods which occurred in 2008.

RESULTS OF IICA SURINAME TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTION IN 2009

Some actions carried in 2009 were a continuation or completion of activities undertaken in 2008 and in previous years.

IICA's Contribution to the Repositioning of Agriculture and Rural Life

- Facilitated and supported the participation of Suriname's delegation to the fifth Ministerial Meeting and the fifteenth Regular meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture.
- Co-sponsored one national discussion forum on the State of Agriculture in Suriname.
- Initiated and supported the participation of two Surinamese youth in the Second Hemispheric Forum for Young Leaders in Agriculture in the Americas.



- Published two issues of the internal bulletin “Partnership” and one article in IICA “Comuniica” to keep the milieu informed of IICA Suriname’s activities and also to highlight important agricultural and rural development issues.
- Participated in and shared information at two major national activities – the Chamber of Commerce and Industry “Agro/made in Suriname/ICT Fair” and the Rainforest Art festival with the theme “Global Warming”.

Promotion of Trade and Competitiveness of Agribusiness

- The office coordinated and facilitated market linkages for members of the Foundation of Agricultural Women (SAV) for sale of vegetable produce.
- Supported the Ministry of LVV in providing post harvest training and marketing information to producers and exporters at the monthly post harvest management seminars.
- Contract signed and consultancy assignment initialed for the formulation of a pragmatic handbook for the management of agricultural exports through Surinamese international airport under the umbrella of the Trade Support Programme of the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

Strengthening Agricultural Health and Food Safety Systems

- Facilitated and supported participation of Suriname technicians in Regional Pest Identification workshop in Grenada.
- Supported on-going disease and pest Surveillance Programme including CFF Surveillance in the Guyana and Suriname border region.
- Participated in committees and supported the Suriname Bureau of Standards in the development of standards for selected agricultural commodities.



Promoting the Sustainable Management of natural Resources and Environment

- Organized and co-sponsored one workshop on Permaculture as an alternative means of production and environmental management for hinterland communities in Suriname.
- Conducted awareness seminars for two hundred students on the Effects of Global Warming on Agriculture.
- Organized follow up meetings to agro-energy and Biofuel Roundtable discussion held in 2008.

Strengthening Rural Communities based on the Territorial Approach

- Under the agreement signed in 2008 with the Suriname Red Cross (SRC), farm rehabilitation and food and nutrition security activities were implemented in hinterland communities in Eastern and Southern Suriname.
- Finalized and presented at a stakeholder seminar a proposal for agricultural diversification activities in the Coronie District. Implementation of specific components of the proposal has been initiated.
- Provided coordinating support to the Foundation of Agricultural Women (SAV) in the design and execution of Government of Japan funded capacity building workshops for the organization's membership.
- Executed programmed activities under the IICA/OAS Regional agrotourism linkages project.
- Ongoing support provided to the Ministry of Regional Development in the organization of the Department of Agriculture for the hinterland.

Introducing Technology and Innovation for the Modernization of Agriculture and Rural Life

- Conducted tests of improved rice varieties in two hinterland locations.
- Under Food Security initiatives, introduced improved production technologies in communities in the hinterland.
- Facilitated producer study visit to Guyana to observe integrated farm management and other production systems.



- Supported and facilitated the participation of Suriname's representative to a tour to Murcia, Spain to observe agriculture technologies.
- Facilitated and supported visit of Ministry of Agriculture technicians to the Caribbean to study livestock development practices.



3. THE STATE OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL LIFE IN SURINAME IN 2009

A. *The Context for Agriculture and Rural Life*

The Ministry of LVV restructured and developed the agriculture sector through different intervention policies as written in the Agricultural Sector Plan (ASP). The three (3) main objectives are:

- ✦ Self-sufficiency; where the government must secure accessibility and availability for healthy food for the nation.
- ✦ Income; to increase the earning capacity of the agro based industry and creates employment to alleviate poverty.
- ✦ Stimulate export and import substitution to contribute to the foreign exchange earning of the country.

