



XIX Regular Meeting of the
Inter-American Board of Agriculture

AN INSTITUTION RICH IN **HISTORY** THAT IS **BUILDING**
THE FUTURE OF **AGRICULTURE IN THE AMERICAS**

San Jose, Costa Rica | October 25-26, 2017



Guyana

Most significant results 2010-2017

- **Innovations to strengthen resilience to climate change.** Through several joint projects, IICA promoted the development of activities to strengthen agriculture's resilience to climate change. One of these initiatives was a workshop co-financed by UNDP for the preparation of a disaster risk management framework as well as agriculture risk maps, in order to improve the technical and decision-making capabilities of producers and agricultural stakeholders from Guyana and Suriname. Protected agriculture systems were encouraged by CARDI, the Ministries of Agriculture and Education, FAO, National Agricultural Research and Extension Institute (NAREI) and other partners through the building of shade houses and hydroponic systems. Best practices in water harvesting and management, such as rainwater harvesting and drainage techniques used in Guyana for urban and agricultural areas, were shared among specialists from the Caribbean region, following a visit to the Demerara Conservancy and the Hope Canal.
- **Improving apiculture.** Young beekeepers from rural communities received training in beekeeping techniques and management as part of joint initiatives by the Ministry of Agriculture, IICA, FAO and Partners of the America, among other agencies for the improvement of the activity within the country. The Perone Improved Hive was introduced to be used by the Guyana Apiculture Society for apiary management.
- **Fighting the Carambola Fruit Fly.** IICA implemented the Carambola Fruit Fly (CFF) project for monitoring the impact of the pest in bordering communities of Guyana, Brazil and Suriname. Activities carried out under this project, coordinated with the Ministry of Agriculture of Guyana, and authorities in Brazil and Suriname, included technical capacity enhancement, updating of information, development of operational manuals, baiting and trapping of flies (with technical assistance from the Brazilian EMBRAPA) and creation of surveillance plans. The potential loss of CFF, if not managed, is about US\$20 million.



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- **Enhancing the capabilities of rural women groups.** Access to and improvement of communication and management capabilities were areas in which IICA supported rural women groups. The establishment of the Women Agro-processors Development Network (WADN), with collaboration from IICA, provided more recognition to these groups and the possibility of receiving training and obtaining competitive prices for building materials. For example, the Institute implemented a project in the Caribbean that strengthened the organizational skills and entrepreneurship of the women through the use of the Self-Learning Guide, and rural women groups benefited by purchasing select packaging materials in bulk, which was then, resold to members. This initiative resulted in a revolving fund being established and managed by the WADN itself. Two members of WADN also received AHFS training from IICA to certify their processing facilities, through the Guyana Food & Drug Administration.
- **More products from Guyana in Canadian markets.** IICA and the Canadian Trade Facilitation Office (TFO) worked hand in hand to improve the readiness and capabilities of Guyana's agro-processors to export to Canada. Several companies in Guyana were able to send trade missions to Canada to establish contacts and obtain first-hand information on markets. In fact, several companies received audits from potential Canadian buyers and three were selected to begin exporting, while the rest continued to receive training from IICA and TFO.