



# Saint Kitts and Nevis

2019  
Annual Report

## Significant Achievements

- IICA assisted the Department of Agriculture in Nevis to develop a framework and protocol for the annual planning and review of its agricultural programme. The Department of Agriculture then organized information for 2018 that had been collected through consultation with the private and public sectors and presented it to over seventy-five stakeholders for feedback and to define commitments to achieve the desired targets.
- A group of 19 small farmers and butchers from St. Kitts and Nevis were trained in specialized meat cuts and production of processed meat. The workshop dealt with the theoretical and practical aspects of value-added products and Hazard Analysis & Critical Control Point (HACCP), an internationally recognized system for reducing the risk of safety hazards in food. It also addressed whole carcass processing; the fabrication of legs, shoulders, chops and shanks; the processing of hams, burgers, sausages and minced meat, and then organized a public display of the products for Ministers of Agriculture, Directors of Agriculture, hoteliers, restaurateurs and supermarkets.
- Technicians from St. Kitts and Nevis joined farmers, nursery operators, extension officers and crop protection and research officers from the Ministry in Antigua in a training exercise to identify Asian Citrus Psyllid symptoms in infected plants and to introduce good practices for controlling the spread of the citrus greening plague. The Asian Citrus Psyllid (ACP) is an insect that acts as a vector of Huanglongbing (HLB).
- With a view to contributing to efforts to more effectively use mango, IICA's cooperation enabled farmers to harvest and store over 3000 pounds of pulp from the last mango season, by procuring a pulper from India and purchasing a walk-in freezer from Taiwan. Consequently, pulp was available during the off-season, thereby reducing importation and enhancing farmers' income. An experimental shipment was made to Anguilla and efforts are being presently made to organize constant shipments, as of next season.
- IICA Offices in four Caribbean countries joined forces with the Government of Argentina for "ApiCaribe", a regional project to improve the production and productivity of honey in these islands. Two specialists from Argentina undertook a five-day fact-finding mission to St. Kitts and Nevis, which included training in beekeeping and field work with beekeepers.
- IICA worked closely with the local college to introduce innovations and new technology to its students, by preparing two projects proposals and presenting them to the New Zealand High Commission and the Global Environment Facility (GEF). Consequently, GEF provided EC\$15,000 in funding and the New Zealand High Commission EC\$45,000,



which were used to install one hydroponic system and two shade houses (30'x100'). The new technology will benefit teachers and approximately 30 students.

- After many years of successful collaboration, IICA and Taiwan (People's Republic of China – ROC) both agreed that this was an appropriate time to formalize the long standing and trusted relationship. The new agreement with the Taiwanese mission encourages and promotes cooperation in technology- related and management areas, for the benefit of both parties and to accelerate agricultural, agro-processing and rural development. The MOU was signed by IICA and Taiwan's International Cooperation and Development Fund (ICDF).
- In an effort to strengthen plant health and safety systems and to reduce the incidence of pests that could potentially impact

agricultural production and trade, a workshop was held at the University of Florida. One person from the Federation participated to build capacity in basic diagnostic techniques for pathogens, particularly those that are of priority to the Caribbean and the United States.

- IICA organized a Caribbean Agrotourism Policy-Setting workshop, in order to strengthen the regional agrifood sector's ability to service tourism demands and to promote authentic tourism offerings in rural communities. Some areas discussed were innovation and production processing, as well as successful models for community-based rural tourism, including models for farm stays and rural tourism, best practices in rural tourism and regional heritage trade. Since their return, participants have been working with the Ministry of Tourism to develop a project for funding.

