

Main achievements

2012

Bahamas

- IICA promoted the modernization of the plant and animal health services of Bahamas by applying the Performance, Vision, and Strategy (PVS) instrument to the country's veterinary services, and facilitating the participation of Bahamian officials in training meetings and events on the Codex Alimentarius, food safety, black sigatoka, and international standards.
- The mechanisms created by the Institute to identify farmers' needs on seven islands made it possible to prepare a basic agricultural development strategy on those islands, and improve the coordination of the efforts of the public and private sectors to tap the country's agricultural potential. This work paved the way for the design of projects aimed at meeting the needs pinpointed, some of which are already at the planning or implementation stage.
- The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) approved and began implementing the Project in Support of Female Craft Artisans on the Exuma Islands, implemented by IICA to strengthen the inclusion of rural women in alternative activities. The project was subsequently expanded to benefit craft artisans living on other islands who are members of the Bahamas National Craft Association (BNCA).
- Three agricultural cooperatives and six producer associations were able to boost their organizational skills and capacity to participate in marketing chains, thanks to the assistance provided by IICA with the conducting of assessments; the creation of groups in the livestock, egg production and aquaculture sectors; the implementation of three agribusiness exhibitions; and the promotion of the purchase of local products by hotels and food service providers. The Institute received support from the Department of Cooperatives and the League of Cooperatives for the work with the three cooperatives, and from the Bahamas Agricultural and Industrial Corporation (BAIC) in the case of the six associations.
- Together with the University of Nebraska and the BAIC, the Institute began implementing a project for the construction of a food processing plant.