



Guyana

Technical Cooperation

Non-programmed activities: 4

Main contributions during 2013

- IICA took the lead with the Alliance Members to execute the 2013 Caribbean Week of Agriculture and prepared for the first time an official CWA technical Report that clearly identifies the recommendation and follow up necessary by regional and international organizations.
- The signing of a Technical Cooperation Agreement with the Trade Facilitation office of Canada (TFO) will benefit eight producers and agro-processors, the Guyana National Bureau of Standards, and the New Guyana Marketing Corporation. The main purpose of the Agreement (100,000 USD) is to provide specialized training to selected agro-producers and agro-processors for export readiness to North America.
- Horizontal Cooperation between Costa Rica, Belize and Guyana was increased as a result from a visit of high level authorities from the country to IICA headquarters under the “Forum for Leaders in Agriculture- Programme for new Ministers and Senior Executives of Agriculture and Rural Life in the Americas”. Genetic material (corn and black eye peas) from Belize was imported by Guyana for establishing research trails, with the objective of commercialization. Guyana will also benefit from specialized training in improvements in the coconut industry (genetic improvements, agro-processing and pest management).
- Through IICA’s collaboration with the FAO and the Ministries of Education and Agriculture, three Practical Institutional Centres (PICs) received technical and financial (20,000 USD) assistance to facilitate the adoption of shade house technology for vocational institutions. Over 1,200 secondary students passed through the PICs and benefited from hands on experience in shade house technology.
- The Institute is implementing a project in the Caribbean, including Guyana, where is benefiting six women agro-processors groups totaling seventy members. A Self-Learning Guide is being used to strengthen the group’s capacity in organizational skills and entrepreneurship. The project will also develop a 15,000 USD working capital (revolving fund for acquisition of packaging materials and labels).
- The Institute in collaboration with Partners of the Americas (Guyana Office) executed a project “Promoting Alternative Income Generation in Hinterland Communities” to conduct a series of workshops for the training of existing and interested young bee keepers in Guyana. This collaborative project (15,000 USD) focused on two hinterland areas of Alikí on the Essequibo River and Lake Mainstay Village on the Essequibo Coast. A total of forty new young bee keepers were trained and twelve existing bee keepers participated in the refresher courses. An instructional DVD and a Guyana Bee Keepers Manual was also produced and distributed to stakeholders.



- The Institute in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, in an effort to provide continued sustainable livelihood for rural farmers, executed a project (5,000 USD) to introduce an alternative source of cheap fuel and manage animal waste in an integrated farming system. A demonstration low cost polyethylene bio-digester was established on site at the ministry of agriculture compound to serve as a training facility for stakeholders. Biogas is clean, healthy and a cheap source of alternative energy, fuel for domestic households and provide both liquid and solid fertilizer that can be used in crops. Thirty five farmers participated in this project.
- The Institute, through its project “Modernizing Tertiary Education in Guyana”, supported (4,000 USD) the Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry of the University of Guyana on the Curriculum Reform Process. Firstly, the functions and competencies of the course areas were identified and secondly, the course content and matching courses. The main objective of this project is to provide graduates with relevant material to face existing and emerging issues in agricultural science.