

IICA AND CANADA



SIX YEARS OF A SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIP: 1995-2001 PRELIMINARY REPORT

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ACRONYMS

AAFC	<i>Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada</i>
AIC	<i>Agricultural Institute of Canada</i>
BIOTECanada	<i>Canadian Institute for Biotechnology</i>
CA	<i>Cooperation Agency</i>
CCAA	<i>Canadian Consulting Agrologists Association</i>
CFA	<i>Canadian Federation of Agriculture</i>
CFIA	<i>Canadian Food Inspection Agency</i>
CIDA	<i>Canadian International Development Agency</i>
DFAIT	<i>Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade</i>
FOCAL	<i>Canadian Foundation for the Americas</i>
FRDC	<i>Food Research and Development Centre</i>
FTAA	<i>Free Trade Area of the Americas</i>
HACCP	<i>Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point</i>
IABA	<i>Inter-American Board of Agriculture</i>
ICT	<i>Information and Communication Technology</i>
IDB	<i>Inter-American Development Bank</i>
IDRC	<i>International Development Research Centre</i>
IICA	<i>Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture</i>
LAC	<i>Latin America and the Caribbean</i>
MERCOSUR	<i>Southern Common Market</i>
NAFTA	<i>North American Free Trade Agreement</i>
NFU	<i>National Farmers Union</i>
NGOs	<i>Non-Governmental Organizations</i>
PROCINORTE	<i>Cooperative Program In Research and Technology for the Northern Region</i>
UPA	<i>Union des Producteurs Agricoles</i>
WTO	<i>World Trade Organization</i>

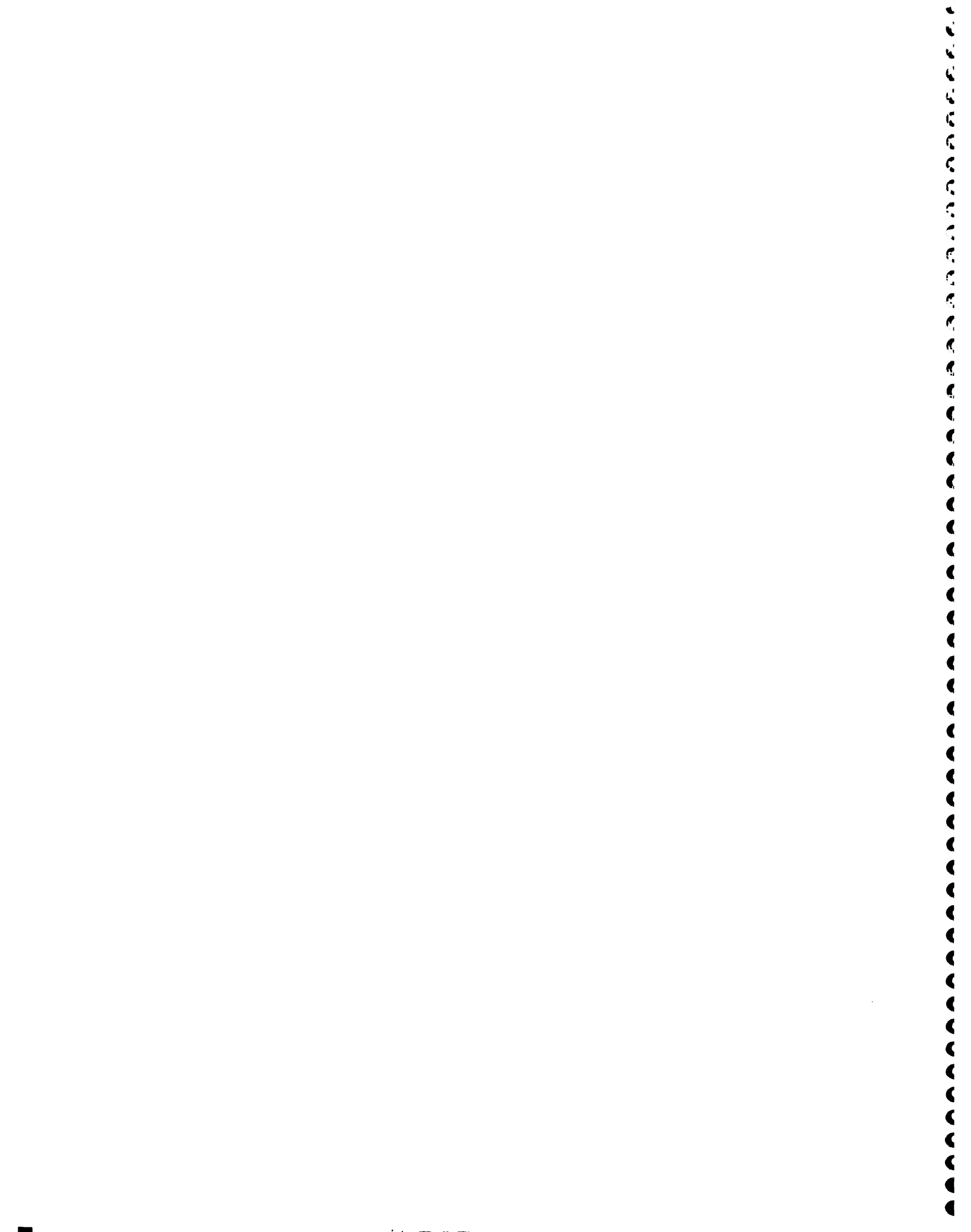


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SIX YEARS OF A SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIP

CONSOLIDATED REPORT - 1995/2001

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents a brief and consolidated description of the activities implemented by IICA-Canada in Canada during the last six years. The successful partnership approach developed by IICA-Canada, during this period, reflects, in many ways, the results of the continuous consultation process started in 1995 within Canada and IICA. This consultation process forms the bases of the solid strategic planning process underway by IICA-Canada. It demonstrates that IICA is committed to following through on its promise of gathering new partners and adding political, cultural and economic values to Canada, particularly in strategic areas such as food safety in international agricultural trade, promoting networks and strategic alliances and supporting Canada's efforts on agricultural information and communication technology initiatives in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) countries.

Initial results from the implemented activities during 1995-2001 are the following:

- ▶ **Seven new agreements signed and 16 (sixteen) new partnerships and strategic alliances** were implemented between IICA-Canada and Canadian organizations and associations. The agreements signed are the following:
 - ✓ Memorandum of Understanding between IICA-Canada and the Canadian Council for Animal Care (CCAC), aimed at strengthening cooperation between the Parties and to focus mutual interest in the broad areas of animal sciences and animal production.
 - ✓ Cooperation Agreement between IICA-Canada and the Agricultural Institute of Canada (AIC) to mutually cooperate in areas of common interest and priorities, including identification, planning and execution of projects in LAC countries.
 - ✓ Cooperation Agreement between IICA-Canada and CESO International Services, aimed at developing mechanisms for mutual collaboration, joining efforts and sharing available resources in the development of programs in areas of socioeconomic policies, trade, science and technology, natural resources and agricultural production, agricultural health and sustainable rural development.
 - ✓ Memorandum of Understanding between IICA, with the support of the Agrifuture Foundation, and the Department of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, concerning the promotion of joint studies with academic and research institutions in Canada.

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- ✓ Memorandum of Understanding between IICA-Canada and CCAA to mutually cooperate in areas of common interest and priorities, including identification, planning and execution of projects in Canada and LAC countries.
 - ✓ Memorandum of Understanding between IICA-Canada and PARTNERS, formerly the Canadian Hunger Foundation, to address poverty at the village level in developing countries.
 - ✓ Agreement Protocol between IICA-Canada, AAFC and the "*Institut International d'Etudes Administratives de Montreal Inc.*" for the organization and co-sponsorship of the "7th Conference of Montreal".
- ▶ **146 Canadian and LAC professionals** were awarded IICA-Canada Internship and Mission Programs and received financial and logistic support to develop their internships and businesses in the Americas. IICA-Canada awarded **104** of these internship and mission programs to **Canadian** professionals, experts, professors, post-graduate students, farmers and agricultural entrepreneurs. At the same time, IICA-Canada awarded **42 LAC professionals** to develop their internships in Canada.
 - ▶ As a result of IICA-Canada internship programs, **13 new opportunities for development** are being discussed and/or negotiated between Canadian and potential LAC partner organizations and associations. Two are in a more advanced stage and are being presented to national and international financial institutions.
 - ▶ **7 exploratory business missions** from Canada sent to the Americas. IICA-Canada awarded **17 Canadian** professionals, from the private and public sectors, to pursue new business opportunities and strategic alliances in LAC countries.
 - ▶ **16 Congresses and/or Workshops** co-organized and co-sponsored by IICA-Canada in Canada and the Americas.
 - ▶ **Expanded IICA-Canada's actions** throughout Canada, with emphasis on Canadian Provinces to become more active partners of IICA-Canada programs. In its first phase of expanding new relationships with the Provinces, IICA-Canada organized and co-sponsored a joint mission with AAFC to the Provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, in 2000. The objectives were to introduce IICA's programs and actions with particular focus on IICA activities in Canada.
 - ▶ **Expanded technical cooperation** for safe agricultural trade, particularly involving AAFC, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and the IICA Network. IICA-Canada also supported the technical collaboration among Canadian and Latin American National Agricultural Health Organizations, through the provision of technical assistance to LAC countries in establishing and/or strengthening their relationship with Canadian official services, research and education organizations.

All participants of IICA-Canada programs were financed by IICA and respond, to a great extent, to Canada's request of adding value to its contribution to the Institute. Given these successful experiences, it is envisioned for the year 2002 and ahead, a promising and ample opportunity for innovative partnerships, as proposed by IICA-Canada to Canada.

THE STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS AT A GLANCE

During initial consultations with Canada in 1995, the Canadian Government indicated that they wanted a new relationship with IICA. They saw the planning exercise as an important step for IICA to define its role in Canada and suggested that Canada and Canadians could play an increasing role in assisting IICA to meet its goals. What Canadians were suggesting was a shift from a donor based relationship to one based on Canada as a partner. The partnership approach was based on enhancing the current relationship of Canada and Canadians as active participants within the IICA Americas network and also fostering the development of interests within the Americas in establishing ties with Canada.

MISSION

IICA-Canada's mission is to "strengthen and facilitate the dialogue between the Canadian agri-food and agribusiness sectors and the Americas and to cooperate with Canadian public and private organizations, universities and NGO's, on their strategies, efforts and actions to establish strategic alliances with the Americas".

VISION

IICA-Canada's vision is to be **Innovative, articulate, strategic** and an **active facilitator**.

Positioning IICA-Canada as the leading Inter-American agency in Canada providing cooperation in order to bring about a comprehensive understanding of agriculture in the Americas and its importance to the Canadian agri-food and agribusiness sectors and rural communities, is IICA-Canada's commitments to Canada and IICA.

GOALS

- ✓ Support the Government of Canada's efforts to expose Canada and Canadian agri-food and agribusiness organizations and associations to the Americas
- ✓ Support the Government of Canada's efforts to promote trade opportunities for Canadian agri-food, agribusiness associations and organizations to the Americas
- ✓ Integrate Canada and Canadians into IICA and their involvement as partners in the Northern Regional Centre (NRC) and its programs; and
- ✓ Strengthen relations between Canada's agri-food and agribusiness sectors and the Americas.

PROGRAMS AND ACTIONS

PROGRAM 1: POLICIES AND TRADE: DEVELOPING NETWORKS AND STRATEGIC ALLIANCES

Over its 59 year history, IICA has placed a great deal of emphasis on developing strong networks throughout the 34 member states. With offices in each country, IICA has developed contacts with a wide variety of groups including research organizations, agri-business groups, farm organizations, chambers of commerce, public sector organizations and officials, and technical cooperation networks. Many times IICA Offices are in an unique position to know both the formal and informal players in particular sub-sectors who are dealing with specific issues.

Many organizations within Canada are interested in the Americas but have limited access to information on which groups are undertaking activities in areas of interest. IICA-Canada positioned itself to facilitate linkages of associations and groups interested in trade and agri-business development. Priority has been placed on a series of activities to facilitate the development of trade between Canada and the Americas, such as the following:

- ✓ Working with each of the IICA regional and national offices to identify interests within the regions and opportunities for linkages to Canada and Canadian organizations
- ✓ Expanding IICA's network in Canada to a broader range of private sector support groups, including sectoral associations, in order to promote Canadian expertise, market conditions and players
- ✓ Identifying areas where IICA can play a role in facilitating the development of trade including specialized areas such as sharing of information on policies and practices between countries, the development of trade policies relating to agri-food products, and assessments of the impact of integration on various groups

IICA-Canada implemented the following actions in support of the development of networks and strategic alliances in the Americas:

ACTION 1: PROMOTING CANADIAN AGRI-FOOD, AGRIBUSINESS INITIATIVES AND EXPERTISE

This action aimed at promoting Canadian agri-food, agribusiness initiatives and expertise to LAC countries. Its goal is matchmaking Canada's interest in exporting services and expertise to the Americas with LAC agribusiness entrepreneurial needs. Its objective is to provide the

means whereby rural individuals and groups in the LAC countries can identify, develop, implement, and profit from the establishment of economically and environmentally sustainable business and employment opportunities. This action embraces three initiatives:

- ✓ Support to Canadian private associations and organizations interested in developing business opportunities and/or joint ventures with LAC organizations.
- ✓ Support to AAFC, Market and Industry Services Branch, in adapting and promoting "The Great Globalization Game of the Agri-Food Market", an initiative of AAFC and UPA. Discussions are already underway to adapt and prepare a new version of the GGG adjusted to the regional trade agreements of the Americas and also to translate it into Portuguese.
- ✓ Support to the Agricultural Institute of Canada (AIC), the Canadian Consulting Agrologists Association (CCAA) and the Ontario Institute of Agrologists (OIA) to raise awareness and opportunities for Canadian agrologists for international work opportunities, technical collaboration and trade opportunities for goods and services.

ACTION 2: EXPLORATORY BUSINESS AND SCIENTIFIC MISSIONS

This action aimed at providing the means whereby, Canadian and LAC agro-entrepreneurs and agribusiness groups can identify, develop, implement, and profit from the establishment or enhancement of businesses and employment opportunities. The further objective is to facilitate the development of strategic alliances between Canadian and LAC agribusiness and agricultural entrepreneurs helping the expansion of businesses between the interested parties.

