

ANNUAL REPORT

IICA 1983

(SUMMARY)



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(SUMMARY)



SUMMARIZED ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1983

INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR COOPERATION ON AGRICULTURE

INTRODUCTION

This summary of IICA's 1983 Annual Report, prepared especially for the General Assembly of the Organization of American States, adheres to the guidelines established in a note sent last May 30 to the Director General of IICA by the General Secretariat of the Organization. It was prepared on the basis of the 1983 Annual Report of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture, and covers the period from January to December, 1983.

The recommendations contained in Res.AG/Res.331(VIII-O/78) of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States, entitled "Preparation of reports on the organs, agencies and entities of the Organization," were carefully followed in preparing this report.

More detailed information can be found in IICA's Annual Report.

ORIGIN, LEGAL FOUNDATION, STRUCTURE AND PURPOSES

The Institute is a specialized agency for agriculture in the inter-American sphere. It is active in the economic, social and political context of the Member States. The governments dictate the Institute's general policy, on the basis of continuous change in the economic, social, political and institutional processes underway in the countries.

In October of 1942, the Governing Board of the Pan American Union approved the establishment of the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences. In January 1944, the Institute's multilateral Convention was opened to the signature of the American countries. In 1970, the Board of Directors passed a resolution to amend the Convention, expanding the spheres of action and strengthening the Institute. The text of the new Convention was opened to the signature of the American States in March 1979, and ratified on December 8, 1980.

The Institute's purposes are to encourage, promote and support the efforts of the Member States to achieve their agricultural development and rural well-being. The Convention visualizes the following approach for achieving the Institute's purposes: 1) Promoting reinforcement of national institutions, 2) Formulating and implementing plans, programs, projects and activities to reflect the requirements of the governments of the Member States, 3) Establishing and maintaining cooperative ties with the Organization

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of American States and with governmental and non-governmental authorities pursuing goals similar to those of the Institute, and coordinating its efforts with them, and 4) Serving as an organ of consultation, technical practice, and program and project management in the agricultural sector, through agreements made with the OAS or with other national, inter-American and international agencies and entities.

IICA's governing body is the Inter-American Board of Agriculture. This Board holds regular meetings every two years, and it is made up of all the Member States, presently totalling twenty-nine. The Second Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture took place in Kingston, Jamaica from October 24 to 28, 1983, by invitation of the Jamaican government. The other governing body is the Executive Committee, made up of twelve Member States elected to two-year terms, following an order of precedence established by the Board. The Executive Committee holds regular meetings every year, and one of its duties is to serve as a preparatory committee for the meetings of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture. In 1983, the Third Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee took place from August 4 through 12 in San Jose, Costa Rica, with a second sitting from October 19 through 22 in Kingston, Jamaica.

The Institute's executive body is the General Directorate, headed by the Director General, who is the legal representative for the Institute and is responsible for carrying out the duties and mandates of the Board. The Institute is headquartered in San Jose, Costa Rica, and presently maintains offices in twenty-nine countries throughout the Hemisphere.

PROGRESS MADE IN FULFILLING MANDATES, RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

The Director General, in compliance with Resolutions 13 and 14 approved by the Second Special Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture, has implemented guidelines for IICA's institutional action, as outlined in the documents on General Policies and the Medium-Term Plan. The most important steps taken include:

- a. Professional personnel of the highest calibre and broadest experience possible have been recruited, selected, and appointed to the Institute's managerial and technical positions.
- b. Instruments have been prepared for implementing actions. These include guidelines for analyzing the present state and outlook for each program, guidelines for analyzing the present state and outlook for each country, and guidelines for preparing project profiles and projects as such.

- c. A system has been adopted for reaching institutional agreement with the countries to determine high priority areas, and reaching technical agreement for defining and formalizing projects to be conducted. Much emphasis has been placed on this process, in order to maximize local participation in defining and preparing projects to be carried out in the countries and at the multinational level.
- d. Projects underway and new project profiles have been reviewed in a participatory process, so that their format and technical content can be improved and better oriented toward achieving meaningful results.
- e. A technical team has been structured to carry out programs and projects, and specialists have been assigned to locations that will enhance their opportunities for contact with problems to be solved and improve their operational efficiency, in line with the process of concurring with the countries.
- f. Key personnel have participated in a training system on institutional subjects and for professional upgrading.
- g. A new institutional organization has been designed and adopted for assigning responsibility and delegating authority to the different units, in order to maximize coordination and efficiency in Institute operations.
- h. A reporting system was established, in tune with the information needs of supervision, follow-up and decision-making, and with the needs of the Member States and other target organizations working with the Institute. This system was adopted in response to Resolutions IICA/JIA/Res.34(II-E/82) and IICA/JIA/Res.29(II-O/83), concerning the uniform reporting system for all agreements and contracts covering extra-quota projects.
- i. Proposed rules were drawn up for personnel, program-budget, finances and accounting, to be submitted to the consideration of the Executive Committee and the Inter-American Board of Agriculture.
- j. The Institute's accounting system was revised so that computerization can take place, in the future, this will facilitate accounting tasks and financial control.
- k. IICA's operating units strengthened their capabilities for identifying and managing projects and attracting external resources for use in formulating and implementing projects in the member countries to contribute to their agricultural development and rural well-being. The Investment Projects Center and the Directorate of External Financing were set up for this purpose.

- l. The Institute has maintained permanent, coordinated visibility on the international scene by participating in relevant international gatherings.
- m. Public information and institutional support actions have been intensified and enhanced with the establishment and reinforcement of the Directorate of Public Information and Institutional Support. Its activities include use of the news media to publicize the Institute and its achievements.
- n. Coordination and cooperation with other agencies has been systematized in an effort to formalize institutional relations through the signing of appropriate legal documents.
- o. Personnel management systems have been improved, and for this purpose the Directorate of Human Resources was restructured and staffed with specialized personnel.

The Inter-American Board of Agriculture held its Second Special Meeting in Costa Rica from October 27 to 29, 1982, and approved 25 resolutions. Progress made on resolution IICA/JIA/Res.13(II-0/82), covering the General Policies of IICA, and IICA/JIA/Res.14(II-0/82), on the 1983-1987 Medium-Term Plan, was discussed at the beginning of this chapter. Action taken to comply with resolutions on relations for cooperation and coordination are also covered in a separate chapter.

This section will give a brief summary of progress made in fulfilling the Board's mandates on institutional subjects.

