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IICA



SUPPORT TO IMPLEMENTING COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES

BETWEEN

LATIN-AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN INSTITUTIONS

50
1942-1992
FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

anniversary

Workshop Proceedings

*Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago
December 13, 1991*

IICA
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"WHAT IS IICA?"

The Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) is the specialized agency for agriculture of the inter-American system. The Institute was founded on October 7, 1942 when the Council of Directors of the Pan American Union approved the creation of the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences.

IICA was founded as an institution for agricultural research and graduate training in tropical agriculture. In response to changing needs in the hemisphere, the Institute gradually evolved into an agency for technical cooperation and institutional strengthening in the field of agriculture. These changes were officially recognized through the ratification of a new Convention on December 8, 1980. The Institute's purposes under the new Convention are to encourage, facilitate and support cooperation among its 32 Member States, so as to better promote agricultural development and rural wellbeing.

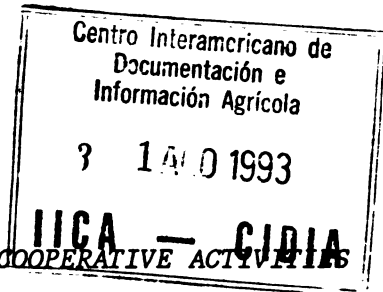
With its broader and more flexible mandate and new structure to facilitate direct participation by the Member States in the activities of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA) and the Executive Committee, the Institute now has a geographic reach that allows it to respond to needs for technical cooperation in all of its member states.

The contributions provided by the Member States and the ties IICA maintains with its 13 Permanent Observer Countries and numerous international organizations provide the Institute with channels to direct its human and financial resources in support of agricultural development throughout the Americas.

The 1987-1993 Medium Term Plan, the policy document that sets IICA's priorities, stresses the reactivation of the agricultural sector as the key to economic growth. In support of this policy, the Institute is placing special emphasis on the support and promotion of actions to modernize agricultural technology and strengthen the processes of regional and subregional integration. In order to attain these goals, the Institute is concentrating its actions on the following five Programs: Agricultural Policy Analysis and Planning; Technology Generation and Transfer; Organization and Management for Rural Development; Trade and Agroindustry; and Agricultural Health.

The Member States of IICA are: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, St Lucia, St Kitts and Nevis, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, the United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela. The Permanent Observer Countries of IICA are: Arab Republic of Egypt, Austria, Belgium, Federal Republic of Germany, France, Israel, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania and Spain.

LICA-CIDIA



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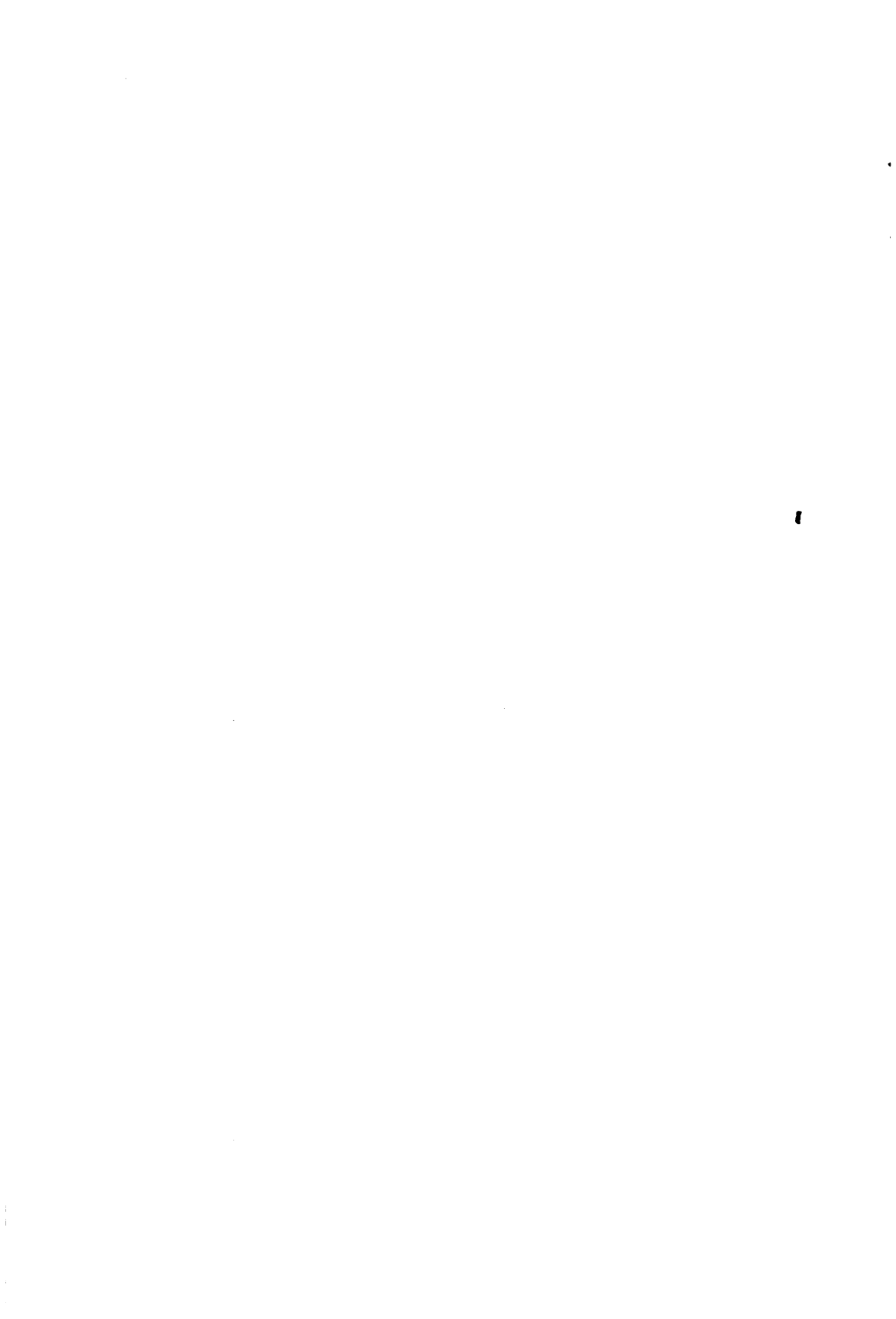
May 1992