The specific objectives are defined in the following priority actions:

- ✦ Increase production and decrease of cost;
- ✦ Conduct an agricultural census;
- ✦ Improve prosperity and wellbeing of the rural community in the interior in terms of food security and livelihoods;
- ✦ Development of the agriculture sector in terms of production;
- ✦ To improve the added value of agriculture produce and organize the value chains to improve income and the agricultural industry;
- ✦ Improve industrialization of the agric sector to enhance diversification and internationalization of the sector;
- ✦ To enhance ecological and economic sustainable production; and
- ✦ Gender.



B. Changes in Agrifood Production

The contribution of the Agriculture sector to the GDP decreased in 2008 to about 6.8 %. The main export commodities that are contributing to the 6.8% are rice Bananas, Fish, vegetable, flowers and other processed products. The import of agricultural produce is twice the earnings of the sector.

Table 1: Economic indicators from 2004- 2008 and the contribution of agriculture to national economy

Description	Unit	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Real GDP growth	%		4.4	3.8	5.2	5.7
Share of agriculture in national GDP (formal sector)	%	8,2	7,3	7.4	7,5	6,8

Source: Annual Report 2008 from the Ministry of LVV

The increase of world food prices also had its impact on agriculture in Suriname. The revenue of the export of agriculture products went up and there was also an increase in production. This increase in revenue was due mainly to increases in exports of traditional crops: rice and banana.

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in the price of a fixed quantity to quality and range of goods and services for consumption purposes. The CPI is the 'index for the cost of living (COL). There are 297 items in Suriname's CPI package and the price measurements were done in the city and several districts spread over 415 points.



Table 2: *Consumer Price Indices (CPI) and inflation 2006- 2009**

YEAR	All items index average		All items index December	
	index	% change #	Index #	% change
2006	197.4	11.3	202.8	4.7
2007	210.0	6.4	219.7	8.3
2008	240.9	14.7	240.3	9.4
2009	240.6	-0.1	243.5	1.3

* Provisional figures

Inflation computed, based on published figures, may produce rounding errors

Base: October 2000 - December 2000

Ministers of PLOS, Finance and Trade & Industry as well as the Governor of the Central Bank

C. Change in Policies that Affect Agriculture and Rural Life

A national agricultural research board was installed to coordinate the activities of agricultural research in the country. The objective is to bring all the research institutions together and evaluate their program and give guidance to establish an improved thematic demand-driven national research agenda.

The establishment of the department for development of agriculture at the Ministry of Regional Development will improve the quality of life of the maroons and indigenous people in the interior.

The major objectives of the department are to:

- ✦ Guarantee food security in the different regions in the hinterland of Suriname.
- ✦ Introduce improved varieties in the hinterland of Suriname.
- ✦ Implement extension and training activities in Agriculture.
- ✦ Stimulate income generation activities through production for local and export markets.
- ✦ Create employment.



D. Changes in the Institutional Framework for Agriculture and Rural Life

The Ministry of LVV in collaboration with the Ministry of Education started a dependence school program on associate level the use of natural resource in the district Nickerie, the major rice producing district in the country. This enables graduates from the secondary school to stay in this district and be educated in different topics in the use of the natural resources especially agriculture.

The Caribbean Agricultural Health Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA) will be stationed in Suriname. The reasons to station this institution in Suriname are:

- ✦ Suriname will be the only country in the region with a completely integrated agronomic health and food safety system.
- ✦ The system will be setup according to the international standards.
- ✦ The investment in CAHFSA will be done by the Government of Suriname.

The CAHFSA will be fully operational in May 2010.

E. Major Developments in the Thematic Areas that Affected the Performance of Agriculture and the Rural Life

The agricultural sector in Suriname is characterized by crops of rice, banana, and a wide variety of horticultural products, flowers and ornamentals. In addition there is livestock consisting of cattle, dairy industry and the shrimp/fish industry also belonging to the agricultural sector. The various sub-groups operating in the agricultural sector have come to the decision to establish an Agribusiness platform, SAS. The agricultural sector should be vigorously supported, so that its significance for the national economy and agricultural farm households are not further eroded. Continuity is necessary for both the State income and the farm households. The SAS is convinced that through formulation and implementation of a coherent package of identified measures, the contribution of the sector to GDP, food security, employment and income generation may increase significantly.

To achieve its objectives the Ministry of LVV uses a thematic approach to build capacity through training and institutional strengthening of both the private and public sectors.