Resolution IICA/JIA/Res.18(II-E/82) calls for modifications of the Rules of Procedure of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture, the Executive Committee and the General Directorate of the Institute. Accordingly, the Director General proposed a number of modifications of style, including corrections of translation errors, and several modifications of substance for the Rules of Procedure. The proposals were discussed by the Board in its Second Regular Meeting, held in 1983, and approved in Resolution IICA/JIA/Res.36 (II-0/83).

Resolution IICA/JIA/Res.22(II-E/82) of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture gave the Director General power of attorney in order that he fully exercise the attributes conferred on him by the 1979 Convention and the Rules of Procedure. As a result, the Director General inscribed his power of attorney in compliance with the laws of Costa Rica, the Institute's base country.

Resolution IICA/JIA/Res.24(II-E/82) calls for negotiation of the basic agreements with the Member States. This negotiation process became necessary with the entry into force of the Institute's new Convention. Accordingly, the Director General approached the governments of the countries to discuss the signing of new basic agreements on privileges and immunities for the Institute. He

provided a standardized model for the agreement, which specifies the scope of IICA's juridical capacity and legal standing, its privileges and immunities as an international organization, privileges and immunities for its personnel, and the establishment of permanent liaison mechanisms with the countries. The model also describes procedures for amendment, resolution of conflicts and entry into force of the new basic agreements. The documents were signed with Saint Lucia, Suriname and Dominica in 1983.

IICA's General Policies state that specific program criteria are to be established in advance by the Institute's governing body in order to facilitate the task of analyzing and setting priorities. All new program proposals should contain the information necessary for applying these criteria. For this purpose, the Director General, in compliance with resolution IICA/JIA/Res.26 (II-E/82), presented the requested criteria proposal to the Second Regular Meeting of the Board, held in 1983. The document was approved by resolution IICA/JIA/Res.39(II-0/83).

In compliance with resolution IICA/JIA/Res.32(II-E/82), on the commemoration of the bicentennial of the birth of the Liberator Simon Bolivar, IICA joined the celebrations held by the Republic of Venezuela. From October 23 to 28, during the Second Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture, in Kingston, Jamaica, a graphic documentary display was presented of work done by IICA with resources from the Simon Bolivar Fund. Various graphic and documentary exhibitions were held with public information on Fund action in countries that had benefited from projects financed with resources from the Simon Bolivar Fund. Ceremonies were held on the "Day of the Americas" in IICA's Central Office and National Offices, and especially dedicated to the memory of the Liberator. Finally, copies of the resolution were sent in formal notes to the presidents of the Member States, the ministries of foreign relations, and the ministries of agriculture.

Resolution IICA/JIA/Res.33(II-E/82) covers the level and use of overhead, and in response to its instructions, the General Directorate of IICA carried out an analysis of all projects with external funding, to measure overhead costs incurred by the Institute in implementing these projects. A report was presented to the Second Regular Meeting of the Board, held in Jamaica, and approved in resolution IICA/JIA/Res.30(II-0/83).

IICA'S ACTIONS IN THE COUNTRIES

The Institute should encourage, promote and support the efforts of the Member States to achieve their agricultural development and rural well-being.

In order to meet its goals, IICA concentrates its technical cooperation actions in ten programs approved by the Inter-American

Board of Agriculture. These programs are channels for tracing and defining high priority problems and action strategies that will bring solutions appropriate to the agricultural sector.

Below is a summary of IICA's major actions in 1983. They are presented by programs, projects and centers, and further subdivided by geographic distribution. Table 1 shows the volume of national projects in each program and country, and Table 2 illustrates the program and geographic distribution of multinational projects.

Program I: Formal Agricultural Education

The purpose of the program is to work with the Ministries of Agriculture and Education and with teaching institutions at the intermediate, university and postgraduate levels, to provide support in the planning, development and evaluation of educational programs designed to train professionals in the numbers and quality required by the countries. The program seeks specifically to develop inter-institutional cooperation and to design and implement curricula.

Central Area

Production plans were drawn up for five farms belonging to agricultural schools in Costa Rica. Curriculum evaluation and revision was performed for the national agricultural schools in Honduras and the Dominican Republic, and teacher training was provided in schools in Esteli and Rivas, Nicaragua. A special training program was prepared in Panama.

Andean Area

The basic needs were identified and a profile prepared for a degree in agricultural engineering in Bolivia. Training was provided for 866 professionals in various fields through the National Agricultural Training Program in Colombia, and educational outreach and cooperation activities took place with five Peruvian universities.

Southern Area

Formal and nonformal training was provided for young people and adults, in support of rural development efforts in the Brazilian states of Rio de Janeiro, Espiritu Santo, Ceara, Pernambuco and Amazonas. The focus in Chile was on determining the country's needs for technical cooperation in intermediate education. A similar approach was used in Paraguay for planning and in-service training in the agricultural and forest education subsystem.

Program II: Support of National Institutions for the Generation and Transfer of Agricultural Technology

This program places special priority on national research and technology transfer systems so that research findings can be improved, organizational structures can be upgraded, and capabilities for responding to new demands can be increased. It also seeks to improve coordination with organizations such as universities, development agencies, and farmer organizations.

Central Area

Special attention should be drawn to the project "Specific IICA/Simon Bolivar Fund support of the Master Plan for Integrated Agricultural Development of the North Transverse Belt" in Guatemala. It has made significant contributions to the development and adoption of methodologies for farm planning by farmers themselves and by farm service agencies.

Research and technology transfer activities took place in Honduras, and as a result, the national livestock research plan was finalized, and specialists and ranchers received training. Research and training activities in Nicaragua produced crop technologies for the humid tropics and guidelines for cacao, rubber, oil palm, peach palm, pineapple, plantain, cassava and other crops.

Caribbean Area

The project "Support for cassava and peanut production" was active in 1983. Seventeen cassava cultivars were identified, staff members received in-service courses in farmer training systems, and support was provided in the development of appropriate technologies for cassava and peanut in Jamaica.

The project "Research and technical cooperation with regional agricultural agencies" helped strengthen relations with the Caribbean Agricultural and Development Institute (CARDI), the University of the West Indies and the Caribbean Food Crops Society, by means of participation in studies and seminars in the region.

Andean Area

The project "Support for the CENICANA institutional research model" is of special note. It has opened new doors to cooperation with private organizations that are helping to find technological solutions to problems of national agricultural production, in this case, in Colombia.

Another project which has had an important impact is "Information on Andean farming systems in campesino communities," in Peru. This project examines problems affecting native Andean food crops that are vitally important in the food supply of the campesino

population of the region. The project has developed more efficient, effective production systems and has bound binds together multi-institutional efforts.