Castries, St Lucia

**"The views expressed in signed articles are those
of the authors and do not necessarily reflect
those of the Inter-American Institute for
Cooperation on Agriculture."**

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AVRDC	Asian Vegetable Research and Development Centre
CARDI	Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CARIRI	Caribbean Industrial Research Institute
CATIE	Tropical Agriculture Research and Training Centre
CIAT	International Center for Tropical Agriculture
CRU	Cocoa Research Unit (UWI)
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
IABA	Inter-American Board of Agriculture
IICA	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture
OAS	Organization of American States
RISPAL	Research Network on Animal Production Systems in Latin America
SCMA	Standing Committee of Ministers Responsible for Agriculture (Caribbean)
UWI	University of the West Indies



1. BACKGROUND

The workshop was organized as a baseline activity of IICA's Multinational Project Facilitating Latin-American/ Caribbean Linkages and Transfer of Technology for Agricultural Development. It aimed at defining specific areas of concentration and outlining workable strategies to materialize concrete cooperative activities between the two regions. It gave special consideration to broad themes of cooperation in progress or proposed, involving relevant Caribbean and Latin-American countries/institutions.

The workshop was conducted as indicated in the attached programme (Annex 1). It was attended by fourteen participants, representing six concerned institutions from the Caribbean (Annex 2). The Caribbean Community Secretariat, also invited, could not be represented due to previous commitments.

2. INSTITUTIONAL STATEMENTS

The representative of each participating institution presented an oral statement stressing particular areas of interest for Caribbean/Latin American cooperation. More detailed information and views were provided during the ensuing discussions. The institutional statements are summarized as follows.

2.1 UWI

As part of its strategy to conduct research and training in support of agricultural development in the Caribbean, the University's Faculty of Agriculture welcomed possible cooperation with Latin America on the following four broad themes.

2.1.1 Agricultural Sustainability

UWI's views on agricultural sustainability link Caribbean and worldwide agriculture. It focuses on redressing farming practices which cause permanent deterioration to Caribbean agro-ecosystems. As a result, the University is developing innovations aimed at modernizing agriculture while reducing negative impacts on the natural resource base.

2.1.2 Crop Industry

The University is striving to develop novel technologies for optimum production of non-traditional fruit tree and vegetable crops, that could boost Caribbean competitiveness in world trade. It sees Biotechnology (especially tissue culture) as a valuable tool to help achieve that objective.

