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IICA



**A Report on the Contribution of the
Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture
to the Community of Agriculture and Rural Life
in Jamaica during 2001**

*"Committed to the promotion of sustainable agricultural development
and prosperity of rural communities in Jamaica"*

Kingston, Jamaica
April 2002

WHAT IS IICA?

The Inter-American Conference on Agriculture held in Washington D.C. in 1930, under the aegis of the Pan American Union, put forward the idea of creating an Inter-American Institute for Tropical Agriculture.

Twelve years later, in 1942, the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences was born, formally inaugurated in March in Turrialba, Costa Rica, with the purpose of promoting research and training in tropical agriculture.

During the late 1960s and the early 1970s, the Institute expanded the scope of its action to include the entire hemisphere, establishing offices in each of the Latin American countries and in several Caribbean states.

In 1980, a new Convention was opened for signature which broadened the purposes of the Institute and changed its name to the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) - an agency of the Inter-American system. Its mission is to encourage, facilitate and support technical cooperation among its 34 Member States and the organizations of the civil society, in order to promote the sustainable development of agriculture.

The Institute has earned the respect of governments and societies in the Americas and in other parts of the world for its leadership role in agricultural development in the Americas. The vision of the Institute 2002, is to be the leading Inter-American Institution,

providing technical cooperation in Agriculture, in order to bring about a comprehensive transformation of the agricultural sector in the Americas, a transformation that is necessary for achieving sustainable development. The position of leadership will be achieved with the quality of the Institute's human resources, its alliances with other organizations, and the effective use of advances in information technology, communications, education and training. This will enable the Institute to maintain its commitment to excellence in the provision of cooperation services.

The Inter-American Board, IICA's highest governing body is made up of the Ministers of Agriculture of its 34 Member States and is the highest-level political forum for the definition of strategic guidelines for agriculture in the Americas.

The Government of Jamaica joined IICA in 1975. Since then, the Institute in collaboration with a number of agencies, particularly with the Ministry of Agriculture, has cooperated and participated in a diverse number of initiatives such as, supporting the rural development process, small business management training, including institutional strengthening of rural groups, the introduction of the appropriate innovative technologies for hillside farming, training at both the adult and youth levels, with supporting manuals and exchange visits and the diffusion of technologies for watershed management.





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in Jamaica during 2001**

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BIBLIOTECA VENEZUELA

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*"Committed to the promotion of sustainable agricultural development
and prosperity of rural communities in Jamaica"*

Kingston, Jamaica
April 2002

IICA OFFICE IN JAMAICA

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April 2002
Kingston, Jamaica

Our Mission

“To cooperate with the Government of Jamaica, the private sector, national, regional and international institutions in order to improve competitiveness and promote the sustainable development of agriculture in Jamaica.”

Our Goals

- *To support better use and management of natural resources, particularly hillside lands and watershed areas.*
- *To contribute to rural development, food security, poverty alleviation and social stability.*
- *To improve middle management, technical capabilities and farmers skills.*
- *To foster agribusiness development and private sector participation in agriculture.*
- *To contribute to effective dialogue and coordination between Public and Private Sectors and Regional as well as International Agencies in agriculture.*
- *To strengthen the linkages between Jamaica's Agriculture and that of the wider Caribbean and Latin America*
- *To support activities, which enhance the competitiveness of the Jamaican Agricultural Sector.*

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) Office in Jamaica is pleased to present this report which seeks to keep the agricultural sector informed of its contributions to and collaboration with the community of agriculture and rural life in Jamaica during 2001.

The Institute acknowledges the efforts and contributions of all its stakeholders, from the public and private sectors, national, regional and international organizations, farmers and rural entrepreneurs, to the achievements here reported.

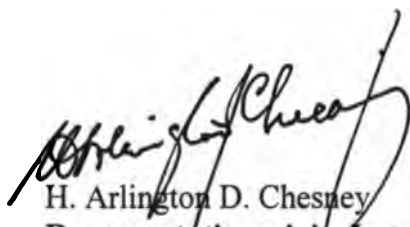
In particular, we acknowledge with pride the support and collaboration of the Minister of Agriculture, the Honourable Roger Clarke, his Permanent Secretary, Mr. Aaron Parke and Staff at the Ministry of Agriculture and the Rural Agricultural Development Authority (RADA). Their guidance and support to the work and programmes of the IICA Office in Jamaica contributed to the many successes in implementing our technical cooperation agenda.

We also wish to acknowledge the assistance of the local media in the promotion of our work.