The following missions were carried out and sponsored by IICA-Canada:

- ✓ A mission from CCAA (1998) went to Trinidad & Tobago to discuss possible joint ventures and contracts with local groups, particularly with the Tobago House of Assembly, Caroni Limited and the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI). The outcomes of this mission included discussions and agreements on agro-tourism, fruit and fish processing, human resources training and an agreement between CCAA and CARDI for the development of a major Agro Industrial Entrepreneurial Business Development Project led by Canada.
- ✓ A mission of experts from BIOTECCanada (1998) went to Brazil to participate in the BIOLATINA Congress and enhance its strategic alliances with LAC biotechnology organizations and associations. The main objective was to create trade opportunities and stimulate shared research in fields of common interest.
- ✓ A mission of experts from AAFC (1999) went to St. Lucia, St. Kitts and Dominica to study the adaptations envisioned for the next edition of the Great Globalization Game of the Agri-Food Markets, an initiative of AAFC and UPA.

- ✓ A mission of experts from UPA and the Department of Agriculture of Prince Edward Island (1999) went to St. Lucia aimed at supporting local farmers' associations in their effort to implement a farm management center and to analyze the roles of women in farm businesses, how they contribute and profit from farm commodity organizations in St. Lucia.
- ✓ A mission of experts from AAFC (2000) went to San Jose, Costa Rica aimed at officially presenting to the members of the Executive Committee of IICA, the Spanish version of the GGG.
- ✓ A mission of experts from AAFC (2000) went to Saint Lucia to assist the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment of the Government of Saint Lucia in the project "Institutional Assistance in a Program of Personnel Development to Increase Individual and Workplace Motivation: Striving for Excellence".
- ✓ A mission of experts from the Agricultural Institute of Canada (AIC) to Mexico (2000) to discuss new ventures and partnerships with Mexican farm and agribusiness associations and also IICA-Mexico. The main objective of the mission was to explore potential opportunities to work with professional agricultural associations in LAC in the areas of institutional strengthening, sustainable agricultural, professional development of members and accreditation of agricultural programs. The focus is to promote a Global Association for Professionals in Agriculture and Regional Associations.

ACTION 3: PROMOTING CANADIAN EXPERTS AND AGRI-ENTREPRENEURS TO IICA NETWORK

This action aimed at expanding the participation of Canadian experts and agro-entrepreneurs interested in becoming involved in technical cooperation projects with the IICA network. Its goal is to ensure that the IICA network is aware of Canadian expertise and provide opportunities for Canadians to bid on project components administered by IICA.

Internet resources have been massively used by IICA-Canada which turned to the use of the internet as a powerful instrument for information dissemination. IICA-Canada's website provides an on-line consultant database that enables Canadian consultants in agriculture to be accessible by all IICA Offices and IICA Headquarters.

PROGRAM 2: SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Technology development and transfer is a priority area for Canada and where IICA has considerable strength and experience throughout the region. IICA has an extensive technology

network and a number of projects underway which are aimed at building technology linkages throughout the region.

IICA-Canada placed priority on assisting the development of effective linkages with Canada which develop a synergy between the expertise in the Americas and Canada and have potential for creating commercial opportunities. In the short term, IICA-Canada focussed on to facilitate technical exchanges between Canada and the Americas which could foster longer term relationships.

IICA-Canada implemented the following actions in support of the development of science, technology and natural resources in the Americas:

ACTION 4: INTERNSHIP PROGRAM IN AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE AND AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

In 1996, responding to a request from the Government of Canada, IICA-Canada launched a scholarship program to Canadians to promote joint studies and establish linkages between Canadian and LAC academic and research institutions.

This internship program is dedicated to Canadians and LAC professors, agricultural researchers, specialists from the public and private sectors, post-graduate students and academia working on projects in agricultural sciences, agricultural research, sustainable rural development and other related subjects. The objective is to allow Canadian and LAC scholars the opportunity to become acquainted with the physical, cultural and intellectual environment of LAC and Canada, and to contribute to the elaboration of joint projects which encourage the sustainable development of the Americas' agriculture and economy.

ACTION 5: NETWORKING CANADA AND LAC BIOTECHNOLOGY RESEARCH CENTRES AND INDUSTRIES

In 1997 and 1998, IICA-Canada sponsored the participation of representatives from BIOTECCanada, the former Canadian Institute of Biotechnology (CIB), to attend international conferences in USA and Brazil. Jointly with BIOTECCanada, IICA formulated a project aimed at fostering information exchanges between Canadian and LAC biotechnology research centers and industries. The immediate goal was to establish strategic alliances between Canadian biotechnology research centres and industries and LAC biotechnology organizations and associations.

PROGRAM 3 AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Canada has strong ties with IICA in the area of agricultural health. AAFC, CFIA and universities, in particular, have a long tradition of partnerships in participating in technical collaboration projects in the Americas.

IICA-Canada has placed priority on continuing these collaborations by assisting the development of effective programs between Canada and the Americas, in such areas as the following:

- ✓ Working with IICA offices and Canada to identify areas where testing of new diagnostic technologies in field conditions would be useful.
- ✓ Facilitating the timely exchange of information between Canada and the Americas on occurrences of animal diseases of economic and quarantine importance.
- ✓ Assisting in arranging training opportunities in the Americas for Canadian veterinary and laboratory personnel particularly in areas of exotic diseases and emergency measures.

IICA-Canada implemented the following actions in support of the improvement of agricultural health and food safety development in the Americas:

ACTION 6: DEVELOPMENT OF INTER-AMERICAN STANDARDS FOR THE CARE AND USE OF ANIMALS IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

This action was implemented together with the Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC). IICA-Canada and CCAC created an international fora for the elaboration of guidelines on the use and care of animals used for research, teaching and testing. IICA-Canada and CCAC developed a strong partnership to work together with government agencies, scientific and technical organizations in LAC countries to develop internationally recognized standards for animal use in research, teaching and testing. A concise document named "Guidelines for the care and use of experimental animals" was translated into Spanish and distributed to all LAC countries.

ACTION 7: FOOD SAFETY IN INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL TRADE

IICA-Canada, in coordination with CFIA, AAFC and IICA's network, helped to organize and co-sponsored international food safety seminars and workshops, in which CFIA, AAFC and IICA's network participated. It also helped to establish a series of Agricultural Health/Food Safety Fora

for the northern region. The fora has been proposed to provide a mechanism to deal with issues related to agricultural health and food safety that are not dealt with under NAPPO or other mandates.

ACTION 8: COOPERATION FOR SAFE AGRICULTURAL TRADE

This action aims at facilitating technical exchanges and collaboration programs of mutual benefit to the official veterinary and plant protection services of Canada and its main LAC trade partners, with a view of strengthening the relationship between these countries' agricultural health services and research institutions.

IICA-Canada developed several activities with CFIA, IICA Headquarters and LAC countries' official veterinary and plant health services, research centres and veterinary and agricultural colleges aiming at strengthening technical cooperation activities between the official veterinary services of Canada and LAC countries, such as the following:

- ✓ Technology transfer for animal disease laboratory tests (Bluetongue in Argentina), through IICA's Internship program.
- ✓ Development of collaborative activities between CFIA and the Caribbean in the area of animal health risk assessment.
- ✓ Organization of visits by animal health officials and specialists from Argentina to CFIA, the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Montreal (FMV) and AAFC's Food Research and Development Center. Elaboration of the basis for a cooperation program between SENASA, CFIA and Canadian veterinary colleges.
- ✓ Collaboration given to the FMV in developing their international actions in Latin America and the Caribbean. Memorandum of Understanding signed between IICA and the FMV.
- ✓ Collaboration with CCAC, SENASA and the University of San Salvador in establishing animal welfare regulations in Argentina.
- ✓ Technical cooperation assistance to Honduras, in the elaboration of a proposal for the modernization of the Agricultural Health Services of Honduras, leading to a pre-feasibility and feasibility study of a major project to be financed by IDB. This technical cooperation initiative responded to a request by the Government of Honduras and of IICA-Honduras.
- ✓ Technical cooperation assistance to Haiti and IICA-Haiti to evaluate the national animal quarantine system. A report with recommendations for the functional organization and operation of the national animal quarantine station and of the international ports of entry was presented to the Government of Haiti.

PROGRAM 4 SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Technical cooperation projects in the area of sustainable rural development are the foundation of IICA as a technical cooperation agency. IICA has undertaken a series of projects throughout the LAC countries and played a wide range of roles in the planning and implementation of projects. IICA-Canada implemented the following actions in support of rural development in the Americas.

ACTION 9: STRENGTHENING RURAL COMMUNITY CAPACITY BUILDING, LEADERSHIP AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

This action regards a series of training courses for the Canadian and LAC agricultural decision makers on networking for information dissemination and expert advice on the WTO agreement. This event was held concomitantly with "Rural Expo 2001", held in Navan, Ontario.

ACTION 10: FOSTERING CANADA AND LAC FARMERS EXCHANGE PROGRAM

The purpose of this action is to foster technical exchanges and collaboration between Canadian and LAC national farmers' organizations. The intention is to build long term linkages between Canadian and LAC farmers' associations, to actively participate in the development and execution of projects resulting from such exchanges and to increase IICA's network and stakeholders in Canada. IICA's network within LAC is extensive and provides a strong base with which to support initiatives by Canadian producer associations. In particular, youth programmes are a priority of IICA which is being directly supported by this initiative.

This action was recognized by AAFC, Ministries of Agriculture from several Provinces of Canada, NFU, CFA and private agricultural associations and organizations as a very successful, effective and unique initiative in Canada directed to Canadian farmers.

PROGRAM 5 INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES

The dissemination and intensive use of information and communication technologies is one of the highest priorities of the Government of Canada. Canada has worldwide recognition as a global leader in communication technology, distance education and rural extension training systems.

IICA-Canada implemented the following actions in support of information and communications technology development in the Americas:

ACTION 11: SUPPORTING CANADA ON AGRICULTURAL ICT INITIATIVES IN LAC COUNTRIES

An internship program on the use of ICT was created by IICA-Canada, in 1999. The initial phase of this program is dedicated to young Canadians and LAC post-graduate students in ICT, interested in pursuing an internship in LAC and Canada to develop Internet capabilities in agricultural areas, such as developing web sites, computer training and related subjects.

ACTION 12: RURAL COMMUNITY ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES

The Government of Canada is actively supporting a range of community-led experiments to explore how new information and communication technologies can assist citizens to participate in the burgeoning information society. In general terms, there is a broad objective to use ICT to enhance health, education, employment, recreation and political participation. IICA-Canada is actively involved with the Government of Canada to promote the use of computerized systems by rural communities in the Americas and the use of the internet to enhance agricultural business opportunities.

PROGRAM 6: TRAINING AND EDUCATION

A highly priority area for both IICA and the Government of Canada. The following action was carried out by IICA-Canada:

ACTION 13: SUPPORTING CANADA'S YOUTH IN DEVELOPING INTERNATIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE IN LAC COUNTRIES

A growing number of Canadian university graduates in agricultural, veterinary medicine and environment sciences, are seeking international careers. However, even with a strong academic background, young professionals rarely have the opportunity to be hired for overseas jobs without previous international experience.

This action proposes to help Canadians to develop a work experience in technical cooperation program management and project execution in IICA Headquarters and its network.

The goals of this action are to provide meaningful work experience of up to four months for young participants in a setting likely to lead to long-term employment or self-employment and equitable opportunities for youth across the country consistent with gender equity, including rural and/or disadvantaged youth.

BENEFICIARIES OF IICA-CANADA PROGRAMS

Encouraging exchanges between Canadian and Latin American & Caribbean countries was at the center of IICA-Canada's strategy to reach its goal of increasing relations between Canada's agri-food and agribusiness sectors and the Americas.

IICA-Canada awarded **104** Canadian professionals, agricultural entrepreneurs, experts, professors, post-graduate students, farmers and youth to develop their studies, exploratory business missions and/or research projects in LAC organizations, associations, universities and research centres. At the same time, IICA-Canada awarded **38** LAC professionals to develop their internships in Canada.

The results, according to each program implemented by IICA-Canada, are the following:

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM IN AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES AND AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

IICA-Canada awarded **41** Canadians and **5** LAC professionals, professors and post-graduate students to develop their internships in LAC countries and Canada. The organizations involved, places where their professionals, students and/or academia developed their internships and areas of concentration are the following:

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, with **3** professionals, was among the first to participate in this program. They received the benefits sending in 1997 an *International Trade Policy* specialist to Brazil for a period a three months. *AAFC Research Branch* also benefited from the program establishing through the *Food Research & Development Center* (St Hyacinthe) research exchanges with Argentina, Brazil and Mexico. The *Dairy and Swine Research and Development Center* (Lennoxville) received a Brazilian university student for a period of three months, in 2001.

The **Canadian Food Inspection Agency** (5 professionals) worked basically in veterinary research with counterpart organizations from the public services of Argentina and Paraguay, but also with veterinary colleges of Argentina and Chile.

Agriculture, veterinary medicine and environmental sciences faculties from **11 Canadian Universities**, from the Provinces of Alberta, British Columbia, New Brunswick, Ontario, Quebec and Saskatchewan, participated very actively in this program. Topics varied from sustainable agriculture, with a variety of specific subjects in biological, environmental and human sciences, agriculture economics, agricultural health, satellite imagery, etc. Authors and titles of the different projects developed can be found in Annex I.

The Canadian participants dedicated special interest to the South Cone countries (20 internships), followed by the Central America (7 internships), the Caribbean (6 internships), the Andean (5 internships) and the Northern region, particularly to Mexico (3 internships).