2.1.3 Livestock Industry

According to UWI, development of the livestock industry has received lesser priority than that of crops in the Caribbean. To address this imbalance, it is emphasizing livestock research and training as a key component for overall agricultural development in the region. Consequently, it has assigned high priority to small ruminants (principally sheep and goat), focusing especially on:

- Reproduction physiology
- Nutrition
- Feed Development
- Breeding (dual purpose)

2.1.4 Policy Evaluation

UWI considers that CARICOM national and regional policies for agricultural development need to be harmonized and in certain areas, rationalized. Through its Department of Agricultural Economics, the University is focusing on Macroeconomic Policy from four angles:

- Perspective
- Rationalization
- Strategies
- Research

2.2 CARDI

CARDI identified three broad categories of activities in which cooperation with Latin America should be established or strengthened, as follows.

2.2.1 Translation of Documents and Training

The translation of technical documents, from Spanish (or Portuguese) to English (and vice-versa), would facilitate the two-way flow of information needed to incite or broaden institutional Latin-American/Caribbean research/development linkages for agricultural modernization.

Additionally, increased training in Spanish provided to English-speaking professionals from the Caribbean would contribute to sustain the exchange.

2.2.2 Networking

CARDI noted that IICA has established large, well structured research/development networks in Latin America which could be extended to include the participation of Caribbean institutions. Moreover, similar horizontal cooperation mechanisms could be organized and supported by IICA to address special needs of the Caribbean. For example, IICA's technical assistance could facilitate:

- 1) setting up the proposed Central-American/Caribbean Vegetable Development Network, linking CARDI, CATIE and AVRDC or
- 2) broadening joint efforts undertaken by CARDI and CIAT for forages development, by involving related Latin-American mechanisms such as RISPAL.

2.2.3 Special Projects

With the specific institutions or countries (named in brackets), CARDI would like to undertake cooperative projects in:

- Integrated Pest Management (Honduras Pan American School of Agriculture and the University of Florida).
- Agroforestry for Sustainable Agriculture (CATIE, CIAT and IICA)
- Sheep and Goat (meat/dairy), especially on production systems development and breeding (Mexico and Brazil).
- Post-Harvest Handling of Fruits and Ornamentals (Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Costa Rica)

- Seed Production Technology (CIAT and IICA)
- Biotechnology (Cuba, OAS and IICA)

2.3 CARIRI

CARIRI informed that its work centres on food and agro-business. But the Institute is planning to develop linkage with primary agriculture (including crop and livestock production).

It hopes to cooperate with IICA on developing fruit processing machinery (eg fruit pulper), and with the CARICOM Secretariat and UWI, in innovating agricultural (field) mechanization machinery. It is already interfacing with CIAT to design and build machinery for rice production in Trinidad and Tobago.

2.4 ECLAC

ECLAC considers that its role to support agricultural development in the Caribbean still needs to be more properly defined. Nevertheless, it is already prepared to facilitate cooperative Latin American/Caribbean activities in at least four specific areas, as follows.

2.4.1 Spanish Language Training

Cooperation with IICA is envisaged.

2.4.2 Technical Cooperation Projects

Funding could be obtained from the United Nations Development Programme.

2.4.3 Secondments for Professionals from Caribbean Institutions.

Professionals from Caribbean Institutions could be attached for short periods (one year or less) to relevant institutions, such as the University of Monagas in Venezuela, through the Simon Bolivar Initiative Programme.

2.4.4 Information Exchange

ECLAC could include in its regular newsletter or special publications, information of relevance to Latin-American/Caribbean Cooperation.

2.5 CRU

The Cocoa Research Unit conducts research and offers graduate training at the level of Master of Philosophy (MPhil). It is interested in pursuing exchange of information and germplasm with relevant Latin American institutions for cocoa production/marketing improvement.

2.6 IICA

IICA indicated that it has received a specific mandate from the Inter-American Board of Agriculture, its highest governing body, to facilitate linkages between Latin-American and Caribbean countries and institutions. To comply, it has undertaken several initiatives including

the Multinational Project Facilitating Latin-American/Caribbean Linkages and Transfer of Technology for Agricultural Development. The Project complements others encompassed in IICA's Plan of Joint Action for Agricultural Reactivation in Latin America and the Caribbean (PLANLAC) approved by IABA in October 1989.

IICA has identified key countries and institutions in Latin America from which the Caribbean may benefit in its drive to diversify and modernize agriculture, within a perspective of sustainability. In particular it matches the following four potential development areas with specific countries (in brackets).

2.6.1 Rural Agro-industry

(Colombia, Chile, Brazil, Argentina).