Una May Gordon

**Rural Development Specialist
& Officer in Charge**



H. Arlington D. Chesney
Representative a.i. in Jamaica



Chelston W.D. Brathwaite
Director General

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SPECIAL NOTE

The Office in 2001, passed through a transitional period as the Representative, Dr. Chelston W.D. Brathwaite was present for only the first part of the year. During the second half of the year the Office was managed by the Caribbean Regional Director, Dr. H. Arlington D. Chesney, with assistance from the Rural Development Specialist, Ms. Una May Gordon.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Jamaican economy continued to experience major setbacks in several sectors during 2001. The agriculture sector continues to be challenged by globalization and trade liberalization, particularly the erosion of preferential markets for the traditional export commodities, sugar and banana, advances in information technology and the opening up of the domestic market to competition within the World Trade Organization (WTO), Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) and Caribbean Single Market and Economy (CSME) processes.

Despite the challenges, indications are that the sector grew overall by 5.2 percent, due primarily to strong growth in the domestic food crop sector. The country has initiated a number of programmes in an effort to remove the trend of decline and to enhance the development of agriculture and rural life.

Cooperation Strategy

In 1998, IICA Jamaica redefined its cooperation programme in order to be more effective, more participatory and to give Jamaican institutions, stakeholders and individuals the opportunity to participate more actively in the programme of the Institute.

Consequently, a four-year technical cooperation agenda was developed and in 2001 the national programme was dominated by two of the Institute's Thematic Areas, *viz.* Policy and Trade and Sustainable Rural Development. However, activities also took place in the Thematic Areas, Science, Technology and Natural Resources and Agricultural Health and Food Safety. These activities were complemented by actions in the support areas, Education and Training and Information and Communication.

Cooperation Agency Highlights

i. Institutional Collaboration

The CA continued to foster collaboration between national, regional and international agencies that support the Agriculture Sector. Recognizing that IICA is not a primary provider of development or investment funds, throughout the year the CA continued its collaboration with mainstream Donor/Lender agencies, creating opportunities for improvement in agriculture and rural life and forging new alliances with national and international strategic partners.

The Rural Women in Agriculture Informal Credit Project funded by the Organization of American States (OAS), officially ended in June 2001. Two new projects were funded and commenced implementation in 2001.

- Recovery of Mined-Out bauxite Lands for Goat production in the Mocho Area of Clarendon, Jamaica
- Strengthening the Business Capacity of Rural Women in Jamaica through the Provision of Business and Computer Training.

ii. National Consultations/Meetings/Seminars

In collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, the CA hosted two National Consultations.

- Youth in Agriculture and Food Production to (1) obtain the perceptions of youth on the feasibility of agriculture as an option for employment and entrepreneurial activities; (2) present examples of successful youth involvement in agriculture.

The Consultation developed a set of recommendations which were presented to the Minister of Agriculture.

- Consultation 2001 - to promote national dialogue in response to the Summit of the Americas Mandate

The CA also hosted the meeting of the Caribbean Ministerial Delegates to the Summit Implementation Resource Group (SIRG - AGRI) and the Third Regular Meeting of the Alliance for Sustainable Development and the Rural Milieu.

iii. Policy and Trade

In 2001, Agricultural Policy and Trade in Jamaica was dominated by considerations surrounding a possible launch of a new round of negotiations under the WTO.

Three areas were targeted for assistance:

- **Public Education**

The training and sensitization programme for farmers, extension officers and students continued and re-oriented to a greater emphasis on the negotiations towards a Free Trade Area of the Americas.

- **Technical Assistance**

The technical assistance agenda with the Ministry of Agriculture continued and was dominated by considerations surrounding the eventual launch of a new round of negotiations under the WTO.

- **Continuation of the Forum on New and Emerging Issues in Agriculture**

In 2001, the major issues discussed were the involvements of youth in agriculture and food production, improvement of the quality of fresh produce for the hotel/tourist sector and food security aspects of a National Food Policy.

iv. Agricultural Health and Food Safety

Two regional seminars were successfully coordinated and hosted by the CA:

- Black Sigatoka – attended by technical officers from the Banana Industry in the Eastern Caribbean and Jamaica.
- Seminar towards the Establishment of a Caribbean Agriculture Health and Food Safety Institute.

In addition, a workshop for broiler and egg producers considered avian health and animal welfare issues affecting the poultry industry in Jamaica.

v. Science, Technology and Natural Resources

The CA strengthened its capacity to address Science, Technology and Natural Resource issues through staff participation in four workshops:

- Negotiating of Bio-prospecting Contracts (NCST/INBIO)
- Conservation and Sustainable use of Agro-biodiversity, Access, Benefit Sharing (IICA)
- Caribbean Planning for Adaptation to Global Climate Change (CPACC)
- Environmental Sustainability (Jamaica Conservation and Development Trust)

In April 2001, the CA collaborated with the Rural Agricultural Development Authority (RADA) and hosted a training course in Plant Propagation and Orchard Management Practices as part of the Ministry of Agriculture's National Fruit Crop Programme.