Table 1 Participation of Canadian institutions in the Internship Program in Agricultural Sciences and Agricultural Research

Canadian organization	Country and date where internship took place	Received interns from (country and date)
Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>International Trade Policy</i> • <i>Food Research & Development Center</i> • <i>Dairy and Swine Research and Development Center</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brazil (1997) • Mexico (2000) • Brazil (2000) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brazil (2000)
Canadian Food Inspection Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Argentina (1997) • Argentina (1998) • Paraguay (1998) • Argentina (2000) • Chile (2000) 	
University of Alberta <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture Forestry and Home Economics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uruguay (2000) 	
University of British Columbia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forestry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chile (1998) 	
University of Guelph <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Sciences • College of Agriculture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St Vincent & the Grenadines (1997) • Costa Rica (2000) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brazil (2000)

Canadian organization	Country and date where internship took place	Received interns from (country and date)
University Laval <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forestry and Geomatics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peru (1997) • Peru (1999) • Mexico (1999) • Peru (2000) 	
University McGill (MacDonald Campus) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal Science • Agricultural & Biosystems Engineering • Agricultural Economics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brazil (1998) • St Lucia (1999) • Panama (1999) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guadeloupe (2000)
University of Moncton <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Research Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Argentina (1997) • Argentina (2000) 	
University of Montreal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biology • Veterinary Medicine • Medicine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Costa Rica (1999) • Colombia (2000) • Costa Rica (2000) 	
Queens University <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geography 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jamaica (1999) 	
University of Saskatchewan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Western College of Veterinary Medicine • Civil Engineering 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Argentina (1997) • Chile (1999) • Chile (2000) • Peru (2000) • Barbados (1998) • Barbados (1999) • Barbados (2000) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chile (2000)
University of Waterloo <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Studies • Biology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Argentina (1998) • Chile (1999) 	
York University <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uruguay & Chile (1997) • Uruguay & Chile (1998) • Belize (1998) • Belize (1999) • Costa Rica (1999) • Chile (1999) • Mexico (1999) 	

In 1999, IICA-Canada opened the program to **Latin American and Caribbean (LAC)** scientists, to further strengthen the linkages between Canadians and their research counterparts in the countries of the hemisphere.

Table 2 Participation of LAC Institutions In the Internship Program In Agricultural Sciences and Agricultural Research

Latin American / Caribbean organization	Canadian institution and date where internship took place
University of Viçosa, Brazil • Department of Agricultural and Environmental Engineering	• Guelph University, Horticultural Research Institute of Ontario (2000)
Food Technology Institute (ITAL), Campinas, Brazil	• Dairy and Swine Research and Development Center, Research Branch, AAFC (2000)
Universidad de la Frontera, Temuco, Chile • Faculty of Medicine, Center of Reproductive Biotechnology	• Department of Herd Medicine and Theriogenology, Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan (2000)
Cenipalma, Colombia	• Microwave-Assisted Processes (MAP) laboratories, Environmental Technology Centre, Environment Canada - Ottawa (1999)
University of the Caribbean and Guyane • Tropical Agriculture	• McGill University, Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Studies, Department of Agricultural Economics, MacDonald Campus (2000)

FOSTERING CANADIAN AND LAC FARMERS EXCHANGE PROGRAM

IICA-Canada awarded **37 Canadians** and **7 LAC** farmers and farm managers to develop their internships in LAC countries and in Canada. They develop a series of activities ranging from institutional organization, cooperatives, group commercialization, organic crops and farming, women in farm business and management, fair trade, etc. Canadian farmers came from British Columbia, Manitoba, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, and Saskatchewan. Details of the participants and the different projects developed can be found in Annex I.

IICA-Canada also gave **young farmers** a special place in this program, allowing 8 students in farm management to spend internships in Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic. This led to an agreement between agriculture colleges of Quebec and Costa Rica, illustrated by the internship of two Costa Rican students in Canadian farms.

In 1999, the program opened to **LAC farmers**. During that year, 3 members of a Costa Rican farmers association linked to NFU, travelled to Canada to share experiences. The participants clearly realized the necessity to join efforts and to seek agriculture policies allowing the family production to continue.

Table 3 Participation of Canadian and LAC farmers associations In the Farmers Exchange Program

Canadian and LAC organization	Country and date where visits took place
Canadian National Farmers Organizations ▶ UPA ▶ NFU	▶ Bolivia (1997) ▶ Chile (1997) ▶ El Salvador (1997) ▶ Chile (1998) ▶ Paraguay (1998) ▶ Saint Lucia (1999) ▶ Saint Lucia (2000) ▶ Mexico: 3 farmers (1997) ▶ Mexico: 2 farmers (1998) ▶ Costa Rica: 2 farmers (1999) ▶ Guatemala (1999)
LAC National Farmers Organizations ▶ UPANACIONAL, Costa Rica	▶ 3 farmers to NFU, Canada (1999)
Ministries ▶ Department of Agriculture and Forestry, Prince Edward Island	▶ Saint Lucia (1999)
Non-Governmental Organizations ▶ Northumberland Farmers Association / Horizon of Friendship ▶ Partners in Rural Development	▶ El Salvador: 5 farmers (1997) ▶ El Salvador 3 farmers (1997)
Professional organizations ▶ Ontario Institute of Agrologists	▶ Mexico: 3 farmers (1999)
Agriculture Colleges ▶ Cégep St-Jean ▶ ITA La Pocatière	▶ 3 students in Costa Rica (1997) ▶ 1 student in Costa Rica (1998) ▶ 2 students in Costa Rica (1999) ▶ 1 student in Costa Rica (2000) ▶ Dominican Republic (1999)

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES

IICA-Canada awarded 4 Canadians and 3 LAC professionals from AAFC, AAFC/FRDC, Guelph University, School of Rural Extension Studies, Argentina's National Institute of Agricultural Technology and National South University, and the Brazilian Parana Federation of Agriculture.

Table 4 Participation of Canadian and LAC associations In the ICT Program

Canadian and LAC organization	Country and date where visits took place
Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada ▶ <i>Agricultural Industry Services</i> ▶ <i>Food Research & Development Center</i>	▶ Barbados (2000) ▶ Argentina (1999)
Guelph University ▶ Ontario Agricultural College, School of Rural Extension Studies, Faculty of Environmental Design and Rural Development	▶ Honduras (1999) ▶ Honduras (2000)
Argentina ▶ INTA, Food Technology Institute ▶ Universidad del Sur, Dept. of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering	▶ AAFC - FRDC (1999) ▶ Laval University (2000)
Brazil ▶ Federação da Agricultura do Paraná	▶ UPA (2000)

SUPPORTING CANADA'S YOUTH IN DEVELOPING INTERNATIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE IN LAC COUNTRIES

In its inception year (2000), IICA-Canada's latest program awarded 5 Canadian young professionals to develop internships in one of IICA's Cooperation Agencies in the Americas. The candidates, recent graduates from Universities in British Columbia, Manitoba and Quebec, chose to develop their international experience in Chile, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Panama, and Suriname, in fields related to ecological and social sustainability, data collection and informatics, and food inspection and institutional organization of the agricultural health services.

▶ EXPLORATORY BUSINESS AND SCIENTIFIC MISSIONS

The co-organization and sponsoring of business and scientific missions, complement the exchange strategy of opening windows of opportunities for Canadians and Latin American and Caribbean professionals and agricultural entrepreneurs, to develop ventures of mutual interest. Staff from Ministries of Agriculture, professional organizations, research and education institutions, from the private sector, and from IICA network, participated in these exploratory business and scientific missions (Table 5.) Details are found in Annex I.

Table 5. Canadian and LAC participation in business and scientific missions

Canadian and LAC organization	Country and date where missions took place
Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Saint Lucia (2000). 2 specialists to provide technical assistance to senior officers of the Ministry of Agriculture of St. Lucia ▶ OECS countries (1999). 2 specialists to adapt the GGG the region's needs. ▶ Costa Rica (2000). Presentation of the Spanish version off the GGG
Professional Organizations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Canadian Consultant Agrologists Association ▶ Agricultural Institute of Canada 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Trinidad & Tobago (1998). 3 CCAA directors to develop strategic alliances with Caribbean agribusiness associations and organizations. ▶ Mexico (2000). 2 AIC directors to explore opportunities to work with professional agricultural associations in LAC
BIOTECanada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ International biotechnology symposium, University of Michigan (1997) ▶ BIOLATINA, Brazil (1998). 3 specialists to develop strategic alliances with LAC biotechnology organizations
Representatives from the Food Inspection Services of Argentina, the Bahamas, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Jamaica, Mexico, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay	Canada, 1999. 3rd International Fish Inspection and Quality Control Conference
Representatives from research and private services of Argentina (2), Brazil (3), Chile (1), Mexico (1)	Canada, 1999. Canadian Embryo Transfer conference
IICA staff from T & T (2), Jamaica (1), Costa Rica (1)	Canada, 2000. Speakers at the OIA 2000 conference
IICA staff from Dominica	Canada, 2000. The CFIA model for the Caribbean
Representatives from research and private sectors of Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica and Venezuela	Canada, 2001. The 7th Conference of Montreal

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

During 1996-2001, IICA-Canada co-organized and co-sponsored 16 Congresses and/or Workshops in Canada and LAC countries. They are the following:

- ▶ **Risk Assessment and Decision Making (1998).** A workshop jointly organized by IICA-Canada, IICA-Chile and the Chilean Veterinary Services (1998) in Santiago, Chile. IICA-Canada presented a conference on the integration of a Animal Risk Assessment Unit in public veterinary services, in reference with the model developed by CFIA.
- ▶ **First Equivalence Meeting (1999).** A workshop where IICA-Canada and CFIA actively participated. It was held in Atlanta, Georgia, with the participation of representatives of Canada, Mexico, the United States, and the Southern Cone countries. CFIA's gave a presentation explaining the relationship between the WTO and the Codex Alimentarius Commission, the agreements reached, standards adopted and work in progress.
- ▶ **Future Strategies in Food Safety (1999).** A workshop where IICA-Canada co-sponsored Dr. Frédérique Moulin of CFIA, to present a concept paper on Canada's food safety policies in a World Bank, EMBRAPA and IICA hemispheric workshop, held in San Jose, Costa Rica.
- ▶ **3rd International Fish Inspection and Quality Control Conference (1999).** IICA-Canada, the Fisheries Council of Canada (FCC), USA National Fisheries Institute, Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO), and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) organized and co-sponsored this international conference, held in Halifax, Nova Scotia. The objective of the Conference was to chart an acceptable path for the wide spread introduction and implementation of HACCP. The Conference immediately followed the inaugural meeting of the newly formed International Association of Fish Inspectors.
- ▶ **Conference on Embryo Transfer (1999),** held in London, Canada. Responding to a request from the Canadian Embryo Transfer Association (CETA), IICA-Canada organized the participation of eight embryo transfer specialists from the private and public sectors of LAC countries, to CETA's conference. This Conference had the objective of promoting Canadian expertise and to facilitate technical, scientific and commercial exchanges between Canada and its South American partners, IICA-Canada also organized a series of after-congress meetings and workshops for the LAC specialists, in private and university laboratories, and in artificial insemination centers.
- ▶ **Conference "Taking Agriculture into the Next Millennium" (2000).** IICA-Canada co-organized and co-sponsored together with the Ontario Institute of Agrologists (OIA) this conference focused on LAC countries and opportunities for Canadian agrologists for volunteer work, technical collaboration, and trade opportunities for goods and services. IICA Headquarters and its Caribbean Regional Centre also participated in the technical and administrative committees of this Conference.

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- ▶ **North-South Equivalence Symposium (2000).** IICA's NRC, IICA-USA, IICA-Canada and IICA-Mexico, co-organized and co-sponsored this workshop where representatives of the governments of the NAFTA and MERCOSUR countries met informally to discuss the concept of equivalence as it relates to food safety and trade issues. The participants discussed equivalence particularly how the concept is unfolding in the Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS), its relationship to the WTO/SPS agreement, as well as practical issues and concerns related to each country's regulatory system, industry procedures and trade practices.
 - ▶ **Ceres Hemispheric Forum on "Food Safety through Dynamic Leadership" (2000),** held at the Georgetown University, USA. This event was co-sponsored and organized by IICA, the Georgetown University Center for Food and Nutrition Policy, USDA, and the US Food & Drug Administration Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition. It assembled leaders from public and private institutions in the Americas to focus on developing partnerships to ensure food safety towards the enhancement of public health, optimization of global food trade, and economic stabilization of national governments. CFIA gave a presentation on "CFIA: The Canadian Experience".
 - ▶ **First Agricultural Health/Food Safety Forum (2000).** IICA's NRC, IICA-USA, IICA-Canada and IICA-Mexico, co-organized and co-sponsored this first forum titled "Certification Issues and Challenges". This event was held in Miami, USA, and examined the current certification issues and challenges faced by the public and private sectors of Canada, the United States, and Mexico. CFIA participated with presentations on "how countries carry-out certification" and "impact of technology on today's certification".
 - ▶ **Conference (2000) on "Coordinating Food Safety and Quarantine Requirements in a Changing World".** This event was held in Jamaica. IICA-Canada collaborated with IICA's CRC to invite CFIA to be present in this important event. Key issues discussed addressed food safety, animal health and plant protection, and how they impact trade, and meeting WTO/SPS obligations.
 - ▶ **Conference of Montreal (2001), "Americas-Free Trade".** IICA-Canada strongly supported and co-sponsored the 7th edition of the Conference of Montreal, dedicated to the Americas-Free Trade. This event was held in Montreal. During the Agri-Food Day, the Director General of IICA, invited as a guest speaker, presented a paper on "Connecting and Integrating the Life Science Economy to Rural Communities".
 - ▶ **CCAA Annual General Meeting and Professional Development Session (2001),** held in Guelph, Canada. This event was held in conjunction with AIC Annual Convention. IICA-Canada participated with a conference on "CCAA opportunities through IICA network in the Americas".

