



**Grenada**

## Significant achievements in 2015

- The Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) developed the capacity of extension staff to analyse and adapt farming and management practices and transfer such knowledge through the various extension tools and approaches to help farmers better adapt to climate change. The 31 extension staff who participated identified some of the *indigenous practices* which farmers must adopt to assist in adapting to climate change, and the extension tools and methodologies to help them disseminate such information to farmers. At a field exercise subsequently, 36 extension officers and farmers validated the practices, tools and methodologies for transferring climate change adaptation measures to farmers.
- IICA's involvement improved the performance of farmer groups to strengthen their socio-organizational and agribusiness management through a training event for 20 goat farmers, in order to address more effective group functioning and the roles and responsibilities of group members. The participants improved their skills in group dynamics, the importance of farmer groups to have competent management, and organization of a goat farmers' association.
- IICA promoted *family farming* in 20 primary schools in Grenada, an initiative that impacted 'young minds'. In collaboration with the 4-H Department of the Ministry of Agriculture, 56 primary school students in five of the island's six parishes participated in discussions on backyard gardens, agriculture as a lifestyle, and the linkages between agriculture and the family. Also, IICA provided each 4-H'er with seeds and seedling trays to take home and practise seed germination, nursery maintenance, and planting.
- In light of deteriorating soil health in Grenada, IICA collaborated with the Ministry of Agriculture and GIZ and took decisive actions to assist over 50 farmers in improving their soil health through composting. The system developed and being evaluated uses a series of compost bins involving a range of materials mainly from the farm, together with Sargassum Seaweed that was deposited along the seashores of Grenada. The series of hands-on training involved extension staff from the Ministry of Agriculture and farmers.
- IICA, in collaboration with the University of the West Indies (UWI), conducted a Regional Workshop on Sustainable Soil Management



and Adaptation to Climate Change. Eight Grenadians, three Kittisians/ Nevisians, and three St Lucians benefited. Participants were able to identify some of the gaps for improving land management, which included a) the development of a national strategy for sustainable land management; and b) soil management indices to evaluate soil health at the national, community and farm levels. These will form the basis for subsequent intervention by the different countries that were represented in the course.

- Nineteen farmers and extension officers increased their awareness and

understanding with regard to mitigating the effects of climate change using good agricultural practices and integrated pest management, thanks to a training event on Climate Smart Agriculture in relation to Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) and Integrated Pest Management (IPM). Participants were provided with an overview of climate change and the consequences of global warming and its impact on every aspect of life, including agriculture. They also examined both protected agriculture and open field cultivation in order to better understand some of the practical constraints of adapting good agricultural practices on those farms.