The introduction and further development of greenhouses was one of the systems that were adapted by farmers. Different crops were tested such as tomato, paprika, celery, cucumber



and cabbage. The adaptation of this method by farmers resulted in cheaper and higher quality of agricultural products. There was less price fluctuation on the market for the products grown in greenhouses.

Farmers were trained in Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) and trace back systems. The training consisted of awareness in using pesticide in a responsible way and alternative methods of plant protection without the use of chemical. The identification of pest with their threshold was also one of the major areas where this training was conducted.

Due to fact that the rules and regulations with respect to residues in vegetable and fruit are strengthened in the Netherlands, which is Suriname's main exporting country, trace back system was also one of the topics that were introduced to the exporters and farmers.

Together with KKF, the Ministry of LVV continues to improve the development of agribusinesses. Farmers in different districts are trained in diverse topics such as administration of cost price calculation, marketing and management. This program will continue until 2010.

The Ministry of LVV followed up on a program that was prepared by IICA in developing sustainable agriculture in Coronie. There were six (6) areas for possible investment:

- ✦ Coconut farming and processing
- ✦ Fruit farming and processing
- ✦ Vegetable production
- ✦ Animal husbandry including bee keeping
- ✦ Rice
- ✦ Tuber production

The total budget was 6.1 million USD and the project would be executed in phases. With the support of FAO, the Ministry of LVV started to implement the pig program in Coronie, which shows great potential.

The Ministry of LVV started with a pilot project in gender mainstreaming. To execute this pilot project a Project Implementation Team was installed. The focus was on three (3) main issues:

- ✦ Awareness in the responsibilities and functions.
- ✦ The importance of gender mainstreaming in agriculture policy.
- ✦ Determination of projects related to gender mainstreaming.



4. RESULTS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGENDA IN SURINAME DURING 2009

Results of the Implementation of the National Technical Cooperation Agenda in Suriname during 2009.

A. *IICA's Contribution to the Repositioning of Agriculture and Rural Life*

During 2009, IICA Suriname continued to support the efforts of the country in the process of further repositioning agriculture and rural life to ensure the realization of the nation's potential in those areas.

The office facilitated and supported the participation of Suriname's delegation comprising His Excellency Keremchend Raghoebarsing, Minister of LVV and Her Excellency Manorma Soeknandan, Ambassador of the Republic of Suriname to the Co-operative Republic of Guyana and the Caribbean Community to the fifth Ministerial meeting and the fifteenth Regional Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA). Both meetings were convened in Jamaica from October 26 to 30. One significant result of the meeting was the election of Dr. Victor Villalobos as IICA's new Director General for the period 2010 – 2014.



Members of the discussion panel and participants of the National Discussion Forum organized by SAS/KKF/IICA, on Nov 5, 2009

In collaboration with SAS and the Kamer van Koophandel en Fabrieken (KKF), the office co-sponsored a national discussion forum with the theme: *“Perspective of the Agricultural Development in Suriname”*. There were fifty-six (56) participants at the Forum, drawn from the public and private sectors. Topics addressed included improvement of Suriname’s export of agricultural products to the Caribbean and increasing value added products in the agricultural sector.

The office initiated and supported the participation of two Surinamese youth Anwar Heslone and Weena Matai-Adjohia in the Second Hemispheric Forum for Young Leaders in Agriculture in the Americas, held in September 2009 in Costa Rica. The two participants engaged in discussions with the 2008 participants to draft a comprehensive programme to encourage youth participation in agriculture.



Participants at the Second Hemisphere Forum for Young Leaders in Agriculture in the Americas

Two issues of the in-house bulletin “Partnership” were published to provide information to the local milieu on IICA’s activities in the country. The publication also highlighted topics of current importance. These included the issues of Food Security and Climate Change. The office also submitted for publication to the Institute-wide magazine COMUNIICA; an article of highlighting its food security experiences in Kwamalasamutu.



Agro/Made in Suriname/ICT Fair



Rainforest Art Festival

The office has participated in and shared information in two major national activities - the Annual Suriname Chamber of Commerce and Fabrics (KKF) Agro/Made in Suriname/ICT Fair and the Rainforest Art Festival with the Theme “Global Warming”. At the KKF fair a booth was set up which highlighted the office’s ongoing activities, including farm rehabilitation and food security activities in Upper Suriname river, Eastern Suriname communities and Kwamalasamutu. At the Rainforest Art Festival the office mounted a display and presented lectures to groups of school children and youth on the effects of Global Warming on agriculture.