2.6.2 Non-traditional Fruit Crops

(Brazil, Costa Rica, Chile, Puerto Rico, Mexico)

2.6.3 Ornamental Crops

(Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Venezuela)

2.6.4 Sheep and Goat

(Brazil, Mexico).

3. STRATEGY FOR ACTION

Based on the institutional statements and outputs of ensuing discussions, the Workshop participants agreed on an Agenda of Latin

-American/Caribbean Cooperation for Agricultural Development (Table 1).

The agenda comprises eleven broad themes, divided into specified areas of concentration.

Each area is led by one institution, seconded by others as needed, all drawn from only those present at the Workshop, to ensure immediate commitment.

The representative of each Lead Institution accepted the responsibility involved and agreed to co-opt others deemed relevant to the corresponding area of concentration but not represented at the Workshop.

IICA was requested by the Representatives of the other five institutions to provide Secretariat support for implementing the Agenda. In particular, the Secretariat was made responsible for:

- formulating the Agenda
- presenting the formulated Agenda for endorsement to relevant parties at country (Ministry of Agriculture) and region (CARICOM Secretariat) levels.
- supporting implementation of assigned responsibilities to be undertaken by each Lead Institution and,
- monitoring results, to steer inter-regional/institutional cooperation.

4. FOLLOW-UP OF THE WORKSHOP

4.1 LEAD INSTITUTIONS

Each Lead Institution will prepare and forward to the Secretariat, a Position Paper on its area of responsibility, as indicated in the Agenda, including:

- Background (problem/potential)
- Current institutional efforts in the Caribbean
- Proposals for inter regional/institutional cooperation.

4.2 SECRETARIAT

The Secretariat, when requested, will forward to the Lead Institutions and other interested parties, available information from Latin America, relevant to the areas of concentration stipulated in the Agenda.

- Through the CARICOM Secretariat, it will present the Agenda to the SCMA for endorsement.
- Based on the Position Papers IICA Secretariat will prepare Plans of Action to support the materialization of the Agenda endorsed by SCMA.
- Through its Director of Operations (Caribbean Area), IICA will submit the Plan for endorsement to the IABA, through the corresponding biennial budget.