Southern Area

The project "Technical cooperation to reinforce agricultural research in Brazil" is providing the Brazilian Agricultural Research Institute with highlevel international and national professionals through a system for recruitment, selection and supervision. The work will clearly provide a model for similar situations in the future.

The "Cooperative Agricultural Research Program IICA/Southern Cone/IDB" has operated to the full satisfaction of the six participating countries. It is also considered successful by the international organizations that are working in the framework of the cooperative program, including IICA and the IDB, because it has developed a mechanism for horizontal technology transfer and has contributed to improving research programs in fields covered by the project.

Program III: Conservation and Management of Renewable Natural Resources

Program III works to improve institutional and technical skills in national and regional institutions for the conservation and management of renewable natural resources, particularly soil, water (irrigation and drainage), forest and wildlife.

Central Area

An agro-climatic map was drawn up for sugar cane in Costa Rica. A number of activities in the Dominican Republic involved legislation and planning of water resources, organization and institutional reinforcement, training in the use of mechanisms and procedures for land and water conservation, and the formulation and negotiation of projects to obtain external financing for irrigation, watershed conservation, and energy forest development.

Caribbean Area

IICA worked in conjunction with the Artibonite Valley Development Agency in Haiti to design, prepare and negotiate Phase Three of the "Project for reconditioning the Artibonite Valley Irrigation and Drainage System."

Andean Area

In Venezuela, IICA cooperated in the Seventh Venezuelan Field Day for Irrigation and Soil Management and presented two technical papers.

The project for integrated watershed management and rational hillside use in the department of Ancash, Peru continued with research to develop appropriate technologies. A drip irrigation module was installed, and work was done in demonstration fields with 38 community groups.

Southern Area

An important action was the Latin American Irrigation Seminar, organized and held in Santiago, Chile.

The program's major actions in Brazil focused on the northeastern states, where national agencies received support in the development and use of irrigation systems, in irrigation management for crop production, and in training irrigation specialists.

National institutions in Uruguay received support in their soil conservation and irrigation projects in the Tacuarembó and Rivero regions.

Program IV: Animal Health

Livestock productivity in the region is very low due to the presence of African swine fever, hog cholera, and other diseases such as piroplasmiasis, anaplasmosis, foot and mouth disease and brucellosis. Resulting economic losses are significant.

Program IV provides the countries with technical assistance for the prevention and reduction of economic losses caused by animal diseases.

National animal health institutions receive support for improving their infrastructure and services. At the same time, standardized legislation and procedures are drafted and promoted to facilitate national and regional programs for efficient, coordinated disease prevention. The program supports the establishment of a network of well equipped diagnostic laboratories and an efficient, up-to-date regional animal health information system. Close cooperation is promoted among national, regional and international organizations, such as PAHO, OIRSA and FAO.

IICA's Director General called the First Meeting of the Animal Health Commission (COINSA), in compliance with Resolution IICA/JIA/Res.15(II-E/82) of the Second Special Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture, held in October 1982. The resulting COINSA meeting took place in Mexico in October 1983.

The eradication of African swine fever in Haiti was the most significant national project. Approximately 450 000 swine were exterminated, and owners were legally compensated. AID has approved a project written by IICA for the intermediate swine repopulation phase in Haiti.

The operations of Program IV take place primarily through regional multinational projects in each area.

Central Area

The project for the eradication of screwworm in Central America and Panama was drafted. At the same time, a differential diagnosis of African swine fever laboratories in the Central American countries was performed, and support was given to the Central American Network of Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratories.

A diagnostic study in Panama examined the animal health infrastructure of the Ministry of Agricultural Development (MIDA).

Caribbean Area

A study of the prevalence of different serotypes of bluetongue virus was completed in various countries of the Caribbean, and a study on tick control was prepared for Jamaica and Barbados. A project profile was completed in Saint Lucia for eradication of Amblyomma variegatum.

A project was written in Grenada for the construction of a diagnostic laboratory and quarantine facilities, and support was provided for the preparation of a livestock production project in Suriname.

Andean Area

The multinational project for Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru provided a channel for a series of actions to coordinate the work of diagnostic laboratories, especially in Ecuador, where hog cholera diagnostic work began.

Support was also provided to the Peruvian Livestock Health Office for its brucellosis and bovine tuberculosis control and eradication programs in the areas of dairy production and rabies control.

An IICA agreement with the Venezuelan Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry reinforced the country's Animal Health Program.

The Livestock Production Office of the Colombian Agricultural Institute received special support, with emphasis on disease control and the operation of diagnostic laboratories. The Colombian Veterinary Products Company (VECOL) was assisted with antirabies vaccine production.

Southern Area

Support was provided to assist the Brazilian National Animal Health Program in establishing the Pedro Leopoldo Central Reference Laboratory (LANARA), in preparing a development project for the

National Livestock Support System, and in freeing the states of Rio Grande do Sul, Santa Catarina and Parana of African Swine Fever.

The second meeting of Directors of Diagnostic Laboratories in the Southern countries (LABSUR II) took place in Uruguay in October 1983.

A project to cooperate in the planning and development of the National Animal Health Service programs (SENASA) in Argentina had been expanded to include special efforts for detecting residues in beef, in order to meet international market requirements. Work also continued with the Regional Animal Health Training Center in Argentina.

The Chilean program to eradicate classic swine fever (hog cholera) received special support in field work, in the diagnostic laboratory and in biological control.

A project was developed in Paraguay for the prevention and control of classic swine fever (hog cholera), infectious horse anemia, Newcastle disease and exotic diseases. Special progress was made in reinforcing institutional infrastructure, especially for the implementation of surveillance and quarantine services in airports and border stations.

Program V: Plant Protection

The overall economy and agricultural income of all the countries are suffering from the loss of foodstuffs and other agricultural produce to plant pests and diseases.

Program V provides technical assistance to prevent and reduce economic losses caused by these pests and diseases.

National plant protection institutions receive support through this program for improving the infrastructure and services they require. Standardized legislation and procedures are drafted to facilitate the development of efficient, coordinated national and regional pest and disease prevention programs.

Hemispheric Coordination

The Plant Protection Program worked in 1983 with the many plant protection organizations in the region and in the countries. It held a series of four regional meetings, with the support of the agrochemical industry, to harmonize criteria on labeling, registration, ownership and accuracy of data used in pesticide registration in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Bibliographic reference books were published on blue mold of tobacco, witches broom and moniliasis of cacao, and other publications were also completed.

Central Area

A compilation of plant protection legislation in the area was published. A regional seminar was held on plant protection problems, and studies were completed on lethal yellowing of coconut, post-harvest losses, black sigatoka of banana, and moniliasis of cacao. Four training courses were given on plant protection, and a course was held on pesticide residue management.