B. Promotion of Trade and the Competitiveness of Agribusiness



Member of the Foundation of Agricultural Women (SAV)

The members of the Foundation of Agricultural Women (SAV) increased their production and marketing of vegetable products with the coordinating support of the office which facilitated market linkages. Products marketed mainly to hotels and restaurants increased by 25%. Participating farmers and exporters improved the quality of their products prepared for export following monthly post harvest training activities sponsored by the Ministry of LVV, and which received IICA’s support.



A contract was signed and consultancy assignment initiated for the formulation of a pragmatic handbook and training manual that complies with international procedures and regulations for the export of agriculture products through the Surinamese International Airport. The Terms of Reference were prepared by the office on request from the Suriname Airport Authority and the assignment is funded under the Trade Support Sector Programme (TSSP) of the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

C. Strengthening Agricultural Health and Food Safety Systems

The Office supported the on-going Disease and Pest Surveillance Programme of the Ministry of LVV; this included support of the on-going surveillance programme in Guyana/Suriname border region.

One Suriname technician participated in a Regional Pest Identification Workshop in Grenada with office's facilitation and support.

Support was provided to the Suriname Bureau of Standards in the development of standards for selected agricultural commodities.

D. Promoting the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and the Environment

In collaboration with the Institute for Development Planning and Management (IDPM) the office co-sponsored a roundtable discussion on Permaculture as an alternative technique for crop production and environmental management for hinterland communities in Suriname. Representatives from public and private sector organizations and hinterland communities participated in the forum which was facilitated by a permaculture practitioner from Trinidad and Tobago.



Roundtable Discussion and field visit on Permaculture



Follow-up activities including training and establishment of trial plots have been planned for 2010.

Awareness seminars were conducted for two hundred (200) students on Global Warming and its Effects on Agriculture. Promotional brochures were prepared and distributed.

A follow-up meeting of stakeholders was organized in collaboration with Conservation International (CI) to update participants on developments in agro-energy and biofuel initiatives taken since the roundtable discussions held in December 2008.

E. Strengthening Rural Communities based on the Territorial Approach



Women farmers at Kwamalasamutu



Nursery at Godo-olo

Under an agreement with the Suriname Red Cross (SRC) farm rehabilitation and food and nutrition security activities were implemented in the communities of Godo-olo and Lawa River Basin in Eastern Suriname and Kwamalasamutu in the South. Participating farm households increased their production and consumption of vegetables and improved the food security of their communities. Vegetables produced were also marketed in the communities and to tourist lodges and visitors.

A draft agricultural diversification proposal, prepared at the request of the Organisation for Sustainable Development in Coronie (SDOC) and the Ministry of LVV, was finalized and presented to a stakeholders seminar held in the Coronie District. Specific components of the project are being implemented in the community.



Demonstration plot at Duwatra



Family Chicken Coop project at Kajapaati

Food Security activities also continued in the Upper Suriname region at Duwatra where an ongoing vegetable production programme continued to be supported at Kayapaati on the IICA/SPC Family Chicken Coop project.

Support was provided to the SAV in the design and execution of a Government of Japan funded capacity building programme for the organization’s membership. Members were trained in such topics as Global, GAPs, Integrated Pest Management (IPM), capacity building and, organizational management and as a result improved the functioning of the organization and their production practices.

The office continued the execution of programmed activities under the IICA/ OAS Regional Agrotourism linkages project “*Strengthening of the Tourism Sector through the Development of Linkages with the Agricultural Sector in the Caribbean*”. The Suriname component of the Caribbean agrotourism website was developed in collaboration with a website developer contracted by the regional project coordination and with significant inputs from Surinamese stakeholders. An Accountability Seminar for the Surinamese component of the agrotourism project was conducted for thirty-five (35) local participants to highlight achievements. The office was also represented at a seminar for the regional project held in Barbados.

Ongoing support was provided to the Ministry of Regional Development in the organization of the Department of Agriculture for the hinterland. Members of the Department received training in the utilization of the agromatrix in the planning and implementation of agricultural activities.