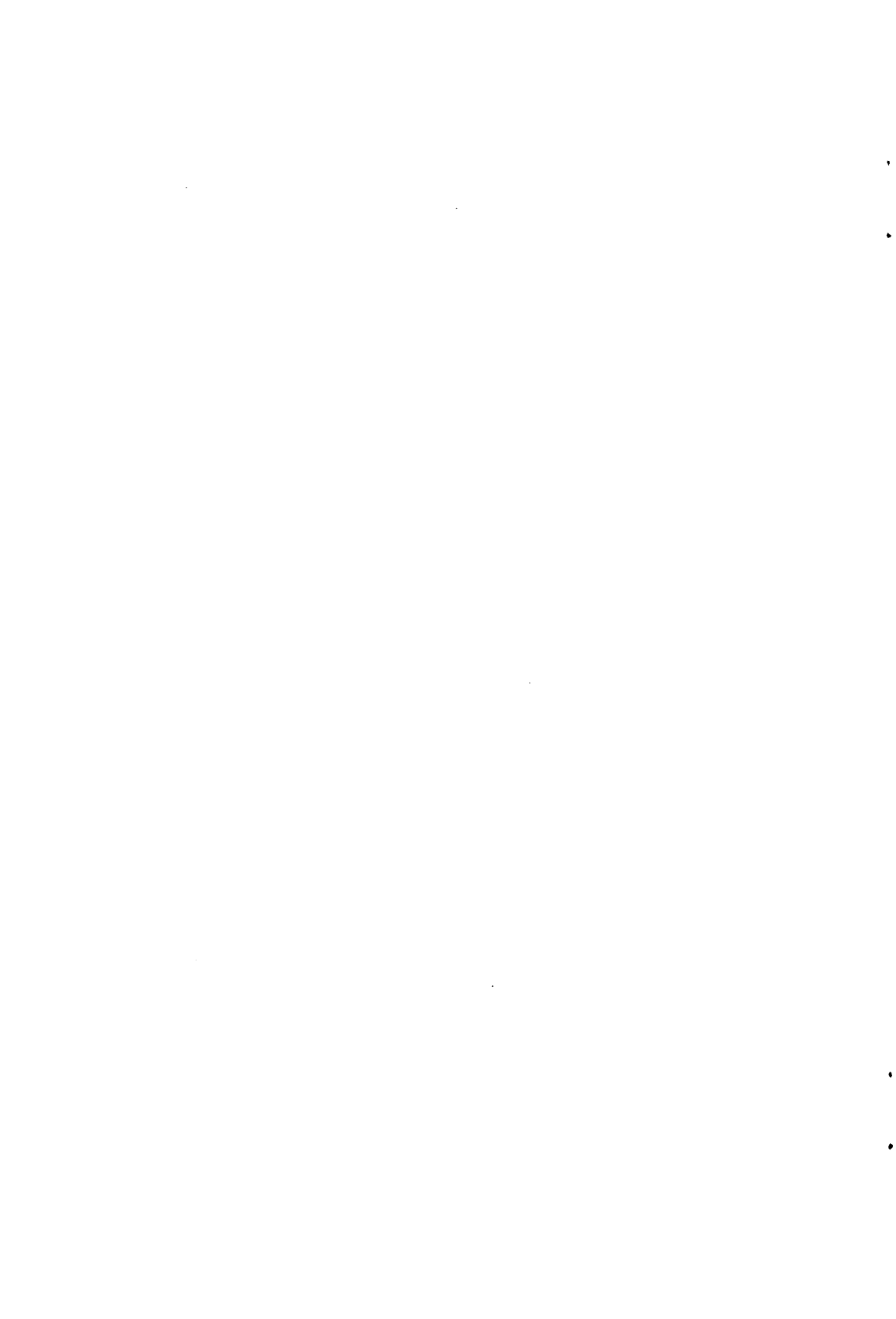
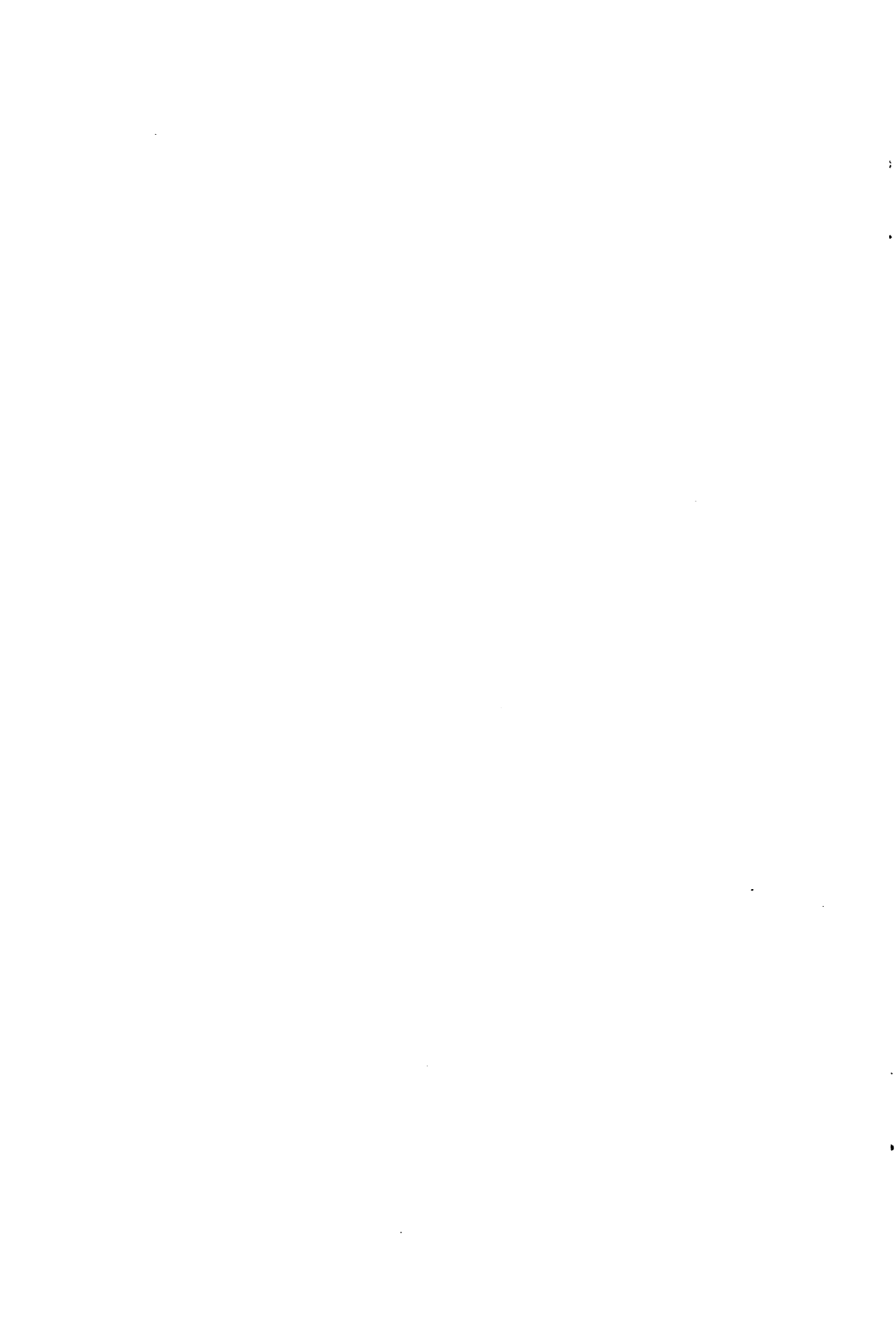