- ▶ "Codex Alimentarius in a Changing Environment" (2001). A workshop co-organized and co-sponsored by IICA-Canada, CFIA and IICA with a strong participation of Caribbean representatives. This workshop discussed the environmental pressures for rationalizing country resources in order to adequately meet the international requirements for food trade.
- ▶ IICA-CERES Executive Leadership Seminar in Food Safety-Second Module (2001), held in Canada. IICA-Canada and CFIA co-organized and co-sponsored, together with CERES Forum, Georgetown University, and IICA Headquarters, the second module of IICA-CERES executive leadership program designed to promote leadership for the comprehensive food safety policies.
- ▶ Rural-Expo 2001 (2001). This event was part of the International Plowing Match and Farm Machinery Show. IICA-Canada, in partnership with AAFC, actively participated in co-organizing and co-sponsoring training courses to LAC agricultural leaders on the use of the GGG, as an efficient and effective tool to raise the awareness of trade agreements and their implications to the agri-food sector. It also included a seminar on "Leadership Development in Rural Development", targeted to young leaders from rural communities in Canada and the Americas.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

As a result of all these described internships developed by Canadians in LAC countries, several opportunities for development were identified. The most promising opportunities are the following:

- ▶ A project proposal on information and communication technologies was submitted to CIDA Technology Transfer Fund. This initiative was developed in partnership with Canadian and Chilean/Uruguayan Universities, IDRC International Model Forest Secretariat, Ontario Eastern Model Forest Secretariat, NGO and the private sector.
- ▶ A proposal presented to the European Union (EU) on the establishment of an integrated watershed management unit within the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Environment of St. Lucia, as a result of the internship developed by Professor C.A. Madramootoo, Ph.D., Director, Brace Centre for Water Resources Management, McGill University. The EU has agreed to fund the proposal, and the staff of the unit are now being recruited. Another outcome was the formation at the regional level of the Caribbean Land and Water Resources Network (CLAWRENET). CLAWRENET can now help to mobilize funding and resources, assist with research and disseminate information on best practices. Dr. Madramootoo was also asked to pursue the preparation of an internet course on irrigation water management for extension officers and large farmers in the Caribbean. Prof. Madramootoo's work was published in an

article titled "From a green to a blue planet" in IICA's Caribbean Center quarterly newsletter on Economic Policy and Sustainable Rural Development, giving it hemispheric dissemination.

- ▶ Two research proposals developed in Panama as a result of **Robert Bonnell, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor, McGill University, The Brace Centre for Water Resources Management, internship in that country. The first project addresses sustainable farming systems within two sub-watersheds of the Panama Canal Watershed. The second project entails the study and optimization of the performance of established and new surface irrigation projects introduced with financial and technical support of the Government of Panama and the Ministerio de Desarrollo Agropecuario, Instituto Nacional de Agricultura, Direccion Nacional Ingenieria Rural y Riego, and the Universidad Tecnologica de Panama.
- ▶ An exchange program is being discussed between Laval University and the Forest Sciences College of the National University of Ucayali (UNU), Pucallpa, Peru, as a result of **Nicole Demers, M.Sc.** student, Faculty of Forestry and Geomatics, Laval University, Québec, internship to Peru. Discussions are also underway between the two institutions regarding the possibility of implementing a graduate program in the UNU, which could be done through the training of UNU teachers in Laval, and Laval teachers training UNU teachers and participating in research activities in Peru. On the longer term, if more students are interested in participating in these activities, a joint research project could be developed.
- ▶ Advanced discussions are being held between the University of the West Indies and the University of Saskatchewan to create an exchange program with emphasis on the use of biofilms and Barbadian clay soils to attenuate and transform suspected endocrine disrupting pesticides. This is due to the intensive and continuous work of **John Headley, PhD**, Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, University of Saskatchewan, in Barbados. As a result of his study, it is anticipated that there will be a successful co-operative research programs between the University of West Indies and the University of Saskatchewan.
- ▶ A great potential for ongoing partnerships among Canadian agricultural and environmental research agencies and Chilean local indigenous organizations and conservation authorities. This is due thanks to **Lisa Earle, M.Sc.** student, University of Waterloo, Department of Biology, internship to Chile. As a result of her study, and whether for the sake of food security, range management, public health, or industry, there is much to gain by ongoing research and development of wise-use strategies for bofedales.
- ▶ Increased collaboration between CFIA and University of La Plata, as a result of **Lloyd Spencer, DVM, Ph.D.**, Senior Researcher, Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) internship to Argentina. He had the opportunity to review two La Plata graduate student

projects which were elaborated on following the collaboration between CFIA and the University of La Plata on manure and carcasses composting. Contacts were also made with INTA in Castellar, where he presented a seminar which stimulated an interest in research on composting on production of vermicompost and its application in protecting poultry production against colonization by *Salmonella*. Findings from collaborative research efforts between establishments in Canada and Argentina will be applicable to Canada. The studies conducted in Canada and Argentina will help to develop composting practices to safely manage manure and animal carcasses and ultimately to reduce the spread of disease and to benefit the environment.

- ▶ New agreement between Laval University and the *Centro de Investigación Científica de Yucatan (CICY)*, as a result of **Yves Desjardln**, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Horticulture Research Center, Laval University, internship to Mexico. As a result of his research discussions are underway which will facilitate exchanges between teachers and students, planning of joint research activities, participation in seminars and teaching activities, and participation to joint financing programs. A first activity resulting from this agreement was the organization of a course on plant physiology, in 2000.
- ▶ A strong possibility that Developing Countries Farm Radio Networks (DCFRN) of Honduras can expand their roles from an information provider to a *facilitator mechanism*, due to the internship developed by **Casandra Bryant**, Ph.D. Student, University of Guelph, Ontario Agricultural College, School of Rural Extension Studies, Faculty of Environmental Design and Rural Development, in Honduras. Her report and further data provides information on the current status of communication and information sharing between members and DCFRN. It identifies incentives for creating a network of partners as well as possible barriers. Members expressed their desire in "getting to know" their fellow members in hopes of creating a partnership to share or work for the same goals and common objectives.
- ▶ Increased collaboration between FRDC and INTA, as a result of **Francine Bernard**, chief, library services, AAFC-FRDC, St Hyacinthe, internship to Argentina. As a result of her work, FRDC was invited to participate on the 46th International Congress of Meat Science and Technology (2000), held in Buenos Aires, Argentina. FRDC's representatives also made two scientific presentations on ohmic cooking of pickled meat, and participated in post-congress visits. This meeting allowed the exploration of different possible joint collaboration areas between the two institutions, and the planning of a scientific mission in Canada. FRDC and INTA are presently working on an agreement for exchanging information, which could be extended to the agri-food sector of the MERCOSUR countries, and eventually to Latin American countries in general, through the implementation of a Latin American Network of Agri-food Libraries.
- ▶ Long term project on personnel development to increase individual and workplace motivation on the agricultural and agri-food sectors of the Caribbean, as a result of the Canadian mission to St. Lucia headed by **Denise Boudrias**, a former Senior Official of

AAFC, and **Dennis Walthe**, Senior Economist, Policy Branch of AAFC. As a result of their excellent work with the Government of St. Lucia, there are preliminary discussions involving IICA-Canada to co-organize a second event in the Caribbean.

- ▶ Increased collaboration between **Cégep Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu** and Costa Rican organizations. As a result of the continuous and consistent presence of young Canadian farmers from the Cégep in Costa Rica, an agreement was signed between **Cégep Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu** and the **Escuela Centroamericana de Ganadería**.

AGREEMENTS, PARTNERSHIPS AND STRATEGIC ALLIANCES

During the last five years, IICA-Canada signed **7 new agreements** and implemented **16 new partnerships and strategic alliances** with Canadian organizations and associations. They are the following:

- ▶ Memorandum of Understanding between IICA-Canada and the Canadian Council for Animal Care (CCAC), aimed at strengthening cooperation between the Parties and to focus mutual interest in the broad areas of animal sciences and animal production. Presently, IICA and CCAC are working together towards the development of inter-American standards for the care and use of animals in science and technology.
- ▶ Cooperation Agreement between IICA-Canada and the Agricultural Institute of Canada (AIC) to cooperate mutually in areas of common interest and priorities, including identification, planning and execution of projects in LAC countries.
- ▶ Cooperation Agreement between IICA-Canada and CESO International Services, aimed at developing mechanisms for mutual collaboration, joining efforts and sharing available resources in the development of programmes in areas of social-economic policies, trade and investment, science and technology, natural resources and agricultural production, agricultural health and sustainable rural development.
- ▶ Memorandum of Understanding between IICA, with the support of the Agrifuture Foundation, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, concerning the promotion of joint studies with academic and research institutions in Canada.
- ▶ Memorandum of Understanding between the IICA-Canada and CCAA to mutually cooperate in areas of common interest and priorities, including identification, planning and execution of projects in Canada and LAC countries.

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- ▶ Memorandum of Understanding between the IICA-Canada and PARTNERS, formerly the Canadian Hunger Foundation, to address poverty at the village level in developing countries. IICA-Canada, PARTNERS and some Canadian farmers are implementing a joint initiative with farmers in El Salvador.
 - ▶ Agreement Protocol between IICA-Canada, AAFC and the *"Institut International d'Etudes Administratives de Montréal Inc."* for the organization and co-sponsorship of the "7th Conference of Montreal".
 - ▶ An enhanced partnership and strategic alliance between IICA-Canada and the Department of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) on networking for information dissemination and expert advice on the World Trade Organization (WTO) agreement.
 - ▶ An enhanced partnership between IICA-Canada and AAFC to enlarge the benefits and the beneficiaries of the IICA-Canada Internships and Farmers Exchange Programs.
 - ▶ A partnership between IICA-Canada and the University of Guelph. The Ontario Advanced Agricultural Leadership Program (AALP) received a proposal from IICA-Canada to include IICA as a partner in strengthening rural community capacity building in LAC and leadership and skills development, particularly for Canadian entrepreneurial rural women and youth.
 - ▶ A partnership between IICA-Canada and the Ontario Institute of Agrologists (OIA) to co-organize and co-sponsor the OIA 2000 Conference "Taking Agriculture into the Next Millennium-The Americas". During this important event, IICA Senior Officials from the Caribbean and Central America discussed the potential for Canadian professional services to the LAC countries.
 - ▶ A partnership between IICA-Canada and the organizers of "Rural-Expo 2001", Canada's largest outdoor farm show, to organize and sponsor training courses on the use and development of the Great Globalization Game of the Agri-Food Markets. This event was held in Navan, Ontario, in 2001.
 - ▶ An enhanced partnership and strategic alliance between IICA-Canada and Horizons of Friendship, a NGO based in Ontario, which supports programs in health, education, housing, skill training, and agricultural production. IICA, Horizons of Friendship and Canadian farmers worked on joint initiatives with farmers' organizations in El Salvador.
 - ▶ An enhanced partnership and strategic alliance between IICA-Canada and NFU. It works actively in cooperation projects with farmers' associations of the developing world and in stimulating agricultural trade between Canada and these countries. IICA is supporting NFU in its program aimed at giving young Canadian farmers an exposure to international cooperation.

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- ▶ An enhanced partnership and strategic alliance between IICA-Canada and CFA. IICA-Canada coordinates its farmers exchange program through CFA.
 - ▶ An enhanced partnership and strategic alliance between IICA-Canada and UPA, Quebec's farmers' organization representing the totality of the province's 35.000 agricultural producers. Through its International Development Cooperation Division, NFU and IICA coordinate the farmers exchange program for the province.
 - ▶ An enhanced partnership and strategic alliance between IICA-Canada, the University of Guelph and the Centro de Investigaciones y Documentación de la Costa Atlántica (Nicaragua). In 1997, as a result of a study carried out by a Canadian participant in IICA-Canada Internship Program a strategic alliance between these three organizations has led to the development of studies related to the impact of agricultural and economic development in rural regions of Atlantic Nicaragua.
 - ▶ An enhanced partnership and strategic alliance between IICA-Canada, CFIA and SENASA to train SENASA's staff in CFIA Foreign Animal Disease Laboratory, in Winnipeg, Manitoba. It also enable both organizations to scientific exchanges in laboratory diagnosis of viral animal diseases and technology transfer in laboratory quality assurance programs.
 - ▶ An enhanced partnership and strategic alliance between IICA-Canada, York University and Universidad Católica (Uruguay) to develop a project on information and communication technology on forest models.
 - ▶ An enhanced partnership and strategic alliance between IICA-Canada, St.- Jean-sur-Richelieu Agriculture School and the Escuela Centro Americana de Ganadería (Costa Rica) aimed at training LAC young farmers in Canada and vice-versa.
 - ▶ An enhanced partnership and strategic alliance between IICA-Canada, York University and the Universidad de Concepción (Chile) aimed at developing a project on information and communication technology on forest models.
 - ▶ An enhanced partnership and strategic alliance between IICA-Canada, the University of Montreal, Universidad de Buenos Aires (Argentina) and the Universidade Fluminense (Brazil). The alliance between IICA-Canada and the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Montreal allowed them to develop joint actions with Argentinean and Brazilian veterinary colleges.
 - ▶ An enhanced partnership and strategic alliance between IICA-Canada, Université Laval and Universidad Nacional Agraria de la Selva (Peru) to broaden their perspectives in Latin America and to train Masters and Doctorate students in tropical agriculture and agro-forestry, a new area currently being developed in the Faculty.

EXPANDING CANADIAN PARTNERS

In addition to the traditional partners of IICA, such as the DFAIT, AAFC, CIDA and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), IICA-Canada progressively included Canadian private groups with interests in agri-food and agribusiness issues.

▶ **Private Sector:**

- ✓ Agricultural Institute of Canada
- ✓ Canadian Federation of Agriculture
- ✓ Canadian Consultant Agrologist Association
- ✓ Canadian consultant firms
- ✓ Club Export Agroalimentaire Quebec
- ✓ BiotecCan and all their associate members
- ✓ Canadian Council for Animal Care
- ✓ Canadian 4-H Council
- ✓ Canadian Co-Operative Association
- ✓ Canadian Volunteer Advisers to Business
- ✓ National Farmers Union
- ✓ Northumberland Federation of Agriculture
- ✓ Ontario Institute of Agrologists
- ✓ The Canadian Council for the Americas
- ✓ Union des Producteurs Agricoles

▶ **Public Sector:**

- ✓ Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- ✓ Canadian Food Inspection Agency
- ✓ Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade
- ✓ Food Research and Development Centre
- ✓ Industry Canada
- ✓ Ministry of Environment
- ✓ Ministry of Fisheries and Oceans
- ✓ Canadian International Development Agency
- ✓ International Development Research Centre
- ✓ Provincial Ministries of Agriculture and International Relations

► **Universities and Agricultural Colleges**

- ✓ University of Alberta: Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics
- ✓ University of British Columbia: Faculty of Agricultural Sciences and Department of Environmental Sciences and Biology
- ✓ University of Guelph: Food Sciences and Ontario Agricultural College
- ✓ Laval University: Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences
- ✓ Memorial University of Newfoundland: Marine Institute
- ✓ McGill University: MacDonal College of Agriculture
- ✓ Nova Scotia Agricultural College
- ✓ University of Manitoba: Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences
- ✓ University of Moncton
- ✓ University of Montreal: Faculty of Veterinary Medicine
- ✓ University of Prince Edward Island
- ✓ University of Saskatchewan: Faculties of Crop Sciences and Veterinary Medicine
- ✓ University of York
- ✓ University of Windsor

► **Non-Governmental Organizations**

- ✓ Canadian Foundation for the Americas
- ✓ Partners in Rural Development
- ✓ NGOs committed to provide technical cooperation on social-economic issues.