F. Introducing Technology and Innovation for the Modernization and Agriculture and Rural Life



Test Rice plot and demonstration of cassava mill at kwamalasangutu

Tests of improved rice varieties were conducted in the Upper Suriname River communities of Duwatra and Kwamalasamutu in Southern Suriname to assist in the process of providing alternatives to the traditional cassava staple. Under the food security initiatives implemented by the office, improved production techniques were introduced to hinterland communities. These included the use of labour saving devices and the use of nurseries to produce planting materials.

The office coordinated and facilitated an entrepreneurial study visit to Guyana to observe integrated production systems and specific production practices, for such areas as humus production using vermiculture and the development of biodigesters utilizing animal waste.

Suriname's participants continue to receive office support in ongoing participation in meetings of Procritopicos, a hemispheric research network.

In Support an initiative organized by IICA Headquarters the office supported and facilitated a representative from Suriname to visit Murcia, Spain in order to observe agricultural technologies with a view to adaptation to local conditions.

The office engaged in discussions with the Anton de Kom University of Suriname (ADEKUS) and the University of West-Indies on the raising of neotropical animal species in captivity. This activity will be continued in 2010.



5. RESULTS OF INTER-AGENCY COOPERATION

In 2009 the office in Suriname continued to work collaboratively to strengthen and deepen relations with strategic partners, clients and other stakeholders in the public and private sector including local, regional and international organizations, in carrying out its mandate in the country. The Ministries of LVV and Foreign Affairs were the principal public sector collaborators.

With the Ministry of LVV the office implemented several joint activities. Other public sector collaborators included the Ministry of Regional Development with which the office collaborated on hinterland development activities; the Ministries TCT; PLOS; ATM; HI; Education and Community Development. Public sector and parastatal organizations with which the office collaborated closely included the TSSP; NCCR; STS and CFS. Within the private sector, existing relations were strengthened with such organization as KFF, Prowest and the Dairy Unions. New relations were forged with the SAS and SAV.

IICA Suriname continued to work very closely with regional organizations including members of the Alliance for CACHE; CAFY and CANROP and local chapters and the University of the West-Indies Faculty of Science and Agriculture.

Relations were strengthened with the members of the Inter-American Systems in OAS, IDB and PAHO and embassies of USA, Brazil, Venezuela and Guyana. Extra regional organizations such as the UNDP; SRC, Peace Corps Suriname, CI and the FAO continued to collaborate with the office.

Education and research institutions such as the Anton the Kom University of Suriname; CELOS; ADRON; IDPM continue to be close collaborators in the process of education and technology generation and transfer.



6. RESULTS OF HORIZONTAL TECHNICAL COOPERATION

The Suriname Office facilitated a visit by two teams from the Ministry of LVV to Trinidad to visit livestock production enterprises. The Office in Trinidad arranged the logistics for the visit. Ideas gathered in Trinidad are being utilized in the restructuring of the state livestock farm.

The Suriname office provided support to the Guyana Office in securing the service of a plant health specialist to investigate the disease on (Musa sp.) in Guyana. A report was prepared and shared with authorities in both countries

The office in Guyana provided support for a Suriname office technician and agro-entrepreneur to undertake a study tour of agricultural enterprises in Guyana. The team observed such practices as small scale hydroponics, vermiculture, biogester installation and operation and integrated farm management systems at the St. Stanilaus Farm. The knowledge gained is being utilized in the planning and execution of production activities in Suriname.

A Ministry of Agriculture consultant was facilitated by the offices in Suriname, Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago to conduct market studies of the demand for agricultural products in those countries. A report was prepared and information disseminated to producers, exporters and technicians.



7. NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION

IICA Suriname will continue to collaborate and work with partners in the public and private sectors for the development of agriculture and rural life in the country. Continued efforts will be devoted to, among others:

1. Assist the Ministry of LVV with the implementation of the Agricultural Sector Plan (ASP).
2. Support the Ministry of LVV in the intensification of its Agricultural Diversification Programme.
3. Intensify efforts aimed at enhancing food security in vulnerable communities.
4. Support the Ministry of Regional Development in strengthening their department of agriculture in the interior.
5. Intensify relations with research institutions such as CARDI, Embrapa, Procitropicos.
6. Strengthen programmes for youth in agriculture.
7. Support and strengthen SUNROP and other women groups involved in agriculture.
8. Support the national efforts in the development of biotechnology and biofuels.
9. Strengthen existing producer organizations and support the formation of new organizations.
10. Formulate proposals to garner resources to implement selected agricultural and rural development projects in Suriname.



