

Important achievements in 2016

- A workshop co-financed by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) involved thirty-five participants from Guyana and Suriname for the preparation of a disaster risk management framework and specific instructions to generate agriculture risk maps for flood, drought, pest & diseases, as well as saline intrusion, which will become an instrument to support relevant stakeholders in the agri-environment in improving their technical and decision-making capabilities for the development of agricultural production systems that are resilient to climate change.
- 53 participants from the public and private sectors, civil society and diplomatic corps in Guyana, Suriname and Brazil, were made aware of the ongoing surveillance plans for the Carambola Fruit Fly, and discussed a new project to continue CFF monitoring and surveillance activities within the three countries along their borders.
- An Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) pilot project implemented with the Ohio State University, the Guyana Livestock Development Authority (GLDA) and the University of Guyana allowed for a sampling process of birds at slaughter facilities and retail outlets. The initial report concluded that the major challenge with AMR appears to be at the level of the points of sale; however, the incidence is 1%. The private sector, along with the ministries of agriculture, health and environment were all partners with the local poultry producers and IICA.
- The National Drainage and Irrigation Authority (NDIA) identified selected sites for water catchments with support from IICA. These sites will benefit village residents in the North Rupununi, which had been affected repeatedly by droughts. IICA, in collaboration with the NDIA and the Local Democratic Organization, responded in the wake of the El Nino report which highlighted the need for adaptation and mitigation measures to combat droughts and other forms of water deficiencies in the North Rupununi. As a result, the Government of Guyana approached the Government of Brazil to facilitate the construction of eight deep wells in the South Rupununi, which will assist in expanding agricultural development.
- The Traceability Project, implemented by CARDI, IICA and GLDA, and supported by the APP, a program financed by the EU, provided funding to GLDA and NAREI for ear tagging of small ruminants in Regions 5, 6 and 9; record keeping, forages and pasture training to implement adaptation and mitigation measures against droughts in these regions. Thirty farmer-steads benefited and thirty five national participants were empowered to improve or establish traceability systems.
- One Health, One Caribbean, One Love, a part of the APP and SPS funded program, supported the One Health Leadership series regionally and the training of first responders to animal health diseases in the Caribbean. The project positively influenced the lives of approximately 3,500 residents, including students

in seven nursery, primary and secondary schools, thanks to training and simulation exercise involving the GLDA, the Ministry of Public Health, Farmers' Groups and the armed forces.

- The CARICOM/IICA Technical Cooperation Agreement signed will support regional strategies to deepen integration and build resilience to enhance agriculture's contribution to economic stability and a better quality of life for CARICOM citizens.

- Additionally, National Coordination Mechanism (NICO) workshops, funded by the regional SPS EU project, garnered information on the status of food control in Guyana and form part of the analysis of the status of food control systems in the Caribbean.
- A *CODEX* regional project executed with Chile and funding from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and involving Suriname, Guyana, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago and St. Lucia, supported participating countries in developing and strengthening their *Codex* systems and preparing procedural manuals to facilitate food safety activity in their individual countries.

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