Caribbean Area

A study was made of the incidence of pests and diseases in banana plantations of the Orange Grove National Sugar Company, and research was conducted on the impact of moko disease on the economy of Grenada. Contact was made with the Danish Seed Pathology Institute, concerning the development of a project on seed pathology for the Caribbean. A bibliography was prepared on crop pests in the Caribbean, and a document was written on onion diseases in Barbados. In Dominica, the project "Technical support to reinforce plant protection services" went into operation.

Andean Area

A map was developed of post-harvest losses. Five training courses focused on various plant protection topics. Twenty-five maps were prepared on the epidemiology and geographic distribution of the major plant protection problems affecting cotton, sugar cane and cacao. A publication in Spanish was completed in Tingo Maria, Peru, entitled "Epidemiological study of coffee rust."

Southern Area

The most important activities in this area include eight training courses on plant protection, publication of plant protection laws in the Southern Area, publication of pesticide legislation in the Southern Area, bilateral agreements between Chile and Peru for Mediterranean fly control, and the plant protection information and documentation project in Argentina. In addition, the Plant Protection Ad-Hoc Committee for the countries of the Southern Area was consolidated.

Program VI: Stimulus for Agricultural and Forest Production

This program began operations in 1983. It offers cooperation in shaping national policies to encourage production and to identify, formulate and carry out development plans for agricultural, forest and fishery production. It also offers support in developing administrative and operating mechanisms to improve implementation and inter-institutional coordination for promoting production. Two types of country-level action are envisaged: a) developing agricultural and forest production for different farmer groups

and organizations, and b) developing the production of specific crops. Maximum use is made of information exchange and reciprocal technical cooperation among national and international institutions.

Central Area

Two Simon Bolivar Fund projects, one in the Zapotitan district in El Salvador and the other for a regional agricultural production model (MOREPRA) in Panama, were completed in 1983. They successfully generated operating methods and results that were immediately useful to participating national organizations.

The Cooperative Program for the Protection and Modernization of Coffee Production in Mexico, Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic (PROMECAFE) published eighteen technical documents and three informational bulletins. Forty-eight different training activities benefitted 1 287 technical people in the area. The most important research was the evaluation of rust resistant coffee varieties. PROMECAFE took part in 39 different research projects, some independent and others with national agencies, and successfully sponsored the Sixth Latin American Coffee Production Symposium in Panama, attended by nearly one hundred people.

A project in the Dominican Republic on "Training women in production and marketing" produced methodological guidelines for formulating and implementing production projects with the use of the mass media. The work took place in support of production plans in the Cercado and El Pinar municipalities.

Caribbean Area

Most of the projects of this Program in the Caribbean Area are relatively new. Others are still being formulated as a result of the process of reaching agreement with the countries and identifying priorities. However, positive results have already been obtained in Jamaica, where the technical assistance project for rice development facilitated the establishment of 1 200 ha. of rice.

The Program has also begun to operate in Haiti, where fruit species of economic importance were introduced, adapted and propagated, and an analysis was made of fruit production and marketing. Projects have been prepared in Guyana to develop dairy production, and activities to support small-scale farmers have produced an increase in their production and productivity.

Andean Area

The crop credit insurance projects in the Andean Area will soon be completed. They have had a positive impact, both technically and in the logistic and legal sense, in the three countries where they took place (Bolivia, Ecuador and Venezuela). They developed new forms of farm and livestock insurance, of immediate use to the participating sectors.

A dairy promotion project was formulated and initiated in Venezuela. Activities to train women in agricultural production and marketing were carried out in the Rio Negro Valley of Antioquia, Colombia.

Southern Area

Important results were obtained at the national level in Brazil, with projects in the field of agroenergy. This was due primarily to the strong support received from participating national organizations. The multinational agroenergy project can go into operation after the agreement with OLADE has been signed and negotiations have been held with the countries, and it is expected that the desired impact will be felt.

Program VII: Agricultural Marketing and Agroindustry

National institutions receive assistance for improving their administrative and technical performance in the design of projects for infrastructure development, price stabilization policies, fostering agroindustry, setting quotas, inventory management, food distribution, market promotion and food security. An additional program goal is to encourage efforts to increase small and medium scale farmer income.

Central Area

Action in Mexico was oriented toward reinforcing the Secretariat of Water Resources (SARH), the Secretariat of Agriculture and the Secretariat of Industrial Trade (SECOFI), with special emphasis on training for technical personnel. A manual on methodological procedures, studies and alternatives for bulking centers was written and published.

Activities in the Dominican Republic consisted of training for over two hundred national technicians, and over fifty studies and documents on agricultural marketing were written and published.

Caribbean Area

Small-scale producers in three areas of Barbados received assistance in marketing techniques. Encouragement of root and tuber production led to real growth.

Andean Area

A project implemented with FEDERECAFE in Colombia revised the agroindustry component of five-year plans for the seventeen committees of coffee growers. IICA also worked with OPSA to organize and program agroindustry, and four courses on the principles of agroindustry provided training for 147 professionals. Another project in Colombia was entitled "Marketing strategies for agricultural produce

IICA/COPAGRO/MINAGRI." Study tours were organized for leaders and technicians of the Colombian Federation of Coffee Growers to learn more about experiences with the development of cooperatives and domestic and foreign marketing in Brazil and Uruguay. A course on grain and silo management, taught by internationally known instructors, was attended by technicians from all the grain marketing cooperatives in COPAGRO.

Southern Area

The project "Reinforcement of the institutional marketing subsystem in Paraguay" provided support primarily to the Agricultural Economics Office of the Ministry of Agriculture. A training course was held for 23 technicians from the public sector, with an emphasis on techniques and procedures for interpreting market information. A proposal was developed for an agricultural market information system in Paraguay.

The project "Analysis of export potential for non-traditional extensive farm and agricultural produce" in Uruguay was developed with a methodology for conducting studies and reports on the external market potential of particular products.

Program VIII: Integrated Rural Development

This program cooperates with national institutions in those countries that express an interest in developing policies, models and institutional systems to improve the distribution and use of land. Other activities can include designing projects to help achieve integrated rural development, and preparing personnel for outreach, organization and training of rural dwellers.

Central Area

Support has been provided to the planning and organization of cooperatives for young people in Costa Rica.

Intensive efforts were made in Guatemala to support training activities for the Human Resources Unit of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock. Another project supported programs for campesino organization in several regions of the country.

The Honduran National Agrarian Institute received assistance in formulating and implementing small-scale projects for the agrarian reform sector, and in developing programs for rural women and youth.

