

Significant achievements in 2014



Suriname

- Within the framework of Train-the-Trainer Program for Organic Fertilizer Production and Quality, 57 staff members of the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries improved their knowledge in large-scale, hands-on compost production.
- Eighty-seven rural women producers and processors of cassava and fruit products in the rural districts of Marowijne, Para, Brokopondo, Saramaca and Wanica were trained in Good Agricultural Practices and Food Safety. This training program was aimed at improving the quality of rural life and inclusion of women in the territories.
- With funding from the Caribbean Development Bank, IICA was able to complete an inventory of community assets for the development of Agro-Ecotourism products for four Amerindian Caribe communities: Powakka, Pierre Kondre, Redi Doti and Casipora. The deliverables of the project also include trail and infrastructural development for tourism and training of 16 local tourism operators and 12 enterprises. Other partners in the project include Equalchances@Green Development, Sustainable Travel International (STI), Tour Operators, and the Surinamese Hospitality and Tourism Training Centre (SHTTC).
- Fruit producers in Brazil, Guyana, and Suriname benefited from effective management of the carambola fruit fly after maintenance was provided for traps in 15 communities close to the borders of the three countries, with assistance from the Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation (EMBRAPA).
- Twenty members of the Surinamese Agricultural Forum for Youth (SURAFY) were trained in Organic and Protected Agricultural Production. Some members are producers of organic chili peppers for the European markets, while others are involved in organic vegetable production. As a result of the training, SURAFY members developed their first joint project of 5 acres organic production of watermelon and eggplant.
- A training program in the propagation of citrus and mango was delivered by IICA at the request of citrus producers in Nickerie. The training included theoretical and hands-on practical sessions for participants in the production of root stock, selection of viable stock, grafting techniques and pruning of citrus and mango. Many of the participants have developed their own fruit plant nurseries and/or orchards.
- Other key issues for Surinamese agriculture supported by the technical cooperation of IICA includes integrated management of water and soils; preparedness plans for environmental disasters, risk, and agricultural insurance; and intensive small ruminant production.