TABLE 1. AGENDA OF LATIN AMERICAN/CARIBBEAN COOPERATION FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

THEME		AREA OF COORDINATION	INSTITUTIONS LEAD RESOURCE	
1. Sustainability	1.1	Natural Resource Management	UWI	IICA
	1.2	Agroforestry Systems	UWI	IICA
2. Fruit Crops	2.1	Germplasm exchange	IICA	CARDI
	2.2	Production, Processing and Marketing	IICA	CARDI
	2.3	Agroindustry	CARIRI	IICA/CARDI
3. Ornamental Crops	3.1	Germplasm exchange	IICA	CARDI
	3.2	Production, processing, marketing	IICA	CARDI
4. Vegetable Crops	4.1	Germplasm exchange	CARDI	UWI
	4.2	Production, processing, marketing	IICA	CARIRI
	4.3	Agroindustry	CARIRI	IICA
5. Small Ruminants	5.1	Germplasm exchange	CARDI	UWI
	5.2	Reproduction physiology	CARDI	UWI
	5.3	Production systems	CARDI	IICA
	5.4	Production economics	CARDI	UWI
	5.5	Nutrition and feed development	CARDI	CARIRI
	5.6	Agroindustry	CARDI	CARIRI/IICA
6. Macroeconomic Policy	6.1	Impact on agricultural sustainability	ELCAC	UWI/IICA
	6.2	Structural adjustment	ECLAC	UWI/IICA
7. Seed Technology	7.1	Production	CARDI	IICA
	7.2	Processing	CARDI	IICA/CARIRI
	7.3	Marketing	CARDI	IICA
8. Biotechnology	8.1	Genetic resource management	UWI	CARDI/IICA
	8.2	Livestock embryo transplant	UWI	IICA/CARDI
	8.3	Industrial processes	CARIRI	UWI/CARDI
9. Machinery	9.1	Pre-production	CARIRI	CARDI/UWI
	9.2	Production harvest	CARIRI	CARDI
	9.3	Post harvest	CARDI	CARIRI
10. Training	10.1	Spanish Language	ECLAC	UWI/IICA
	10.2	Biotechnology	IICA	UWI/CARDI
	10.3	Current issues on agricultural development, modernization and sustainability	IICA	UWI/CARDI
11. Information	11.1	Animal/Plant Health	ECLAC	IICA
	11.2	Current issues on agricultural development, modernization and sustainability	ECLAC	IICA



ANNEX 1. PROGRAMME

December 13, 1991

- 0900 - 1200: IDENTIFICATION OF COOPERATION NEEDS OF CARIBBEAN INSTITUTIONS**
- **Institutional Statements**
 - . **University of the West Indies (UWI): J Duncan**
 - . **Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI): S Parasram**
 - . **Caribbean Industrial Research Institute (CARIRI): E Luke**
 - . **United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UN/ECLAC): D St Aimee**
 - . **UWI Cocoa Research Unit (CRU): J Spence**
 - . **Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) R E Pierre**
 - **Discussion**
 - **Synthesis**
- 1200 - 1300: Lunch**
- 1300 - 1645: STRATEGY FOR INTER-REGIONAL ACTION**
- **Discussion**
 - **Recommendations**
- 1645 - 1700: CLOSING REMARKS**
- **UWI**
 - **CARDI**
 - **CARIRI**
 - **ECLAC**
 - **CRU**
 - **IICA**
- 1700: END**



ANNEX 2. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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Autor

Support to implementing cooperative activities between Latin-American and Caribbean institutions for agr. deve.

Fecha Devolución

Nombre del solicitante



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