Support was provided in the Dominican Republic to the Dominican Agrarian Institute and to the Secretariat of State for Agriculture in programming methods for rural development and in working with farmer associations.

The Project for the Reinforcement of Managerial Skills in Associative Agricultural Production Enterprises (FORGE) is active in Costa Rica, Panama, Nicaragua and Honduras. FORGE went into operation in 1983 and established a National Commission in each country to guide project actions. These commissions are made up of representatives from various agencies involved in organizing and training small-scale farmers. A diagnosis was performed of capabilities present in associative agricultural production enterprises in the four countries, and management training was provided to 1 455 members and 425 national technical people. Nine units for training and advisory services in farm management were established in national institutions as a way of carrying out these actions.

The Training and Study Program on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development for the Central American Isthmus and the Dominican Republic (PRACA) held its first technical meeting in 1983 with an emphasis on small rural development projects, and it was attended by 65 area technicians. The Seventeenth Meeting of Agrarian Reform Executives was also held, and the decision was made to reactivate the project, which had been founded in 1968. Discussion of the project's general future led to the development of a multinational project profile, consistent with the new orientation.

Caribbean Area

A project entitled "Support for the outreach, training and organization of rural women and families" began operations in Jamaica, in cooperation with women's groups.

Andean Area

The major institutions of the public and private agricultural sectors in Bolivia participated enthusiastically in an experiment with participatory agricultural development among minifundia farmers from the Cochabamba valley, the highlands and the tropics (Beni).

Effective methods were developed and adopted for promoting integrated rural development, in support of the Ecuadorian Secretariat of Integrated Rural Development and the community development programs of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock. This was done in the framework of several government-sponsored externally funded projects in areas inhabited predominantly by small-scale farm producers.

Support for the Integrated Development Areas Program, ARDI-AROA, in Venezuela has generated such positive results that the use of the new methodologies has been encouraged for other ARDI projects.

Support was provided in the successful planning and implementation of projects in Alto Huallagas, la Ceja de Selva, and in integrated management of the Ancash watershed.

Southern Area

The "Regional development project for the Argentine coastal area" cooperated with the Technology Councils in the provinces of Santa Fe, Entre Rios and Buenos Aires in 1983. The purpose was to describe prevailing production systems, in addition, appropriate production models, consistent with available technology, were identified. This input made it possible to streamline technology transfer. An international course was held on dairy production and extension, and other training activities were also held.

The Argentine Association of Regional Agricultural Experimentation Consorcia (AACREA) received support in business management. A comprehensive survey was held in preparation for formulating a long-distance training program.

The major achievements in Brazil involved technical support for the introduction and implementation of several integrated regional rural development projects in the states of Amazonas, Ceara, Bahia and Rio Grande do Sul. Special mention should also be made of farmer organization and the development of plantations and technologies for improving the processing of rubber by small producer groups in the Amazonas.

Support was provided to Paraguayan credit users associations, to improve credit management. The country's effort to grant land titles was also supported.

Uruguay received encouragement in its efforts to promote rural development in small farmer areas.

Program IX: Planning and Management for Agricultural Development and Rural Well-Being

Program IX cooperates with national institutions responsible for agricultural sector planning, to improve their skills in planning, management and direction. It also seeks to have an impact on managerial systems at the local, regional and national levels.

More specifically, the program supports efforts to shape institutional policies. Inter-institutional cooperation is sought, and a greater sensitivity to development needs is encouraged. In general, emphasis is placed on activities oriented toward results rather than processes.

Central Area

Considerable progress has been made in Guatemala toward the establishment of a system of coordinated, integrated action by the public agricultural sector, so services can be made available to farmers.

The projects in Nicaragua and the Dominican Republic have been redefined and adapted to ongoing changes in the countries. In both cases, support is being provided to institutions responsible for national, regional and local planning.

The projects in Honduras and Panama were completed during 1983. Specific objectives were obtained in Honduras, with support provided in preparing investment projects. In a second activity IICA supported INA and CONSUPLANE in defining methodologies for the identification, preparation and evaluation of small projects. In Panama, IICA carried out a contract for institutional reinforcement of MIDA and turned over manuals and instructions by prior agreement.

Short-term actions were taken in Costa Rica and El Salvador in response to specific requests by the Sectoral Planning Offices.

The Regional Council for Agricultural Cooperation in Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic (CORECA) was established in 1981 as a permanent consultative body to guide and coordinate policies, plans and programs for development and social well-being in the agricultural sector of Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic. IICA is in charge of CORECA's Secretariat of Coordination. It performs studies and projects and administers reciprocal technical cooperation. Ten project profiles for the region were approved in 1983 in the framework of CORECA. In addition, basic documents were approved to govern CORECA's operations.

Caribbean Area

A project preparation and evaluation course was held in Haiti, with support from CEPI and PROPLAN.

The IICA Offices in Saint Lucia and Suriname received assistance in preparing technical cooperation projects.

Andean Area

The project with the Integrated Rural Development Program (DRI) in Colombia made considerable progress in developing and applying methodologies for integrated rural development project management. This project is now receiving additional resources to apply the newly development instruments in all DRI districts.

Southern Area

The project in Brazil is the continuation of cooperation provided in past years. A newly updated orientation focuses on the formulation, implementation and evaluation of agricultural and rural development projects in the state of Bahia.

Program X, Information for Agricultural Development and Rural
Well-Being

Decision making, policy formulation and the preparation of plans and programs are hampered by the lack of adequate, timely information.

The program coordinates the Inter-American Agricultural Information System (AGRINTER) and maintains cooperative relations with organizations such as the Inter-American Association of Agricultural Librarians and Documentalists (AIBDA) and other international organizations such as ECLA, FAO and UNESCO.

Program operations work directly with information needs in the member countries and regions, and indirectly through other Institute programs. Hemispheric and central operations are coordinated by the Inter-American Agricultural Documentation and Information Center (CIDIA), which provides the technical services described in another section of this report.

Central Area

Work concentrated in implementing national information systems in Guatemala, Honduras and the Dominican Republic.

Caribbean Area

Projects have been prepared for supporting agricultural information systems in Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago.

Andean Area

Efforts in Colombia and Venezuela are still underway to reinforce documentation services and agricultural information systems and networks.

Southern Area

Argentina has a project already underway, supporting the national information system with special emphasis on animal health.

Work in Brazil has focused on supporting the Superintendency of Fisheries (SUDEPE) in setting up and operating a fishery information system. Support was also provided to the National Center for Agricultural Documental Information (CENAGRI) in its training program, through four seminars held for librarians and documentalists on subjects related to IICA's areas of technical action in Brazil.