8. MAIN ACTIVITIES ORGANIZED BY IICA

#	IICA SURINAME EVENTS
1.	Agrotourism Roundtable Discussions for Development of Agrotourism website/ January 16, 2009 / IICA Training Center / 17 participants.
2.	Agrotourism Accountability Seminar “Strengthening of the Tourism Sector through the Development of Linkages with the Agricultural Sector in Suriname” / April 16, 2009 / Spice Quest Conference Room / 39 participants
3.	Roundtable Discussion “Permaculture”/ May 15, 2009 / Conference Room of the Anton de Kom University of Suriname / 34 participants.
4.	SAV “Capacity Building Orientation workshop” / June 12, 2009 / SAV Market at the Commewijne District / 25 participants.
5.	Stakeholder Discussion Forum: “Perspective of the Agricultural Development in Suriname” / November 5, 2009 / KKF Conference Room / 56 participants.



9. LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

BULLETINS

1. Partnership Issue # 18
2. Partnership Issue # 19



REPORTS/ DOCUMENTS

1	2008 Suriname Annual report: IICA's Contribution to Agriculture and the Development of the Rural Communities in Suriname, January 2009.
2	Report on Permaculture Roundtable and follow-up activities, May 2009 by Mrs. T. Feurich.
3	Agro-tourism Accountability report: Strengthening of the Tourism Sector through the Development of Linkages with the Agricultural Sector in the Caribbean, April 2009 by Mr. H. Sijlbing.
4	Concept Raamwerk Actieprogramma ter ontwikkeling van duurzame bevolkingslandbouw in het district coronie, januray 2009, by Mr. W. R. Caldeira and Mr. H. Ormskerk.



ACRONYMS

ATM	Ministry of Labour, Technological Development and Environment
AHFS	Agricultural Health and Food Safety
ASP	Agricultural Sector Plan
CABA	Caribbean Business Association
CACHE	Caribbean Council of Higher Education in Agriculture
CAFY	Caribbean Agricultural Youth Forum
CANR♀P	Caribbean Network of Rural Women Producers
CARAPH	Caribbean Regional Agricultural Policy Network
CARDI	Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CATIE	Tropical Agriculture Research and Higher Center
CELOS	Center for Agricultural Research Suriname
CI	Conservation International
CTA	Technical Centre for Agriculture and Rural Cooperation
CTO	Caribbean Tourism Organization
CWA	Caribbean Week of Agriculture
EMBRAPA	Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation
EPA	Economic Partnership Agreement
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
IABA	Inter-American Board of Agriculture
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
IICA	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture
KKF	Chamber of Commerce and Fabrics
LVV	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries
NCCR	National Coordination Center of Disaster Relief
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NH	Ministry of Natural Resources
OAS	Organization of American States
OECS	Organization of Eastern Caribbean States
OIE	World Organization for Animal Health
PADF	Pan-American Development Foundation



PAHO	Pan-American Health Organization
PLOS	Ministry of Planning and Development Cooperation
PROCITROPICOS	Cooperative Program on Research and Technology Transfer for the South American Tropics
SAS	Agricultural Association in Suriname
SAV	Foundation of Agricultural Women
SIDALC	Agricultural Information and Documentation Service of the Americas
SRC	Suriname Red Cross
SURALCO	Suriname Aluminum Company
SUNR♀P	Suriname Network of Rural Women Producers
RGB	Ministry of Physical Planning, Land, and Forestry Management
RO	Ministry of Regional Development
TCT	Ministry of Transport Communication and Tourism
TSSP	Trade Sector Support Programme
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
WAHID	World Animal Health World Animal Health Information Database
WAHIS	World Animal Health Information System



IICA OFFICE IN SURINAME

Address: Letitia Vriesdelaan 11, Paramaribo-Suriname

Tel: (507) 410861 / 478187 / 410951

Fax: (597) 410727

P.O.Box 1895, Paramaribo

E-mail: iica@sr.net

Website: www.iica.int/suriname