FINAL REMARKS

The last six years have been defined by the intensive relationship between IICA-Canada and Canada. It can be characterized by far as the most dynamic period of the working relationship between the Office of IICA in Canada and the federal, provincial and private sector of Canada. 1996 was considered the most challenging year for IICA-Canada as the Canadian government informed IICA that Canada would withdraw from the Institute after December 31st, 1998, and that Canada would terminate its membership in IICA and payment of quota assessments at that time. This decision was based upon strict budgetary restraints following a Program Review.

This shocking news, however, did not hamper IICA's actions in Canada. A fundamental decision made was that the strategic planning process initiated at the Canadian Office of IICA, in 1996, should not be halted in its implementation. Subsequent stages were underway aimed at progressively expanding the notion of the importance of IICA as a partner for implementing Canadian international agri-food activities in Latin America and the Caribbean.

A number of IICA-Canada activities, designed to provide Canada with value-added support, have proven to be successful and effective. IICA has a valuable service to offer and this has been evident in discussions with all stakeholders. The active role played by IICA-Canada reflects the new partnership approach envisioned by Canada and IICA and the desire by many Canadian groups to become more integrally linked to the Americas.

IICA-Canada continues to increase its activities in Canada and is convinced that this partnership approach is providing to a growing number of Canadian institutions and individuals, the opportunity to participate in the development of agriculture in the Americas, and to establish sustainable cooperation, academic, research, and commercial linkages with their Latin American and Caribbean partners.

All participants of IICA-Canada programs were financed by IICA and respond, to a great extent, to Canada's request of adding value to its contribution to the Institute. Given these successful experiences, it is envisioned for the year 2002 and ahead, a promising and ample opportunity for innovative partnerships, as proposed by IICA-Canada to Canada.

ANNEX I

LIST OF BENEFICIARIES OF IICA-CANADA PROGRAMS

► INTERNSHIP PROGRAM IN AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES AND AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

Andre Palasz (2000), B.Sc., M.Sc., Ph.D., research scientist, Department of Herd Medicine and Theriogenology, Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan. Project title: "*Cryopreservation of llama embryos.*" Counterpart institution and host country: Universidad de la Frontera, Temuco, Chile.

Andrew Millward (1997), M.Sc. in Environmental Sciences, University of Guelph, developed his internship with SRE, located in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, on the subject "Mapping and Monitoring Coastal Zone Resources: Environmental Protection for the Island of Bequia". This research was essential to enhancing sustainability and compatibility of the fishing and tourism industries and to facilitate the implementation of GIS to map and model coastal zone resources on the islands and sensitive near-shore waters of the Tobago Cays.

Andrzej Blielanski (2000), DVM, Ph.D, Senior Researcher, Animal Disease Research Center, Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA). Project title: "*Disease transmission and cryopreservation of gametes and embryos from South American Camelids.*" Counterpart institution and host country: Centro de biotecnología reproductiva, Dpto de Ciencias básicas, Facultad de Medicina, Temuco, Chile.

Ann Wieggers (1997), D.V.M., a senior staff of CFIA, spent her internship in Argentina aimed at supporting the implementation of a Laboratory Quality Assurance Program in animal health laboratories using ISO 25, a key issue in facilitating international trade of animal products. She worked with SENASA, INTA and private sector veterinary laboratories which received reference materials, advice and training in the implementation of laboratory quality assurance.

Brent M. Rutherford (1999), Ph.D., a faculty member at York University's Faculty of Environmental Studies worked with the Instituto de Ecología in Xalapa, Mexico. His research proposal was "*Forest regeneration and swidden agriculture: fire intensity and ecological diversity.*" The goal of his internship was to advance research into forest regeneration following slash-and-burn agriculture, particularly following agricultural use in Quintana Roo, Mexico, by Mayan farmers. The Internship activity focussed on translating Mayan common names to biological nomenclature. This permitted the identification of those families and species that are obligatory seed reproducers, obligatory vegetative reproducers and those that appear to reproduce using both modes. The cladistic structure of family groups and the impact that agricultural use has on diversity was also investigated.

Bryan Bogdanski (1998), Ph.D. student, Faculty of Forestry, University of British Columbia, worked with the Universidad Catolica of Uruguay on the "Estimation of the depreciation of forest resources in Uruguay and Chile for use in estimating net national income and sustainable income". The preliminary results of the study indicate that the calculated negative depreciation of forest resources is sensitive to the projected future log prices, transportation costs and silvicultural management strategies. For a small economy such as Uruguay, future profitability and sustainability of the forest industry will depend critically on reducing internal costs and development of local, regional and overseas markets.

C. A. Madramootoo (1999), Ph.D., Director and Professor, Brace Centre for Water Resources Management, McGill University, travelled to St. Lucia to assist the Government of St. Lucia with its efforts in "*Water management for increased crop production in St. Lucia*". Meetings with various St Lucian ministries and agencies resulted in the understanding of the needs of the various stakeholders, and ways in which they were prepared to participate in the development of the nation's water sector, and the detailed development of a proposal on the establishment of an integrated watershed management unit within the Ministry of Agriculture.

Chantal Matar (1997), Ph.D., Senior Researcher at the *Centre de recherche sur les aliments, Université de Moncton*, developed a research project in Argentina on the implication of the proteolytic activity of *Lactobacillus helveticus* in the stimulation of the immune system and in tumor regression. Experiment results were very encouraging, confirming the hypothesis that fermented milk with *L. Helveticus* stimulate the immune system and could delay tumor growth. Besides contributing to understanding the mechanisms of tumor regression in mice, this research could have important commercial outcomes, as they entail the development of value-added products and potential industrial partnerships between companies interested in the production of nutraceutical products. This internship also allowed a formal partnership between the Université de Moncton and CERELA for future collaborative research.

Christiane Dufresne (2000), B.Sc., M.Sc., Researcher, AAFC, Food Research and Development Center (FRDC), St Hyacinthe, Quebec. Project title: "*A collaboration project between FRDC and TECPAR for the development of joint research in the area of functional food, in particular regarding erva-mate*". Counterpart Institution and host country: Instituto de Tecnologia do Paraná, Brazil.

Christoph Weder (2000), B.Sc., M.Sc., Ph.D. candidate, Faculty of Agriculture Forestry and Home Economics, Department of Animal Science, Agriculture and Forestry Centre, University of Alberta. Project title: "*The use of NUTRI-CHARGE antemortem electrolyte therapy for treating weight loss and meat quality degradation in market-weight grass finished cattle in Uruguay and Argentina*". Counterpart Institution and host country: National Institute for Agriculture Research, Tacuarembó, Uruguay.

En-Min Zhou (1998), MD, Ph.D., Senior Researcher, CFIA, worked with the Paraguay National Animal Health Services (SENACSA) to develop his project on "Harmonization of Bluetongue C-ELISA Test in Brazil Pan-American Center and Validation of a C-ELISA as Serological

Diagnostic Test of Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease". The objective of this project was to set up the three C-ELISAs at SENACSA laboratory and start to test 2000 field bovine serum samples. The two bluetongue C-ELISAs were modified and used to test about 120 samples. Approximately, 80% of these 120 samples were positive by both C-ELISAs. Dr. Zhou also helped the Ministry of Agriculture's laboratory on performance of ELISAs for detection of hormones from cattle.

Gregg P Adams (2000), DVM, M.Sc., Ph.D., Department of Biomedical Sciences, Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan. Project title: "*Reproductive Biotechnology in South American Camelids*". Counterpart institution and host country: Quimsachata Camelid Research Station - Laboratory of Animal Reproduction, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos, Lima, Peru.

Gustavo Moran (1997), fellow researcher at York University, Faculty of Environmental Studies, travelled to Uruguay and Chile. His project focussed on finding Canadian partners, writing a sustainable forest management long-term project with all interested parties, and the development and deployment of a database. The general objective of the information system on the forest sector was to grant the government and business operators a data set facilitating opportune decision making in their respective institutional areas. Besides formal agreements signed between the University of York and the *Universidad Catolica* of Uruguay, a \$60,000.00 contract from Industry Canada was signed for the development of online courseware.

Humberto Monardes (1998), PhD, Professor, Department of Animal Science, McGill University, worked with several Brazilian organizations in his study of the variability of milk composition and milk quality, as a first step for the establishment of a milk recording program and a milk payment system in Rio Grande do Sul, RS, Brazil. The purpose of the proposed research was to provide the industry with suggestions for the establishment of an adequate milk payment system for the milk coming from the dairy farms in RS. He studied the variability of milk composition in RS, by region, by Co-operative and by level of production, by month and season, to assess the levels of the parameters that will be included in a milk payment system based on milk components.

Jacob Thundelhil (1999), Ph.D. student, University of Saskatchewan, Department of Herd Medicine and Theriogenology, travelled to Chile and developed with the Universidad Catolica de Chile, his project on "*In vitro evaluation of the fertilizing characteristics of bovine sperm with the knobbed acrosome effect*". Acrosome integrity and the acrosomal content of knobbed spermatozoa were evaluated through a series of sperm function tests. Results suggested that knobbed sperm lack acrosome integrity. Results of the evaluation of acrosomal content suggested that proteolytic activity of the acrosomal content from knobbed sperm differ from that of normal spermatozoa. The study concludes that cause of infertility due to knobbed sperm may be multi-faceted.

Jean-Guy LeBlanc (2000), B.Sc., M.Sc. candidate, University of Moncton, NB, Faculty of Sciences, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. Project title: "*In vivo study of peptides*"

released during milk fermentation by Lactobacillus helveticus R389". Counterpart institution and host country: CERELA (Centro de Referencia para Lactobacilos), San Miguel de Tucuman, Argentina.

John Headley (1998), (1999) and (2000), PhD, Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, University of Saskatchewan, worked on the impact of land use of agrochemicals on sustainable groundwater resources and agri-foods in the Caribbean, with the Barbados Ministry of Agriculture and the University of the West Indies. The themes of his research were "*Determination of agrochemical residues in bio-films, potable water and agri-foods in the Caribbean*" (1998 and 1999) and "*Evaluation of methods for measurement of adsorption and dissipation of atrazine in agricultural soils of Barbados' sugar cane plantations*" (2000). The objectives of his research were to complete the measurement of the sorption coefficient of atrazine and the primary microbiological degradation products (desethylatrazine and deisopropylatrazine) in selected agricultural soils in Barbados. These results are needed to help assess the potential for pesticides to leach from sugar plantation fields to vulnerable groundwater catchments.

Jonl Budgen (1998), Ph.D. student, Faculty of Environmental Studies, Department of Geography, University of Waterloo, developed a project with the Universidad Nacional de San Juan, Argentina, on "Agricultural crop identification in Argentina and Canada using imagery from Canada's RADARSAT satellite". This project was undertaken to identify and monitor vineyards, in the Tulum Valley, using RADARSAT remote sensing images. Her time spent at the National University of San Juan resulted in two papers, a successful proposal requesting additional funds for Phase II of the project and participation in field work. Training of San Juan staff in remote sensing software also resulted from this internship. In addition to the funds provided by IICA, this project received financial support through the GlobeSAR-2 University Program which was funded by CIDA, the Canada Centre for Remote Sensing (CCRS) and IDRC. Collaborative work continues between the two universities with Argentine scholars visiting Canada and the intent to write a proposal for future research that is beneficial to both Argentina and Canada.

Jorge Castillo (2000), DMV, M.Sc. candidate, University of Montreal, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Department of Preventive Medicine. Project title: "*Quebec dairy herds health improvement program and its applicability in Colombia*". Counterpart institution and host country: Asociación Nacional de Productores de Leche (ANALAC) de Colombia y la Facultad de Medicina Veterinaria de la Universidad Nacional de Colombia.

Klaus Nielsen (2000), Ph.D., Senior Researcher, Animal Disease Research Center, CFIA. Project title: "*Development of rapid serological assay for the diagnosis of infectious diseases of domestic animals*". Counterpart institution and host country: INTA Castelar, Argentina.

Lisa Earle (1999), M.Sc. student, University of Waterloo, Department of Biology, spent three months with the Servicio Nacional de Geología y Minería, Chile, working on "*Agricultural applications of alpine peatland ecology in the Chilean Altiplano*". Active natural resource

conservation in the sub-tropical Andean Altiplano is in its infancy, even though a single fragile ecosystem sustains nearly all subsistence agriculture and animal husbandry of indigenous communities. This project has identified the major challenges facing the long-term integrity of the ecosystem and has documented the importance of local ecosystem and groundwater conservation for the socioeconomic health of indigenous communities. It has contributed to local awareness of industrial development's potential impact on valuable grazing lands, flora and fauna, and also the potential role of native women in range management.

Lloyd Spencer (1998) and (1999), DVM, Ph.D., Senior Researcher, Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), worked with the Faculty of Veterinary Sciences, Universidad de La Plata and INTA, Argentina, on the theme "*Development of methods to measure and maximize the killing of animal pathogens in manure and carcasses during composting. Application for the control of poultry diseases*". He worked on the development of practical biosecure composting methods for eliminating pathogens from poultry manure and carcasses following an outbreak of a foreign animal disease; and on the development of a program for routine composting of manure and evaluation of the benefits of this type of program on the reduction of Salmonella and other indigenous poultry diseases such as Marek's disease and chick anemia.

Luc St Laurent (1999), Ph.D. candidate at the Plant Biology Research Institute, University of Montreal, worked with the Centro Internacional de Agricultura Tropical (CIAT), on the "*Study of the distribution in secondary compounds and assessment of the agricultural potential of species of the genus Mucuna (Fabaceae) in Central America*". A total of 48 plant specimens were collected in Central America and in Colombia. The planned analysis were successfully performed on the collected samples and will be used in the future for other analyses, such as DNA sequencing.

