



Agriculture

Opportunity for development
in the Americas

Grenada



- IICA supported the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) and the private sector to strengthen the capacity of their agricultural extension services, via its family farming project. This involved a process of capacity building for the extension officers that focused on extension methodologies and approaches to family agriculture in order to meet the current challenges faced by farmers in the sector. Nineteen front-line extension officers improved their capacity in extension methodologies and approaches. This was validated by practical activities in the field on selected farms. This training will facilitate better transfer of improved and sustainable farming technologies and innovations to family farmers, thus facilitating improved linkages to marketing opportunities.
- 4-H'ers from Primary Schools in Grenada and Carriacou participated in two separate workshops on Backyard Gardening during their Easter school break. IICA, in collaboration with the 4-H Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, organized the Workshops. The first was held for the 4-H'ers in St George's, Grenada, while the second was held for the 4-H'ers of Carriacou. Twenty-two 4-H'ers participated in the two workshops, which introduced them to the concepts and key elements of Backyard Gardening. Given the heightened concern regarding food safety, and the importance of consuming fresh and nutritious foods, the young minds are the most amenable to changes in farming practices, and would most likely to adopt sustainable practices as young farmers.
- IICA collaborated with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and improved the capacity of members from four rural groups in Grenada. A number of management and governance issues were identified among those groups following an evaluation using an Organizational Capacity Assessment Tool. To that end, a workshop on 'Financial Accountability Management and Effective Communication for Producer Groups' was conducted. The objective was to improve the management and governance of the rural groups so they can play a more meaningful role in the development of their members and communities, as well as in poverty reduction. The eleven participants were able to differentiate between a balance sheet, a cash flow statement, and the types of information recorded in each through practical exercises. Similarly, at the end of the Effective Communication session, the participants were able to identify the phases and steps in developing a communication plan for their groups.
- IICA collaborated with the Caribbean Policy Development Centre on a Climate Smart Agriculture Workshop held in Grenada. This was supported by a regional pilot project titled Promoting Sustainable Livelihoods among Eastern Caribbean Farmers. Fourteen persons representing twelve different local organizations or entities benefited from this Workshop. Participants were introduced to the concept of Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA), as well as agronomic practices for making agriculture more resilient to the impacts of climate change. The learning outcomes in developing a climate smart agriculture strategy focused on identifying the climate change signals, the consequences of such signals and adaptation measures to mitigate the effects.
- The Institute hosted four Caribbean Climate Smart Agriculture Webinars under its Resilience project. On average, eight persons from various national authorities and the private sector participated in each of the four webinars. The webinars identified, developed, promoted and disseminated innovative technologies and strategies aimed at building resilience in the agriculture sector in Grenada. At

the final forum in 2017, participants stated that farmers needed assistance during the recovery process following a climate change induced event. This should include but not limited to an Insurance Scheme. Agriculture insurance is one of the multiple entry points of Climate Smart Agriculture.

- IICA continued its technical collaboration with the GIZ on the 'Capacity Building and Dissemination Programme', under which a workshop on the safe use of compost and organic manure on farms was conducted. Fifteen farmers and extension officers from Carriacou and Petite Martinique benefited from this training. The training emphasized the need to differentiate between compost and manure, especially when used on covered crops. Some manure may carry E.coli and Salmonella pathogens, which can survive for up to 59 days at a temperature of 60°C. A tech-pack on the safe use of compost on crops was prepared as part of the presentation delivered to the extension officers and farmers.
- In support to the beekeepers of Grenada, IICA conducted an introductory training session on Perone hive construction and management. Eighteen beekeepers, many of them new to the beekeeping

business, benefited from this training. All beekeepers in Grenada currently use the Langstroth hive. The Perone hive is hexagonal in shape and provides many advantages over the Langstroth hive under a Permaculture System of honey production. One of the key benefits of the Perone hive is increased honey production through increased bee efficiency. Participants were also exposed to ways of improving the management of their current apiaries, which include determining the placement of hives and making the bee's entrance more perpendicular to the frames.

- In collaboration with Caritas Grenada, youth from three countries were trained in 'Climate Smart Gardening'. During the training, hands-on opportunities to build leadership and technical skills for neighborhood-based disaster risk management were provided. Thirty-two youth and project team members from Jamaica, St. Lucia and Grenada strengthened their skills and knowledge of the key pillars and characteristics of Climate Smart Agriculture, with emphasis on Climate Smart Gardening. As a result of this training, participants are better able to identify potential risks, related climate change signals and their adaptation options.



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