TABLE 1
NATIONAL PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED IN 1983

P R O G R A M S

COUNTRIES

| <u>CENTRAL AREA</u> | I | II | III | IV | V | VI | VII | VIII | IX | X | TOTAL |
|------------------------|----|----|-----|----|---|----|-----|------|----|---|-------|
| Costa Rica | 1 | | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | 3 |
| El Salvador | | | | | | 1 | | 1 | 1 | | 3 |
| Honduras | 1 | 1 | | | | 3 | | 2 | 1 | | 8 |
| Guatemala | | 1 | | | | | | 2 | 1 | | 4 |
| Mexico | | 1 | | | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 4 |
| Nicaragua | 1 | 2 | | | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | | 6 |
| Dominic. Rep. | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | | 9 |
| Panama | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | | 1 | 1 | | 5 |
| <u>CARIBBEAN AREA</u> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Barbados | | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | | 2 |
| Dominica | | | | | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| Grenada | | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | | 2 |
| Guyana | | 1 | | | | 2 | | | | | 3 |
| Haiti | | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | | 4 |
| Jamaica | 1 | 3 | 1 | | | | | | | | 5 |
| Suriname | | 1 | | | | 1 | | | 1 | | 3 |
| Saint Lucia | | | | | | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| Trinidad and Tobago | | 1 | | | | 1 | | 1 | | | 3 |
| <u>ANDEAN AREA</u> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bolivia | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | | 2 | | | 5 |
| Colombia | 1 | 2 | | | | 1 | 1 | | 2 | | 7 |
| Ecuador | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | 4 | 1 | | 8 |
| Peru | 1 | 2 | | | | | | 1 | | 1 | 5 |
| Venezuela | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | 6 |
| <u>SOUTHERN AREA</u> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Argentina | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | | | 1 | 4 |
| Brazil | 1 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 4 | | 4 | 1 | 2 | 21 |
| Chile | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | | 2 | | | | 5 |
| Paraguay | 1 | 1 | | | | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 5 |
| Uruguay | | | | | | | 1 | 1 | | | 2 |
| TOTAL | 14 | 24 | 11 | 3 | 4 | 21 | 11 | 27 | 14 | 5 | 134 |

TABLE 2
MULTINATIONAL PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED IN 1983

| PROGRAM/PROJECT | SPHERE OF ACTION |
|-----------------|---|
| PROGRAM I | Hemispheric |
| PROGRAM II | Hemispheric Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Dominican Rep., Panama |
| PROGRAM III | Hemispheric Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Uruguay, Paraguay |
| PROGRAM IV | Hemispheric Central Area Caribbean Area Andean Area Southern Area |
| PROGRAM V | Hemispheric Central Area Caribbean Area Andean Area Southern Area |
| PROGRAM VI | Hemispheric Central Area Hemispheric Hemispheric |
| PROGRAM VII | Hemispheric |
| PROGRAM VIII | Hemispheric Costa Rica, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Dominican Rep., Panama Caribbean Area Brazil, Uruguay, Paraguay |
| PROGRAM IX | Hemispheric Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Dominican Rep., Panama Costa Rica, Guatemala, Dominican Rep., Colombia, Venezuela Caribbean Area |
| PROGRAM X | Hemispheric Caribbean Area |

Tropical Agriculture Research and Training Center (CATIE)

In compliance with Resolution IICA/JIA/Res.16(II-E/82) of the Second Special Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture, IICA signed the new CATIE contract with the Government of Costa Rica in February 1983.

In June 1983, CATIE celebrated its tenth anniversary, which coincided with the ratification by the Legislative Assembly of Costa Rica of the new Contract between the Government and IICA. This new contract provides a twenty-year extension of CATIE's operations as a nonprofit scientific and educational association. During 1983, all the countries that were members of CATIE at that time ratified their acceptance of the contract: Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama and the Dominican Republic.

The new contract states that the Inter-American Board of Agriculture serves as CATIE's Assembly and governing body, and the Board has a representative on CATIE's Council of Directors. The Director General of IICA also sits on the Council as Executive Vice President, and is in charge of the on-going tasks of supervision and control of CATIE.

Under the new contract, as in the former one, IICA continues to allow CATIE the use of goods and undertakes to include financial contributions in its biennial Program-Budget to contribute to the Center's basic budget. These amounts shall not exceed five percent of the real amount of IICA's quota budget.

CATIE's research and training activities in 1983 took place at the Center in Turrialba and in the regular member countries. These activities included renewable natural resources, animal production, plant production and graduate training. Some of these activities are briefly described below.

In 1983, the Department of Renewable Natural Resources carried out its activities under three basic programs: silviculture for timber production, agroforest systems, and management of forest areas and watersheds. It also operated two institutional services --INFORAT and the Latin American Forest Seed Bank. During this period, new trial plots were planted with rapid growth sugar cane species.

In the area of animal production, over 25 years of research on Creole and Jersey hybrids was systematized. Conclusions revealed that these hybrids were useful for a stable genetic program, and it was shown that a recurring Creole-Jersey combination is appropriate for the humid tropics. The greatest productivity for animals raised and handled in stables was found in cows produced by the first cross between Creole bulls and Jersey cows, or viceversa.

Plant production research was oriented toward solving technical problems of agriculture in Central America and Panama. In 1983,

the research methodology stage, known as testing/transfer, was intensified. It received active participation from farmers in the region, who worked individually to manage the promising alternatives produced by research on crop production systems. The most important finding of the project in 1983 was the establishment of three prototype teams in Los Santos (Panama), San Carlos (Costa Rica) and Esteli (Nicaragua) to research and develop production system technologies, particularly in the areas of agricultural genotype evaluation, fertility and soil management experiments, and physiological studies.

Resources for research and training grew substantially in 1983. Construction was completed on the "Great Britain" building for IICA's Orton Commemorative Library, and the Tissue Cultivation and Plant Genetic Resource Laboratories were put into service.

Short courses and specialized training events in 1983 provided training for 992 technical people.

The graduate studies program in agricultural sciences and natural resources continued to develop in the areas of plant production and renewable natural resources, under an agreement with the University of Costa Rica.

During the academic year (January to December, 1983), CATIE graduated 21 students with the Magister Scientiae degree and published over 160 documents, including theses, textbooks, and informational materials.

Inter-American Agricultural Documentation and Information Center (CIDIA)

CIDIA's technical action in 1983 provided four services to the countries: numerical information, documental information, data processing and publications.