Maren Oelbermann (2000), M.Sc. candidate, Department of Land Resource Science, University of Guelph. Project title: "*Production of Agroforestry Systems: Linking Carbon Sequestration and Sustainable Agriculture in Costa Rica*". Counterpart Institution and host country: Centro Agronómico Tropical de Investigación y Enseñanza (CATIE), Costa Rica.

Mathieu Valcke (2000), B.Sc. (Biochemistry), M. Env. Environment, M. Sc. candidate, University of Montreal, Faculty of Medicine, Department of environmental health. Project title: "*Evaluation of the relation between exposure to the nematicide dibromochloropropane (DBCP) and cancer risks and long term fertility problems in former banana workers in Costa Rica*". Counterpart institution and host country: Instituto Regional de Estudios sobre los Tóxicos, IRET, Universidad Nacional de Heredia, Costa Rica.

Miranda Connelly (1998) and (1999), Ph.D. student, Faculty of Environmental Studies, University of York, worked twice with the Belize Enterprise for Sustainable Technology - B.E.S.T., in two different studies: "Supporting access to credit in rural Belize" (1998) and "*Linking gender and micro-credit in rural Belize*". B.E.S.T. is an NGO committed to promoting sustainability and enterprise development that delivers a pilot project named the Micro-Enterprise Credit Scheme (MECS). BEST is also committed to ensuring that 50% of the funds

fall into the hands of women. In order to ensure gender and micro-credit issues are connected appropriately in the Belizean context, this research project explored practitioners' experiences, as well as client perceptions of how the program is impacting their businesses. A few important findings were revealed. Women were far more likely to report significant inputs of labor by their children into businesses. They were also far more likely to report family members, particularly their partners, investing money into their businesses.

Nancy Graveline (2000), B.Sc., Researcher, AAFC-FRDC, St Hyacinthe, Quebec. Project title: *"Experimental planing of a comparative study of sensitive profiles on pasteurized honeys in Mexico, Argentina, and Canada"*. Counterpart Institution and host country: Instituto Tecnológico de Tuxtepec, Oaxaca, Mexico.

Nicole Demers (1999), M.Sc. student, Laval University, Faculty of Forestry and Geomatics, Laval University, Québec, worked with the International Centre for Research in Agroforestry (ICRAF), Eco-Regional Research Center for the Amazon Jungle Forest Margins, Program for the Domestication of Agroforestry Trees, Pucallpa, Peru, on the *"Selection of Guazuma crinita of various origin for its domestication in agroforestry systems of the Peruvian Amazon: seed germination characteristics and adaptation of the tree to the environment conditions"*. Findings reveal that, while there is no significant difference between growing *G. crinita* in particular soil types, important differences occur according to the origin of the seeds.

Portia Taylor (1999), M.Sc. student, York University, Faculty of Environmental Studies, worked with the Conservation Agriculture Network and the Centro Científico Tropical, San Jose, Costa Rica, on *"Making the certification process more participatory: building bridges between the Conservation Agriculture Network (CAN) and banana farmers in the Caribbean lowlands of Costa Rica"*. Greater awareness of the negative impacts of agriculture has resulted in the expansion of environmental and social certification programs around the world. One such program is the 'Better Banana' eco-label for bananas led by the Rainforest Alliance, a member of the Conservation Agriculture Network. Future success for the Conservation Agriculture Network in promoting workers' rights in Costa Rica is found to be dependent on a theoretical refinement of the complex issue of banana labour rights and effective implementation of participatory, anti-oppression education.

Robert Palasz (1997), Ph.D., Research Scientist of the Department of Herd Medicine and Theriogenology, Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan. Dr. Palasz presented a research proposal dealing with in vitro bovine embryo production without products of biological origin. His project, executed jointly with the IRAC and the *Universidad Católica de Córdoba*, Argentina, included technology transfer, training and workshop presentations and lectures to University students and practitioners in Argentina. The results of the experiments on embryo micro-manipulations and transfer will be published jointly by IRAC and the University of Saskatchewan in the upcoming International Embryo Transfer Society Meeting.

Robert Bonnel (1999), Ph.D., Assistant Professor, McGill University, The Brace Centre for Water Resources Management, Department of Agricultural & Biosystems Engineering, travelled to Panama to explore collaborative research and development in the realm of *"Watershed Protection and Community Enhancement via Sustainable Agricultural Development"*. Numerous discussions were held with government and university personnel. The result is the outline of two separate research project proposals that are now under development. The first project will address sustainable farming within two sub-watersheds of the Panama Canal Watershed. The second project entails the study and optimization of the performance of established and new surface irrigation projects introduced with financial and technical support of the government.

Robert Lazariuk (1997), Trade Policy Analyst, Department of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, travelled to Brazil to develop a study on Canada-Brazil agri-food market. His training study was related to market access in Brazil with a view to facilitating Canadian agri-food exports to that country.

Sara Bolvin-Chabot (2000), M.Sc. candidate, Laval University, Faculty of Forestry and Geomatics. Project title: *"Promoting Productive Diversity on Farms in the Peruvian Amazon with Participatory Tree Domestication for Agroforestry Systems"*. Counterpart institution and host country: International Centre for Research in Agroforestry (ICRAF), Eco-Regional Research Center for the Amazon Jungle Forest Margins. Program for the Domestication of Agroforestry Trees. Pucallpa, Peru.

Tony Wels (1999), Ph.D. student, Queens University, Department of Geography, travelled to Jamaica to develop with the St Mary Rural Development Project and the University of West Indies, a project on *"Agrarian change and the small farmers in Jamaica"*. This research documents the marked and steady increase in Jamaica's food imports since 1990 (following a World Bank Agricultural Sector Adjustment Loan), which has come primarily from the heavily subsidized agricultural sector of the United States, and examines the uneven nature of agrarian trade. The report also assesses the political foundations of Jamaica's liberalization and the unwillingness of its government to protect domestic producers at levels even approaching its bound tariff commitments under the WTO Agreement on Agriculture, and relates the impact of liberalization to broader concerns about rural development, food security, and agroecological goals. With the opening of agricultural markets likely to follow from current WTO and FTAA negotiations, the report concludes by identifying key changes needed for Jamaica's peasant sector to become competitive, foremost among which is land reform.

Tracey Lue (1999), M.Sc. student at the Faculty of Environmental Studies, York University, worked with the Centro de Educacion y Tecnologia and Universidad Catolica de Temuco, Chile, in developing her project: *"A case study: Sustainable agriculture, biodiversity and world trade in Southern Chile"*. This investigation, still in its early stages of analysis, examines the attitudes, values, beliefs and actions related to these issues, as defined by academics and practitioners. It observes the confluence of traditional and western concepts of biodiversity conservation, and is based within the activities of the Community Biodiversity Development and Conservation Program.

Virginie Levasseur (1997), Ph.D. student of the Department of Phytology, Université Laval (Québec), travelled to Peru to develop her studies at the University of Tinga-Maria. Her subject of study was the dynamics of agroforestry systems in Peruvian Amazonia, specifically the association of coffee plantation with food or cash crops.

Yves Desjardins (1999), Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Horticulture Research Center, Laval University, developed his research with the Centro de Investigacion Cientifica de Yucatan (CICY), Mexico, on the "*Development of coconut tree autotrophy in in vitro et ex vitro conditions*". Studies were done on the photosynthesis mechanisms in shrubs resulting from zygotic embryogenesis to define indicators of the coconut plants capacity to survive during acclimation transfers. Results obtained allowed a better understanding of the in vitro cultures physiology and contributed to increase the efficiency of the propagation of the coconut tree, which could allow a new impetus of this production affected by a devastating endemic disease.

From Latin American & Caribbean Countries

Ana Augusto P. Rezende (2000), Ph.D. student, Department of Agricultural and Environmental Engineering, University of Viçosa, Brazil. Project title: "*Land application of wastewater and sludge from the pulp and paper industry-an exchange experience*". Counterpart Institution: University of Guelph, Horticultural Research Institute of Ontario.

Athanasia Bonneton (2000), Ph.D., Agricultural economist, food systems and chains products, Department of Tropical agriculture, University of the Caribbean and Guyane. Project title: "*Economic and technical feasibility of ecological sugarcane production in the Caribbean. A case study: the Island of Marie-Galante*". Counterpart Institution: McGill University, Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Studies, Department of Agricultural Economics, MacDonald Campus, Quebec.

Fernando Eduardo Alves De Sousa (2000), B.Sc. in food technology, Instituto de Tecnologia de Alimentos (ITAL), Campinas, Brazil. Project title: "*Pre-slaughter handling (transport, lairage, lairage time) on some meat quality characteristics in pigs*". Counterpart Institution: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Research Station, Lennoxville, Quebec.

Jesús Alberto García Núñez (1999), senior researcher, Cenipalma, Colombia, spent three months in the Microwave-Assisted Processes (MAP) laboratories, Environmental Technology Centre, Environment Canada, on the use of microwave technology in the extraction of palm oil. Through MAP, organic and organometallic compounds can be selectively extracted faster and with a similar or superior recuperation rate, when compared to conventional processes. During his internship, Mr. García Núñez perfected a laboratory analysis method for the determination of oil in palm oil fibers, using the MAP technology. With this method, up to four hours can be saved in determining of oil, compared to conventional methods.

Marcelo Del Campo (2000), Ph.D., Centro de Biotecnología Reproductiva (CEBIOR), Departamento de Ciencias Básicas, Facultad de Medicina, Universidad de la Frontera, Temuco, Chile. Project title: *"Sanitary Control and Cryopreservation of Gametes and Embryos from South American Camelids"*. Counterpart Institution: Department of Herd Medicine and Theriogenology, Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan.

FOSTERING CANADIAN AND LAC FARMERS EXCHANGE PROGRAM

André Bellerose (1977) and (1998) an UPA dairy farmer, developed his two projects in El Salvador (1997) and Paraguay (1998). In El Salvador, he worked with the CONFRAS to analyse the situation of the agrarian reform and the present and potential role of rural cooperatives in rural development. In Paraguay he worked to support the Quiindy cooperative in its institutional modernization process and in identifying agricultural products suitable for export markets, aimed mainly at the MERCOSUR countries. Mr. Bellerose suggests that UPA develop with Quiindy a project on cooperative management, product quality and standardization, and credit and payment conditions.

Barry Fraser (1999), P.Ag., a member of OIA, travelled to Mexico to determine ways to put into action the findings in the "Canada- Mexico Seasonal Farm Workers Support Project". The overall purpose of this exchange was to help facilitate ongoing communication networks to support the Mexican seasonal workers and their families once they return to their farms and communities in the Mexican States of Guanajuato, Morelos, Puebla, Mexico and Tlaxcala. It was also to facilitate the Mexican seasonal farm workers' contributions to both agriculture and rural development in Mexico, encouraging and using their expanded knowledge and skill set, thereby enhancing the quality of life and improving business opportunities for seasonal workers and their families once home in their Mexican communities.

Benolt Bricault (1999), a student in agricultural management and exploitation at the Cégep Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, spent three months at the Center American Agriculture School, Costa Rica. The objectives of his internship were to learn new ways of working in many areas of production and to compare cattle rearing methods.

Bruce Buttar (1977), a dairy farmer from the NFA, through a partnership with Horizons of Friendship, travelled to El Salvador and developed a project named "Farmer to Campesino Exchange: Facing Globalization Through Mutual Learning About Land Use, Production Approaches and Marketing Strategies". This exchange allowed him to visit trade schools, dairy, citrus, and coffee farms. With the Democratic Campesino Alliance of El Salvador, they conclude that a continuing contact between farm organizations will be beneficial for both countries.

Carl Siemens (1998), an young Canadian farmer affiliated to the NFU, travelled to Mexico to work with UNORCA. UNORCA represents over 280,000 Mexican food producers and with

which the NFU has established an extensive cooperation program. The aim of this internship was to exchange information and experiences, to share joint research and develop strategies that will help insure the survival of the family farm. The project focused on the trade aspects of the farm business plan and, in particular, on the implementation of the business plan.

Carman Orosz (1997), a member of the NFU from Saskatchewan traveled to Mexico in the framework of an exchange with UNORCA. The central objective of the NFU-UNORCA Youth Exchange was to expose NFU youth to the NFU-UNORCA Farmer-to-Farmer Trade Project with the view to having them gain new skills and provide them with the opportunity to become more acquainted in the trade project's future work.

Cindy Murray (1999), a NFU member and an organic farmer in Manitoba, travelled to Costa Rica. The main objective of the exchange was to create an affiliation between the NFU and their Via Campesina counterpart in Costa Rica, UPANACIONAL (National Union of Small-Scale Farmers). NFU wanted to establish lines of communication and an exchange of information that will be beneficial for farmers in both countries. One of the goals of the participants was to determine the differences and similarities between farming methods in these two countries and to try to find common ground in the struggles faced by farmers world wide.

David Bujold (1999), studying in agricultural management and exploitation at the Cégep Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, spent his three-month internship at the INA Organic Agriculture Technology Unit located in Cartago, Costa Rica. This research unit offers training in plant protection, organic fertilizers, and soil management. They also provide a diagnostic service for plant diseases and the identification of pathogens.

Emille Maloney (2000), an young farmer, studying in farm management and technology at the Cégep Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, spent three months at the Escuela Centroamericana de Ganaderia - Center American School of Agriculture, Costa Rica.

Frédéric Lazure (1998), a young farmer presently studying farm management at the Cégep Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, spent ten weeks in Costa Rica working with coffee growers and the Agriculture and Livestock School (ECAG). Since then there is now a formal agreement between the Cégep and the ECAG, in which IICA Headquarters will participate in funding the internship of two young Costa Rican farmers in Canada.

Ian Cushon (1977) and (1998), a member of Partners in Rural Development, developed his internship in El Salvador (1997) and Mexico (1998). In El Salvador, he worked with the Salvadorean Association for Integrated Development, the Salvadorean Foundation for Reconstruction and Development; and the Cooperative League for the United States of America. His project concentrated on organic farming and the name of his project was "*Toward Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security: International Information for Sustainable Agriculture and Organic Product*". In 1998, he worked with UNORCA-Mexico. UNORCA represents over 280,000 Mexican food producers and with which the NFU has established an extensive cooperation program. The aim of this internship was to exchange information and experiences,

to share joint research and develop strategies that will help insure the survival of the family farm. The project focussed on the trade aspects of the farm business plan and, in particular, on the implementation of the business plan.

