

# Significant achievements 2018



## St. Lucia

- The Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) strengthened the socio-organizational coordination and market linkages of the Micoud Cluster of the St Lucia Network of Rural Women Producers (SLNRWP) through an associative internship capacity building workshop. Through this action, IICA supported the development of rural women agro-processors in the management of a small agro-processing facility, as well as the group's participation in the market for value-added cocoa products, with local chocolate production being the flagship product. This intervention resulted in the identification and prototyping of three high-quality cocoa products, with the chocolate now being sold in three retail stores in the country.
- A group of farmers, housewives and young men in the community of Beausoleil in Saltibus, benefitted from an IICA initiative aimed at supporting rural enterprise development and job creation, utilizing community-based assets and opportunities. As a result of the ongoing support of the Institute, the group developed draft governance documents and a structure, established legal identity, and started commercial operations for value-added products.
- The Institute enhanced governance, planning and management capacities in seven producer organizations and their ability to devise standard operating procedures and strategic plans/guides. This enabled the organizations to better manage their internal processes, and to regularize and make their routine activities more transparent, thereby benefitting members, as well as engagement with external partners.
- In collaboration with Massy Stores, St Lucia Limited and the St. Lucia Agricultural Forum for Youth (SLAFY), IICA implemented the sixth phase of the Helping Out Our Primary and Secondary Schools (HOOPSS) program. The program aims to develop school gardens and farms as tools to support the participation of youth in agriculture, while enhancing food and nutrition security. As a result of the intervention, participating schools generated more than EC\$10,000 through the sale of farm produce in project-facilitated and other markets.
- In partnership with the Belle Vue Farmers' Cooperative, the Jamaica Organic Agriculture Movement, and Source Farms, IICA facilitated knowledge transfer in the organic industry, to guide local stakeholders in St Lucia. The Institute also lent its support in the preparation of a market characterization study on the domestic market for organic fresh products. Financed by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations and the Global Environment Facility Small Grants Program (GEF SGP) of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the study sought to inform decision-making and coordination among local stakeholders, to align with market expectations.





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