Numerical Information Service

In recent years, CIDIA has promoted the retrieval and analysis of numerical information on general and specific topics related to the agricultural sector in the countries, to facilitate the preparation of studies and projects on agricultural and rural development at the national level.

The system acquired a data base on production and socioeconomic information from the agricultural sector. These data are provided largely by the World Bank, the United Nations, the International Monetary Fund, AID, the United States Department of Agriculture and the United States Census Bureau. Most of the available historical series contain information on approximately six hundred variables, dating back to 1950 and 1960. The statistical reports are prepared and forwarded to the countries through IICA's National Offices.

In 1983, CIDIA responded to requests from Argentina, Costa Rica, Mexico and Venezuela to develop their own information systems, and promoted technical training activities in the countries.

Documental Information Service

The Documental Information Division, which coordinates the Inter-American Agricultural Information System (AGRINTER), sponsored and coordinated the System's Sixteenth Round Table, held in Peru in June, 1983. This Round Table was attended by 94 delegates from 22 countries and from six international and regional organizations.

During the course of the year, the Division also analyzed approximately six thousand agricultural information records from the countries and entered them into the AGRINTER and AGRIS data bases. It cooperated with IICA's Program X, FAO and the Canadian IDRC in providing courses on information analysis, AGROVOC indexing, and use of the AGRINTER and AGRIS data bases. The technical training was of direct benefit to 130 documentalists in Argentina, Chile, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Peru and Venezuela.

This Division also supplied general information services and prepared 2521 microfiches of nonconventional documents for use by documentation centers in Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic and Panama. During the experimental phase of AGRINTER and AGRIS data base use, forms were designed for receiving and interpreting information requests and for reporting on the results of computerized search.

Data Processing Service

In 1983, CIDIA abandoned the use of interactive processing cards, and the groundwork was laid for installing a telecommunications network. CIDIA also modernized its equipment by acquiring a word processor with four stations and a personal microcomputer, both interactive.

It soon became necessary to acquire a new, more technically advanced mainframe computer. The success of these innovations had increased user pressure, and the General Directorate had set new objectives for establishing a telecommunications network. Present plans call for incorporating IICA into teleprocessing activities, making it possible to design an operating network.

Publication Service

In 1983, IICA's Educational Texts and Materials Series, part of CIDIA's Technical Communications Unit, reprinted nine titles at the request of Latin American institutions of higher agricultural education, and completed the editing of fifteen scientific books.

CIDIA published volume 33 of the journal Turrialba in 1983, as well as volume 15 of the journal Desarrollo rural en las Américas.

Libraries

IICA's three libraries continued to expand their collections and provide bibliographic and training services. The Orton Commemorative Library is located in CATIE, the Rodrigo Peña Library is in the IICA Office in Colombia, and the Venezuela Library is at IICA's Central Office.

Investment Projects Center (CEPI)

CEPI, the Investment Projects Center, was established by IICA in 1982 in response to the countries' needs for identification, preparation and satisfactory implementation of investment projects for the sector.

The Center was active in project identification and formulation in 1983, and provided training in these fields.

Project identification and formulation activities in 1983 included the preparation of technological development projects in Venezuela (PRODETEC), for a total of approximately US\$75 million. Phase Three of the Agricultural Education Program in Paraguay, at a cost of US\$56 million, will reinforce technical agricultural education at the intermediate level. The Screwworm Eradication Project in Central America has an estimated initial cost of US\$200 million to extend the barrier of the pest to Darien, Panama. Smaller projects performed or supported by CEPI ranged from US\$10 million to US\$25 million and were designed for Haiti, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Chile and the Dominican Republic.

Technical advisory services were provided to projects in Costa Rica, Mexico, Honduras and El Salvador.

The Center also provided extensive training. An international course given under an IICA(CEPI)-EDI agreement was attended by 27 specialists from eighteen Latin American countries. National courses were taught in Haiti, Costa Rica and Ecuador and were attended by a total of 64 technicians from these countries. Courses for Nicaragua and Costa Rica were taught in conjunction with agencies of the United Nations System.

RELATIONS OF COOPERATION AND COORDINATION

This section will summarize relations and forms of cooperation and coordination that have been developed with other inter-American and world organizations, stressing the major cooperative activities that have been performed.

General Secretariat for the Organization of American States

IICA-OAS Understanding on Rural Development

Resolution IICA/JIA/Res.17(15-E/82) inspired IICA's efforts in 1983 to hold discussions with the General Secretariat of the OAS on incorporating agricultural and rural development projects into IICA. A report on the subject was presented to the Inter-American Board of Agriculture.

The General Secretariat of the Organization of American States recently decided that as of 1984, the Organization's Program-Budget would no longer include projects or activities in the field of agricultural and rural development. The Second Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (JIA) responded in Resolution No. IICA/JIA/Res.28(II-O/83), instructing IICA's Director General to make every effort so that the General Secretariat of the OAS would request its Member States, the Governments of its Permanent Observers and international organizations that have been supporting the Organization technically or financially in agricultural and rural development programs, to extend their support to IICA in these areas. The Director General was charged to make similar efforts with these governments and international organizations to ensure that support for agricultural and rural development programs would continue uninterrupted in the Hemisphere.

Joint IICA-OAS Group on Food and Food Security

IICA and the OAS worked together to prepare a document entitled "Food Security for Latin America and the Caribbean." It was presented to the regional consultative meeting of ministers, "Food Strategies and Policies in Latin America," held in Quito, Ecuador, from April 25 to 27, 1983.

IICA's Participation in Meetings of the Inter-American System

IICA participated in the thirteenth session of the General Assembly of the OAS, held in Washington, D.C. from November 14 to 18, 1983, and in the ninth special meeting of the Special Commission for Negotiation and Consultation, held in Washington, D.C. on May 17, 1983. IICA was also present in a number of meetings of the OAS Permanent Council, and the General Secretariat sent a representative to the meetings of IICA's Executive Committee and the Inter-American Board of Agriculture.

Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)

On October 4, 1983, a General Agreement for Cooperation was signed between IICA and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) to formalize relations between the two institutions and provide a framework for cooperation in areas of shared interest. IICA was present at the third Inter-American Animal Health Meeting at the Ministerial Level, the 88th Meeting of the PAHO Executive Committee, and the 29th meeting of PAHO's Governing Council.

Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center (PANAFTOSA)

An IICA/PAHO work group was set up in response to IICA/JIA/Res.21 (II-E/82). It prepared a study on the possibility of transferring the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center from PAHO to IICA. The Board then approved Resolution IICA/JIA/Res.27(II-O/83), stating that the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center should remain in PAHO but maintain contact with IICA, under a special agreement. This would guarantee adequate coordination and operating mechanisms in the two institutions.

