



## 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



# Suriname

## Most significant results 2010-2017

- **Training in organic compost production...** Through a train-the-trainer program, IICA transferred knowledge in large-scale, hands-on production of organic compost, to support the development of the organic agriculture industry. The program was aimed at technical personnel from the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries and, through them, at fruit and orchard farmers. An application for mobile devices was developed, which allows farmers to rapidly calculate the nutritional contents of bio fertilizers produced via composting.
- **...and strengthening the organic subsector.** Producers of organic chili peppers, including groups of young farmers, received training from IICA in management skills and policies for accessing the European market. The Surinamese organic agriculture subsector was enhanced through field expert visits organized by the Institute and horizontal cooperation with other IICA Delegations.
- **Support for rural women groups.** Several IICA projects aimed at rural women groups increased their agribusiness capabilities. Some areas covered were governance, management, visibility, establishment of cooperatives, good agricultural practices, food safety and sustainable agriculture. In addition, through joint implementation with the IICA Delegation in Guyana, indigenous women producers received training in project development and exchange of best practices in agricultural production. The capacities for complying with international food safety quality and standards, in the case of agro-processed cassava products produced by clusters of the Suriname Network of Rural Women Producers, were enhanced through the Institute's implementation of the APP program, financed by the European Union.
- **Rehabilitation of soils.** IICA collaborated in the identification of potential capacity rehabilitation of mined-out bauxite soils, and the consequent biofuel production, using three endemic grass species from Suriname, within the framework of a project involving the Ministries of Agriculture and Natural Resources and financed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Based on this work,



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recommendations were made to national authorities, and sensitization on strategies and options for soil rehabilitation, agricultural development and economic revitalization of these areas was done through major forums involving public, private and academic institutions.

- **Integrated risk management.** IICA worked on the strengthening of institutional capabilities to deal with climate change and extreme climatic events through a number of actions. In collaboration with UNDP-Global Climate Change Alliance, the Institute trained public officials to develop, use and store risk maps in agriculture, which were useful in cases of saline intrusion, flooding, drought and pest and diseases. IICA also delivered technical assistance on integrated management of water and soils, irrigation systems for field crops and greenhouses, and preparation for environmental disasters. Furthermore, the IICA Delegations in Suriname and Guyana jointly developed workshops on water management and risk identification, communication and mitigation.
- **Surveillance of the Carambola Fruit Fly.** Regional collaboration between Suriname, Guyana and Brazil for control and eradication of the Carambola Fruit Fly (CFF) was promoted by IICA. This intervention facilitated the strengthening of phytosanitary systems and monitoring mechanisms in the three countries. With assistance from the Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation (EMBRAPA), traps in 15 border communities of the three nations were maintained for effective management of the pest.
- **Promoting the development of agro-ecotourism.** IICA successfully implemented a project funded by UKAid, through the Caribbean Development Bank, to support agro-ecotourism in four indigenous communities of Suriname. The project started with an inventory of community assets, followed by the development of infrastructure and training for local tourism operators and businesses in entrepreneurship, tour guiding and hospitality. In some of the regions, tourism increased by around 400%.