Jim Orr (1977), a dairy farmer from the NFA, through a partnership with Horizons of Friendship, travelled to El Salvador and developed a project named "Farmer to Campesino Exchange: Facing Globalization Through Mutual Learning About Land Use, Production Approaches and Marketing Strategies". This exchange allowed him to visit trade schools, dairy, citrus, and coffee farms. With the Democratic Campesino Alliance of El Salvador, they conclude that a continuing contact between farm organizations will be beneficial for both countries.

Joe Banbury (1977), a dairy farmer from the NFA, through a partnership with Horizons of Friendship, travelled to El Salvador and developed a project named "Farmer to Campesino Exchange: Facing Globalization Through Mutual Learning About Land Use, Production Approaches and Marketing Strategies". This exchange allowed him to visit trade schools, dairy, citrus, and coffee farms. As a follow-up of his missions to Latin America, the Executive Director of the Northumberland Federation of Agriculture visited IICA-Canada and expressed his enormous satisfaction with the program, which met the Federations' objectives of giving Ontario farmers the opportunity to exchange experiences with their counterpart in LAC countries and to create or strengthen relations with LAC farmers organizations.

Laurier Lussler (2000), an young farmer studying farm management and technology at the Cégep Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, spent three months at the Agriculture College "Parque de Espana", Argentina.

Linden Huizinga (1997) a member of NFU from Saskatchewan, traveled to Mexico in the framework of an exchange with UNORCA. The central objective of the NFU-UNORCA Youth Exchange was to expose NFU youth to the NFU-UNORCA Farmer-to-Farmer Trade Project with the view to having them gain new skills and provide them with the opportunity to become more acquainted in the trade project's future work.

Lucien Archambault (2000), an UPA member and active agricultural producer of Quebec, collaborated with IICA-Haiti and the Ministry of Agriculture of Haiti in establishing a national farmers organization and strengthening local farmers associations.

Martha Robins (1999), Youth President of NFU and a second year International Studies student at the University of Saskatchewan, travelled to Costa Rica. The main objective of the exchange was to create an affiliation between the NFU and their Via Campesina counterpart in Costa Rica, UPANACIONAL (National Union of Small-Scale Farmers). NFU wanted to establish lines of communication and an exchange of information that will be beneficial for farmers in both countries. One of the goals of the participants was to determine the differences and similarities between farming methods in these two countries and to try to find common ground in the struggles faced by farmers world wide.

Michelle Soucy (2000), an young farmer studying farm management and technology at the Cégep Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, to spend three months at the Agriculture College "Parque de Espana", Argentina.

Neils Erk Holbeck (1999), an agricultural producer from British Columbia, travelled to Guatemala where he worked with farmer organizations and indigenous entrepreneur groups engaged in organic/fair trade and sustainable agriculture projects. A workshop, held during Mr. Holbeck's stay, was well received and the concepts of value added and local marketing appeared to be something that the group welcomed and could grasp. Mr. Holbeck considers that huge issues around water and air quality urgently need to be addressed. The contribution of agriculture to these problems needs to be explored and steps taken to improve environmental quality. Future projects should ensure that these issues are addressed and that all environmental issues are clearly considered.

Nettie Wiebe (1977), President of NFU, traveled to Mexico in the framework of an exchange with UNORCA. The central objective of the NFU-UNORCA Youth Exchange was to expose NFU youth to the NFU-UNORCA Farmer-to-Farmer Trade Project with the view to having them gain new skills and provide them with the opportunity to become more acquainted in the trade project's future work.

Paul Burham (1977), a dairy farmer from the NFA, through a partnership with Horizons of Friendship, travelled to El Salvador and developed a project named "Farmer to Campesino Exchange: Facing Globalization Through Mutual Learning About Land Use, Production Approaches and Marketing Strategies". This exchange allowed him to visit trade schools, dairy, citrus, and coffee farms. With the Democratic Campesino Alliance of El Salvador, they concluded that a continuing contact between farm organizations will be beneficial for both countries.

Pierre Gélinas (1997) and (1998), travelled to Chile to support a farmers' association, *La Voz del Campo*, and the National Agriculture Research Institute of Chile (INDAP) in their efforts to implement a farm management center offering professional services to their members. One of the results of this mission will be a proposal for continuing cooperation between UPA and *La Voz del Campo* in the areas of training Chilean farmers' association leaders in democratization of these associations and in the administration of the farm management centers.

Robert Ross (1999), P.Ag., a member of OIA, travelled to Mexico to determine ways to put into action the findings in the "Canada- Mexico Seasonal Farm Workers Support Project". The overall purpose of this exchange was to help facilitate ongoing communication networks to support the Mexican seasonal workers and their families once they return to their farms and communities in the Mexican States of Guanajuato, Morelos, Puebla, Mexico and Tlaxcala. It was also to facilitate the Mexican seasonal farm workers' contributions to both agriculture and rural development in Mexico, encouraging and using their expanded knowledge and skill set, thereby enhancing the quality of life and improving business opportunities for seasonal workers and their families once home in their Mexican communities.

Ronald Alary (1977) and (1998), an UPA's dairy farmer, from Quebec, developed his projects in Bolivia (1997) and Chile (1998). In Bolivia, he worked with the producers and managers of COSECO, to evaluate the dairy production and processing. In Chile, he worked to support a farmers' association, *La Voz del Campo* and the National Agriculture Research Institute of Chile (INDAP) in their efforts to implement a farm management center offering professional services to their members. A formal proposal for continuing cooperation between the UPA and *La Voz del Campo* in the areas of training Chilean farmers' association leaders in democratization of these associations and in the administration of the farm management centers, is being analysed by the Parties.

Stéphanie SImard (1999), a young farmer and student in animal production technology, at the La Pocatière Agricultural Technology Institute (Quebec), travelled to the Dominican Republic to make an assessment of available agricultural resources. Her goal was, among others, to learn about the differences between the two countries agricultural practices and environmental concerns. She made an exhaustive analysis of the productive fields in the Dominican Republic and of national and international agencies involved in cooperation programs, in particular, in fair trade and sustainable agriculture projects.

Sylvester Campbell (1977), a dairy farmer from the NFA, through a partnership with Horizons of Friendship, travelled to El Salvador and developed a project named "Farmer to Campesino Exchange: Facing Globalization Through Mutual Learning About Land Use, Production Approaches and Marketing Strategies". This exchange allowed him to visit trade schools, dairy, citrus, and coffee farms. With the Democratic Campesino Alliance of El Salvador, they conclude that a continuing contact between farm organizations will be beneficial for both countries.

Tony Hogervorst (1999), P.Ag., a member of OIA, travelled to Mexico to determine ways to put into action the findings in the "Canada- Mexico Seasonal Farm Workers Support Project". The overall purpose of this exchange was to help facilitate ongoing communication networks to support the Mexican seasonal workers and their families once they return to their farms and communities in the Mexican States of Guanajuato, Morelos, Puebla, Mexico and Tlaxcala. It was also to facilitate the Mexican seasonal farm workers' contributions to both agriculture and rural development in Mexico, encouraging and using their expanded knowledge and skill set, thereby enhancing the quality of life and improving business opportunities for seasonal workers and their families once home in their Mexican communities.

Valery Smith, (1977) a member of Partners in Rural Development, developed his partnership to organize a program for three young farmers from Saskatchewan to El Salvador, where they worked with the Salvadorean Association for Integrated Development, the Salvadorean Foundation for Reconstruction and Development; and the Cooperative League for the United States of America. She developed a project on "*Opportunities for Enhanced Participation of Women in Agriculture*".

Wayne Amos (1977), a member of Partners in Rural Development, developed his exchange in El Salvador, where he worked with the Salvadorean Association for Integrated Development, the Salvadorean Foundation for Reconstruction and Development; and the Cooperative League for the United States of America. His project was *"Building Bridges: Linking Canadian and Latin American Farmers' Organizations"*.

Two young farmers (2000), studying agriculture and international development at the Alfred College of Agriculture of the University of Guelph. The students, highly qualified technicians in agriculture, horticulture and nutrition, aim to acquire the necessary skills to work in developing countries.

Two young farmers (2000), representing the NFU, travelled to Costa Rica and following-up the work performed by other NFU recipients of IICA-Canada awards.

From Latin American & Caribbean Countries

Alfonso Mora Pérez (1999), Cartago, a member of the UPANACIONAL, travelled to Canada to participate in a farmers exchange with NFU producers. The important result of this exchange was that Costa Rican and Canadian farmers could share experiences and realize that the struggle of the small and medium farmer is somewhat similar in the two countries. The participants clearly realized the necessity to join efforts and to seek agriculture policies allowing the family production to continue.

Angela Gallal (2000), from Trinidad & Tobago, experienced in broilers, sugar cane, rice, and plantain, is involved in rural women associations, promoting fruit preservation for small scale enterprises. She worked with the Cegep of St Hyacinthe and the UPA, Quebec.

Helinton Carlos Yuzawa (2000), DMV, a farmer from Ventania, Parana, Brazil, is a corn, wheat, soy bean, and beef producer. He is particularly interested in beef cattle raising techniques used in Canada. He spent his internship in the University of Saskatchewan.

Joaquín Rodríguez Rojas (1999), a member of the UPANACIONAL, travelled to Canada to participate in a farmers exchange with NFU producers. The important result of his exchange was that Costa Rican and Canadian farmers could share experiences and realize that the struggle of the small and medium farmer is somewhat similar in the two countries. The participants clearly realized the necessity to join efforts and to seek agriculture policies allowing the family production to continue.

Jose De Bernardi (2000), M.Sc. (regional development), of Trujillo, Peru, Director of the CTTU (Centro de Transferencia Tecnológica a Universitarios) promotes small agribusiness enterprises in the Peruvian Andean and coastal areas. His interests lay in small entrepreneur motivation courses to promote discipline, quality and increasing responsibility among participants. He worked with the Cegep of St Hyacinthe, Quebec.

Lulz Ermani Henkes (2000), Ph.D., a dairy and sheep production farm manager in Sarandi, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, was particularly interested in learning the Canadian farming "know-how" and agricultural policies, and to understand its rationale in order to improve farm efficiency in Southern Brazil. He was also looking for a closer relationship between Southern Brazilian and Canadian farmers, regarding experiences exchanged as far as land use and management, sustainable development and husbandry.

William Serrano (1999), Huetar Norte, a member of the **UPANACIONAL**, travelled to Canada to participate in a farmers exchange with NFU producers. The goals of this exchange were to allow the Costa Rican producers to learn about Canadian agriculture and its organization, through the NFU; to investigate on credit access and levels of tariff barriers; to learn about the Canadian collective commercialization systems; and to assess the future of family farming in Canada. The important result of this exchange was that Costa Rican and Canadian farmers could share experiences and realize that the struggle of the small and medium farmer is somewhat similar in the two countries.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES

Casandra Bryant (1999) and (2000), Ph.D. Student, University of Guelph, Ontario Agricultural College, School of Rural Extension Studies, Faculty of Environmental Design and Rural Development, travelled to Honduras to develop with the Escuela Agricola Panamericana – Zamorano, two projects: *"Development and Assessment of New Communication Tools and Practices Using ICTs for the Developing Countries Farm Radio Networks (DCFRN)"* (1999) and *"Feasibility of a partnership between Developing Countries Farm Radio Network (Canada) and Zamorano Pan American School of Agriculture (Honduras) to work for the common goal of supporting rural development by establishing a strong member network within the region with a focus on radio as the main communication media accompanied by complimentary communication medium such as the Internet and e-mail"* (2000). The overall goals of her project were to explain how a communication development support system involving the use of technological resources, such as e-mail and the Internet, can help the current communication system of DCFRN. DCFRN has entered into a process to explore the feasibility of using alternative communication channels in conjunction to current channels, to better serve and facilitate membership involvement and networking.

Francine Bernard (1999), chief, library services, AAFC-FRDC, St Hyacinthe, developed jointly with the Argentina Food Technology Institute (ITA) of the National Agriculture Technology Institute (INTA) a project for *"Exchanging specialized food technology information between the CRDA and INTA; dissemination of information to stakeholders."* A collaboration project titled *"Improvement of the food science information services in Argentina"* resulted from her internship, which was followed by a one month visit in the FRDC of Ms Estela Favret, INTA ICT specialist.

Justin Kogi Sugawara (2000), B.A. (Commerce), Investment Officer, Market and Industry Services Branch, AAFC, Ottawa. Project title: *"Getting Connected: Bridging the Gaps through 'Virtual' Training"*. Counterpart institution and host country: IICA-Barbados.

From Latin American & Caribbean Countries

Estela Favret (1999), INTA information specialist, developed with the AAFC-FRDC a project following on Ms Francine Bernard's visit to Argentina, regarding *Exchanging specialized food technology information between the CRDA and INTA; dissemination of information to stakeholders*. Ms Favret took advantage of her internship to understand the documentation system of the FRDC, Canada's most import agri-food library, and of the AAFC library network in general, composed of 18 regional libraries.

Maria Elena Corrin (2000), Chemical engineer, Ph.D. candidate, Universidad Nacional del Sur, Department of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering. Project title: *"Development of virtual labs for training students in drying of agricultural products"*. Counterpart institution: Laval University, Department of Soil Science and Agri-Food Engineering, Quebec.

Marcos Garcia Tosi (2000), news editor and public relations officer, Federação da Agricultura do Paraná (FAEP), Brazil. Project title: *"New information and communication technologies applied to farmers associations in Southern Brazil"*. He will develop his internship with the editors of a Canadian specialized newsletter in agriculture, such as UPA's "La Terre de chez nous".

SUPPORTING CANADA'S YOUTH IN DEVELOPING INTERNATIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE IN LAC COUNTRIES

Cony Palencia (2000), Bachelor of Agricultural Sciences, University of British Columbia, worked with IICA-Chile and the Proyecto y Parque Pumalin, Puerto Montt, Chile, where she developed the field work component of the project *"Environmental Conflicts and Organizational Change towards Ecological and Social Sustainability: a Study of Environmental Conflicts in Chile and the Province of British Columbia, Canada."*

Jason J. Flcek (2000), B.Sc., Environmental Sciences, University of Manitoba, worked in the area of data collection and informatics with IICA-Suriname.