Inter-American Commission of Women (IACW)

The IICA Office in Washington and the Directorate of the Program for Integrated Rural Development kept up regular contact and coordination with the Inter-American Commission of Women. The Commission President attended the meetings of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture and the Executive Committee in 1983.

The Second Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture approved Resolution IICA/JIA/Res.42(II-O/83), instructing IICA to support the IACW in the Evaluation Seminar on completion of the United Nations Decade for Women.

Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)

IICA participated in the following activities with the Inter-American Development Bank:

Operation of the joint IICA-IDB unit for agricultural project identification and preparation continued, in the framework of IICA's Investment Projects Center. As a result, projects were prepared in Venezuela and Paraguay.

Negotiations with the IDB made progress during the year toward procuring continued support for the Cooperative Agricultural Research Project for the Southern Cone, as charged in Resolutions IICA/JIA/Res.19(II-E/82), IICA/JIA/Res.20(II-E/82) and IICA/JIA/Res.26(II-O/83).

Regular contacts were made during the year with IDB authorities in Washington and in the member countries, to encourage coordination of inter-American technical and financial cooperation in benefit of agricultural development in the countries, and to identify new opportunities for cooperation.

IICA continued implementing projects in the member countries with IDB financing. Of particular note were the "Project for institutional reinforcement of the Ministry of Agricultural Development of Panama" and the agricultural education and research projects in Paraguay.

Agencies and Organizations of the United Nations System

World Bank (IBRD)

IICA reached agreement with the World Bank's Economic Development Institute (EDI) for joint training events on agricultural and rural development project writing in benefit of the countries of Latin America.

Projects carried out with the World Bank cost a total of US\$ 6 112 000, and of special importance was the EMBRAPA agricultural research project in Brazil. Other projects were carried out in Honduras, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador and Chile. Valuable work was done through the IICA-Economic Development Institute (EDI) joint efforts for agricultural project training, which benefited 27 professionals from eighteen member countries.

In 1983, IICA continued to support the UNDP/IBRD/IFAD/IICA Project being implemented by the World Bank for operating a Regional Technical Assistance Unit specialized in project identification and preparation for Central America and Panama. Accordingly, it coordinated training efforts in these fields.

United Nations Development Program (UNDP)

In 1983, contacts were maintained with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in New York, particularly in the area of information exchange for the Caribbean region.

International Agricultural Development Fund (IFAD)

IICA cooperated with IFAD in identifying and preparing projects for integrated rural development in Barbados and Guyana and agricultural diversification and spice production in Jamaica.

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

The Director General of IICA, in a framework of communication with FAO, paid a visit to the FAO Regional Office for Latin America, which in turn sent a team to IICA's Central Office. As a result of these contacts, possible areas of cooperation were identified.

IICA maintains cooperation with FAO in the field of information for development through the AGRIS/AGRINTER System. Technical meetings were held on pesticide harmonization and labelling, jointly sponsored with FAO.

Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA)

Coordination relations were maintained, particularly for the gathering and dissemination of statistical information on the rural sector. Contacts also began for coordinating activities with the new ILPES authorities.

Governments and Institutions in the Observer Countries

IICA's Permanent Observer countries--Austria, Belgium, Egypt, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, the Netherlands, Portugal and Spain--have demonstrated their interest in cooperating for the attainment of the Institute's objectives. This cooperation provides IICA with considerable opportunities to share the experiences of countries on other continents and to expand its available technical, human and financial resources.

In 1983, three Permanent Observers participated in IICA action. The Government of Spain contributed to financing a Latin American seminar on irrigation and drainage, and technical people from the Spanish Agrarian Reform and Development Institute presented papers. Also in 1983, Spain adopted a new system of cooperation with IICA. It provided seven Spanish technical people to work in projects with IICA for an initial period of one year, at no cost to the Institute. The cooperating specialists were headquartered in Costa Rica and assigned to work throughout Central America, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Brazil and Uruguay.

During the year, France continued cooperating with IICA by assigning French personnel to the Investment Projects Center (CEPI) and the IICA National Office in Costa Rica, under a cooperative agreement between IICA and the Office of Overseas Scientific and Technical Research (ORSTOM).

One of the activities sponsored jointly by IICA and the Government of France was a course on project identification and promotion, held in Haiti.

The Netherlands continued to provide financial cooperation with PROTAAL, the Cooperative Research Project on Agricultural Technology in Latin America. In August 1983, during the course of a meeting of IICA's Executive Committee, a general agreement for technical cooperation was signed between the Institute and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries of the Netherlands.

Regional Organizations

IICA formalized cooperative relations with important regional and subregional organizations.

An agreement was signed with the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) in the field of agroenergy. The Director General of IICA attended a meeting on energy at the ministerial level, sponsored by OLADE in Montevideo, Uruguay. IICA and OLADE cosponsored an agroenergy seminar in Maracay, Venezuela.

IICA signed a subregional cooperation agreement with the Secretariat of Central American Economic Integration (SIECA). The Secretariat also attended meetings held by IICA in the framework of CORECA and participated in other events sponsored by the Institute in Central America and Panama.

The Board of the Cartagena Agreement (JUNAC) and IICA signed a new cooperation agreement under which they agreed on areas for joint action. The Director General of IICA attended the meeting of ministers of agriculture with the countries of the Cartagena Agreement, held in Caracas, Venezuela.

Other Institutions in the Member States and Donor Countries

IICA received support from the European Economic Community (EEC) through France, for a project to reinforce managerial skills in associative agricultural production enterprises (FORGE).

IICA also carried out important cooperation actions with other public and private institutions in the Member States and the donor countries. Of particular note are:

The United States Agency for International Development (AID) and Department of Agriculture (USDA), the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the International Group of National Associations of Pesticide Manufacturers, various universities in the Americas, the Canadian International Development Research Center (IDRC), and various international research centers, especially the International Tropical Agriculture Center (CIAT) and the International Potato Center (CIP).

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**INSTITUTO INTERAMERICANO DE COOPERACION PARA LA AGRICULTURA
INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR COOPERATION ON AGRICULTURE
INSTITUT INTERAMERICAIN DE COOPERATION POUR L'AGRICULTURE
INSTITUTO INTERAMERICANO DE COOPERAÇÃO PARA A AGRICULTURA**

DIRECCION GENERAL

**Oficina Central — Apartado Postal 55 — 2200 Coronado
San José, Costa Rica — Cable: IICASANJOSE — Telex: 2144 IICA**

HICA CH