



Significant achievements in 2017

Agriculture Opportunity for development in the Americas

St. Vincent and the Grenadines

- IICA strengthened the technical capacities within the Ministries of Agriculture in the Commonwealth of Dominica and St. Vincent and the Grenadines, positioning the institutions to be able to effectively formulate and execute programmes for the development of competitive coffee industries. IICA conducted: i) a study tour to Jamaica for representatives from St. Vincent and the Grenadines, which provided forums for interactions and knowledge sharing with stakeholders across the supply chain of the coffee industry; and ii) a study tour to Costa Rica for technicians from both countries to study the coffee value chain. In both cases, the technicians were able to interact with stakeholders and acquire knowledge on the operation of the various components of the value chain including plant propagation, field production, processing, barism, marketing and the governance arrangements for coffee. IICA also organized a national forum in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, where the experiences and knowledge gained from the tours were shared with eleven stakeholders including the decision makers in the Ministry of Agriculture and private sector interests. CATIE provided the technical assessment in December 2016 on which the current action was based and organized.
- 21 local stakeholders were trained in the construction of ferro-cement tanks for use in harvesting and storage of rainwater for farm irrigation. The trainees included private sector contractors and Ministry of Agriculture technicians, who received intensive training over eight days, on the methodology for the construction of ferro-cement tanks. This initiative was undertaken through a letter of Agreement with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) under which IICA organized and executed the training activity in close collaboration and with logistical support from the Ministry of Agriculture. The recipients of the training are positioned to contribute to enhanced climate smart adaptation on farms to build resilience in the agriculture sector.
- A Ministry of Agriculture technician and local beekeepers of the Beekeepers Association Incorporated (BKAI), have enhanced knowledge of the management of perm-apiculture systems, through the introduction of Perone Hive technology and capacity development training of stakeholders in sustainable production systems for beekeeping. IICA's family agriculture project provided twelve Perone Hives to four beekeepers of the BKAI to establish demonstration hives for evaluation. IICA and the Ministry of Agriculture also organized and implemented a workshop to train 26 beekeepers in the operation of perm-apiculture systems.
- 28 participants representing nine stakeholder institutions have enhanced knowledge and capacities to address climate smart agricultural issues, challenges and practices, and are positioned to articulate for the adoption of appropriate policies to build resilience in agriculture to the impacts of climate change. The result was accomplished through the organization and hosting of two webinars on climate smart agriculture. The first webinar addressed the topic of ***Sub-sectoral climate change impacts: livestock and fisheries***, and involved IICA, the University of the West Indies and the Centre for Environment Fisheries and Aquaculture Science. The second forum was used to present the draft inventory of climate change action in St. Vincent and the Grenadines for approval before publication. The opportunity was also taken to formulate a concept for climate change action, taking into consideration all the issues raised in the CSA webinars from 2015-2017 and the national-level situation.

- Three local producer entities, St Vincent and the Grenadines Network of Rural Women Producers, Women in Agriculture for Rural Development and South-Central Windward Producers Organization, have enhanced capacity for the governance of their organisations and for planning and programming for 2018 and beyond. IICA undertook an assessment of two of the groups using an Organisational Capacity Assessment Tool, which indicated the capacity deficits in the organizations. IICA then undertook three workshops for the organisations, which addressed ***governance, leadership and programme planning, and financial management***. The intervention was coordinated by IICA's project, with some financial support from the FAO.
- Stakeholders in the agriculture sector have enhanced knowledge of the true impact of praedial larceny on agricultural development in St. Vincent and the

Grenadines and in the wider region. IICA organized a forum that was attended by fifty stakeholders including, farmers, fisher-folk, police officers, technicians from the Ministry of Agriculture, the media and others. The forum received presentations from the Ministry of Agriculture, the FAO and a representative from the Jamaica Constabulary Force, which provided information on praedial larceny and its impacts locally, in Jamaica and across the region. Stakeholders were able to compile a list of recommendations for consideration for implementation at the national level. A comprehensive report was compiled and shared with the Ministry of Agriculture and is expected to help in guiding the responses of the lead organization. This exercise was supported by IICA and formed part of the programming agenda for the business thematic network of CARICOM.



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