Lorraine Flset (2000), DVM, CFIA, Quebec Region. Dr. Flset worked with IICA-Dominican Republic and the local Ministry of Agriculture, in aspects related to food inspection and institutional organization of the agricultural health services.

Marie-Claude Theoret (2000), DVM, a young veterinarian with strong interest in an international career, developed her internship with IICA-Haiti and the Baptist mission of Kenskoff.

Phuong Nguyen (2000), B.Sc., Environmental Sciences, University of Manitoba, worked in the area of water management with IICA-Panama.

EXPLORATORY BUSINESS AND SCIENTIFIC MISSIONS

Al Scholz (1998), CCAA, Al Scholz & Associates Inc. A former president of the Canadian Consultant Agrologists Association (CCAA), he went to Trinidad & Tobago aimed at expanding the participation of Canadian experts and professionals interested in developing a joint cooperative work in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) countries. This mission enabled CCAA to develop strategic alliances with Caribbean agribusiness associations and organizations.

Denise Boudrias (2000), former Senior Official, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, went to Saint Lucia, together with Mr. Dennis Walthe, to provide technical assistance and training to senior officers of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment of the Government of St. Lucia in the project "Institutional Assistance in a Program of Personnel Development to Increase Individual and Workplace Motivation: Striving for Excellence".

Dennis Walthe (2000), Senior Economist, Policy Branch, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, went to Saint Lucia, together with Ms. Denise Boudrias, to provide technical assistance and training to senior officers of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment of the Government of St. Lucia in the project "Institutional Assistance in a Program of Personnel Development to Increase Individual and Workplace Motivation: Striving for Excellence".

Javler Verastegui (1997) and (1998), a scientist from BIOTECanada. In 1997, he went to an international symposium held at the University of Michigan (U.S.). In 1998, went to Brazil to participate in the BIOLATINA congress, held in Rio de Janeiro. BIOTECanada enhanced its strategic alliances with LAC biotechnology organizations and associations, thus facilitating the creation of trade opportunities and stimulating shared research in fields of common interest.

Joyce Groote (1998), a scientist from BIOTECanada, went to Brazil to participate in the BIOLATINA congress, held in Rio de Janeiro. BIOTECanada enhanced its strategic alliances with LAC biotechnology organizations and associations, thus facilitating the creation of trade opportunities and stimulating shared research in fields of common interest.

Mario Hebert (1999) and (2000), Assistant Regional Director, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC), Montreal Regional Office, travelled to St. Lucia, St. Kitts and Dominica (1999), to study the adaptations envisioned to the next edition of the Great Globalization Game of the

Agri-Food Markets, an initiative of AAFC and UPA and to train Caribbean agricultural decision makers. As a further development of this initial mission, he went to San Jose, Costa Rica (2000) aimed at officially presenting to the members of the Executive Committee of IICA, the Spanish version off the GGG.

Murray McLaughlin (1998), a scientist from BIOTECCanada, went to Brazil to participate in the BIOLATINA congress, held in Rio de Janeiro. BIOTECCanada enhanced its strategic alliances with LAC biotechnology organizations and associations, thus facilitating the creation of trade opportunities and stimulating shared research in fields of common interest.

Paul Cox (1998), CCAA, Worldwide Resource Economics. An initial mission of CCAA went to Trinidad & Tobago aimed at expanding the participation of Canadian experts and professionals interested in developing a joint cooperative work in LAC countries. This mission enabled CCAA to develop strategic alliances with Caribbean agribusiness associations and organizations.

Phil England (2000), P.Ag., President of AIC, traveled to Mexico. The main objective of his mission was to explore potential opportunities to work with professional agricultural associations in LAC in the areas of institutional strengthening, sustainable agricultural development, professional development of members and accreditation of agricultural programs. They also attended the Second World Conference of Professionals in Agronomy making valuable contacts with representatives from Chile, Mexico, Peru, Guatemala, Argentina, South Africa, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil and Costa Rica. Potential links with other Professional Associations were identified in the areas of Educational Accreditation, Labour Mobility, Ethics, Professional Development, Professional Accreditation, and joint collaboration on development projects.

Ralph Ashmead (1998), CCAA, Ashmead Economic Research Inc. An initial mission of CCAA went to Trinidad & Tobago aimed at expanding the participation of Canadian experts and professionals interested in developing a joint cooperative work in LAC countries. This mission enabled CCAA to develop strategic alliances with Caribbean agribusiness associations and organizations.

Raymond Dupuis (1999) and (2000), Assistant Regional Director, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC), Montreal Regional Office, travelled to St. Lucia, St. Kitts and Dominica (1999), to study the adaptations envisioned to the next edition of the Great Globalization Game of the Agri-Food Markets, an initiative of AAFC and UPA and to train Caribbean agricultural decision makers. As a further development of this initial mission, he went to San Jose, Costa Rica (2000) aimed at officially presenting to the members of the Executive Committee of IICA, the Spanish version off the GGG.

Ronald Alary (1999), a dairy farmer of UPA (Quebec), travelled to Saint Lucia aimed at supporting and enhancing the capacities of local farmers' organizations and make recommendations for farming women to contribute to and profit from farm commodity organizations on the island. His mission was in response to a request from the Minister of Agriculture in Saint Lucia and made possible through the combined efforts of IICA-Canada,

IICA-St. Lucia, AAFC and UPA. He met with representatives of farmers' organizations and national agricultural institutions that provide services in agricultural credit, tertiary education, co-operative development and rural enterprise development. He issued a recommendation that a Management Centre be established to deliver services in education, information, marketing and management. Secondly, that commodity based groups develop mechanisms to provide information about markets, prices, export opportunities and the real costs of production.

Teresa Mellish (1999), Chief Planning Officer with the Department of Agriculture and Forestry on Prince Edward Island, travelled to St. Lucia. The exercise was part of a broader strategy to enhance the capacities of farmers' organizations and make recommendations for farming women to contribute to and profit from farm commodity organizations on the island. Her mission was in response to a request from the Minister of Agriculture in Saint Lucia and made possible through the combined efforts of IICA-Canada, IICA-St. Lucia, AAFC and the Department of Agriculture and Forestry on Prince Edward Island. She met with representatives of farmers' organizations and national agricultural institutions that provide services in agricultural credit, tertiary education, co-operative development and rural enterprise development and also with groups representing women farmers. She reported an evident lack of training, education, leadership, participation and understanding of the principles of co-operatives and unionism. Women farmers, as individuals or as part of an organization, were found to have limited access to credit and did not participate in decision making of the groups, although they more readily adopted new crops and new technologies. She provided a recommendation that a Management Centre be established to deliver services in education, information, marketing and management.

Tom Beach (2000), P.Ag., Director of AIC, travelled to Mexico, aimed at exploring potential opportunities to work with professional agricultural associations in LAC in the areas of institutional strengthening, sustainable agricultural development, professional development of members and accreditation of agricultural programs. He also attended the Second World Conference of Professionals in Agronomy making valuable contacts with LAC representatives. Potential links with other Professional Associations were identified in the areas of Educational Accreditation, Labour Mobility, Ethics, Professional Development and Accreditation, and joint collaboration on development projects.

From Latin American & Caribbean Countries

Amador Ripoll (1999), Director of Fish Inspection Services of the Uruguay National Fisheries Institute, was invited to participate in the 3rd International Fish Inspection and Quality Control Conference. Host country and institutions: Canada, FCC.

Arlington Chesney (2000), Director of IICA Caribbean Regional Centre, was invited to participate as guest speaker at the OIA 2000 conference. He focused his presentation on the potential for Canadian professional services to the Caribbean. Host country and institution: Canada, OIA.

Byron G. García (1999), Official Veterinary Inspector of the Animal Health Branch of the Costa Rica Ministry of Agriculture, was invited to participate in the 3rd International Fish Inspection and Quality Control Conference. Host country and institutions: Canada, FCC.

Carlos Rodrigues (1999), a private veterinarian of the Sao Paulo region in Brazil, specialized in embryo transfer, was invited to participate in CETA's annual conference. He also had the opportunity to visit Canadian farms, private businesses, research and education institutions, all related to bovine embryo transfer. Host country and institutions: Canada, CETA.

Carlos Muñoz (1999), a private veterinarian of the Osorno region in Chile, specialized in embryo transfer, was invited to participate in CETA's annual conference. He also had the opportunity to visit Canadian farms, private businesses, research and education institutions, all related to bovine embryo transfer. Host country and institutions: Canada, CETA.

Cecilia S. Fernández (1999), of the Sanitary Inspection Department, Fisheries National Services of Chile, was invited to participate in the 3rd International Fish Inspection and Quality Control Conference. Host country and institutions: Canada, FCC.

Chelston Brathwalte (2000), IICA representative in Jamaica, was invited to participate as guest speaker at the OIA 2000 conference. He focused his presentation on the potential for Canadian professional services to the Caribbean. Host country and institution: Canada, OIA.

Dowlat Budham (2000), IICA specialist from Costa Rica, was invited to participate as guest speaker at the OIA 2000 conference. He focused his presentation on the potential for Canadian professional services to the Central America region. Host country and institution: Canada, OIA.

Gabriel Bo (1999), research scientist and director of the Cordoba Animal Reproduction Institute, Córdoba, Argentina, was invited to participate in CETA's annual conference. He also had the opportunity to visit Canadian farms, research and education institutions, all related to bovine embryo transfer. Host country and institutions: Canada, CETA.

George Grant (1999), Director of Veterinary Services, Ministry of Agriculture and Mining of Jamaica, was invited to participate in the 3rd International Fish Inspection and Quality Control Conference. Host country and institutions: Canada, FCC.

Gerardo Mojica (2001), Director, Technology Transfer, INTA-Argentina, was invited to participate in the 7th Conference of Montreal. Host country and institution: Canada, IICA.

Guilherme Silva Junior (1999), Director of the Brazilian Federal Inspection Service, Brasilia, Brazil, was invited to participate in the 3rd International Fish Inspection and Quality Control Conference. Host country and institutions: Canada, FCC.

Guillermo Brogliatti (1999), a research scientist with the Perez Companc Research Center in Reproduction, specialized in animal reproduction and embryo transfer, was invited to participate

in CETA's annual conference. He also had the opportunity to visit Canadian farms, private businesses, research and education institutions, all related to bovine embryo transfer. Host country and institutions: Canada, CETA.

Gustavo Rojas (2001), Technical Manager, National Agricultural Society, Chile, was invited to participate in the 7th Conference of Montreal. Host country and institution: Canada, IICA.

J.W. Coll-Wongsoredjo (1999), of the Ministry of LVV, Paramaribo, Suriname, was invited to participate in the 3rd International Fish Inspection and Quality Control Conference. Host country and institutions: Canada, FCC..

Jorge Nicolau (1999), a private veterinarian of the Sao Paulo region in Brasil, specialized in embryo transfer, was invited to participate in CETA's annual conference. He also had the opportunity to visit Canadian farms, private businesses, research and education institutions, all related to bovine embryo transfer. Host country and institutions: Canada, CETA.

Jorge Raed (1999), coordinator of the fish and seafood inspection services, SENASA, Argentina, was invited to participate in the 3rd International Fish Inspection and Quality Control Conference. Host country and institutions: Canada, FCC.

Jorge V. Chávez (1999), Director General of Environmental Health, Ministry of Health, Peru, was invited to participate in the 3rd International Fish Inspection and Quality Control Conference. Host country and institutions: Canada, FCC.

José L.F. Luna (1999), Director Sanitary Surveillance of the Quality Control Branch, Mexico, was invited to participate in the 3rd International Fish Inspection and Quality Control Conference. Host country and institutions: Canada, FCC.

Luis Garcia (1999), a private veterinarian of the Zacatecas region in Mexico, specialized in embryo transfer, was invited to participate in CETA's annual conference. He also had the opportunity to visit Canadian farms, private businesses, research and education institutions, all related to bovine embryo transfer. Host country and institutions: Canada, CETA.

Maria Esther Morales (1999), advisor for the Ecuador Fish Inspection and Quality Control Program, Guayaquil, Ecuador, was invited to participate in the 3rd International Fish Inspection and Quality Control Conference. Host country and institutions: Canada, FCC.

Michael T. Braynen (1999), Director of Fisheries, Department of Fisheries, Nassau, Bahamas, was invited to participate in the 3rd International Fish Inspection and Quality Control Conference. Host country and institutions: Canada, FCC.

Patrick Antoine (2000), IICA specialist from Trinidad & Tobago, was invited to participate as guest speaker at the OIA 2000 conference. He focused his presentation on the potential for Canadian professional services to the Caribbean. Host country and institution: Canada, OIA.

Rodolfo Rumpf (1999), a research scientist with the Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation (EMBRAPA), Brazil, specialized in animal reproduction and embryo transfer, was invited to participate in CETA's annual conference. He also had the opportunity to visit Canadian farms, private businesses, research and education institutions, all related to bovine embryo transfer. Host country and institutions: Canada, CETA.

Roger Guillén Bustos (2001), Secretary, Central-American Agricultural Council, Costa Rica, was invited to participate in the 7th Conference of Montreal. Host country and institution: Canada, IICA.

Tulio Burgos (2001), Vice-President, National Confederation of Agricultural Producers Association, Venezuela, was invited to participate in the 7th Conference of Montreal. Host country and institution: Canada, IICA.

Urban Martín (2000), IICA's Dominica Coordinator and Plant Protection Specialist, traveled to Canada to better understand the structure and functioning of CFIA, with a view to making recommendations on the adoption of adaptations of the CFIA system in the Caribbean Region. He made a number of suggestions, encouraging the Caribbean countries to adopt the CFIA model for modernizing their food safety systems, with necessary adaptations to suit the existing local situations. Among his recommendations was the need for further collaboration with CFIA, including assistance with the drafting of legislation and regulations; training in the areas of inspection procedures; on-farm food safety; prerequisite programs; laboratory techniques; protocols for monitoring, surveillance and testing; food safety standards; and exchange of professionals.

FECHA DE DEVOLUCION