In addition, the staff of the CA were involved in the development of plans for the introduction of a nutraceutical industry in Jamaica.

vi. Sustainable Rural Development

This strategic area of the CA continued to support agribusiness micro-enterprises with emphasis on the participation of youth and women in agricultural development.

The specific areas of focus in 2001 were:

- The Rural Women's project - 46 women received funding under the OAS-funded Rural Women in Agriculture Informal Credit Project to start or enhance their micro-enterprises. They were trained in small business management and introduced to basic computer applications.
- The IICA/RADA Hotel Small Farmers project - one new farmers group was formed and one Memorandum of Understanding signed between RADA/IICA/Hotel and Farmers Group. The MOU demanded support from IICA in facilitating and providing technical assistance to the project in the following areas:

- Training in agribusiness and micro-enterprise development and marketing
 - Production of commodities and evaluation of quality standards
 - Development of project proposals for external funding.
- The Agri-Business Awards - one Award and a Certificate of Merit was granted.
 - The Project: Recovery of Mined-Out bauxite Lands for Goat production in the Mocho Area of Clarendon, Jamaica - commenced operation in January 2001 with the first draw down of funds from the Jamaica Bauxite Institute (JBI).
 - The development of the Agri-Distance Learning and Training Centre (ADLTC)

vii. Education and Training

In an effort to enhance the critical mass of highly trained professional, technicians and entrepreneurs and to continue to assist the Ministry of Agriculture in the modernization of the Agricultural Sector, the ADLTC commenced the offering of web-based and CD-ROM courses by distance learning.

In October 2001 the ADLTC began offering the following courses:

- Farm Management
- Information and Extension Methods in Agriculture
- Health and Occupational Safety for Entrepreneurs
- An Introduction to E-Commerce
- Organic Farming for Entrepreneurs

As at December 31, 2001, sixty (60) students have enrolled.

viii. Information and Communication

The Information Centre continued to service its clients, providing information in response to questions as well as preparing and distributing bibliographies, acquisitions lists and regional IICA publications. Specifically, work focussed on the consolidation of the IICA Jamaica website, the Jamaica Agricultural Documentation Information Network (JADIN) and the development of a Question and Answer Service (QAS). The IICA Jamaica website registered an average of 74 hits per month during the period April - December.

ix. Other Activities

The CA facilitated the participation of several individuals in overseas seminar/workshops. See Annex I.

1.0 REVIEW OF THE JAMAICAN ECONOMY

The Jamaican economy continued to experience major setbacks in several sectors during 2001. The collapse of the financial sector in earlier years and the continued build up of debt from the Financial Sector Adjustment Company (FINSAC) intervention has increased the burden on the public purse and this is expected to continue for some time. However, despite these setbacks, the economy experienced growth of 1.7 percent in 2001 with indications that the economy experienced some level of macro-economic stability. For example, there has been a sharp reduction in the inflation rate from 8.2 to 6.9 percent¹ with 2001 marking the fifth consecutive year of single digit inflation. The Net International Reserve continues to grow, with some concerns as to the growth of national debt which is estimated at 4.1 billion US dollars.

The Government's vision for the medium term, as enunciated in the *Ministry of Agriculture Policy Framework 2001-2004*, is for "an efficient globally competitive and growing economy, creating jobs for a vibrant, healthy and educated population, caring for its environment in a just, secure and equitable society."

2.0 REVIEW OF THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

Despite the decline in production, the agricultural sector remains an important productive sector in the Jamaican economy, contributing 7.3 percent² to GDP in 2001. The sector also continues to be one of the leading employers of labour, supporting an estimated 150,000 rural families. The policy priorities stated by the Government highlight the pivotal role of Agriculture in enhancing rural development

The sector continues to be challenged by globalization and trade liberalization, particularly the erosion of preferential markets for the traditional export commodities, sugar and banana, advances in information technology and the opening up of the domestic market to competition within the World Trade Organization (WTO), Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) and Caribbean Single Market and Economy (CSME) processes. The opening up of the domestic market to competition has resulted in some dislocation especially in the fresh fruit and vegetable sub-sector. The greater emphasis being placed on human health and safety in the production and consumption of agricultural products also presents increasingly new challenges for the sector.

In addition to the structural problems, investments in the agricultural sector are also seriously constrained by less than adequate access to critical agricultural support services as well as to supporting infrastructure.

Indications are that the sector recorded growth during the first half of 2001, but experienced slow to negative growth in the closing months of the year. This was due partially to reduced demand from the tourism sector after the September 11 event and the severe flood damage to infrastructure and crops in the North-eastern parishes in October/November. Despite the

¹ Latin America Monitor – Caribbean Report. April 2002

² Economic and Social Survey of Jamaica. Draft Report, 2001

challenges, the sector grew overall by 5.2 percent in 2001, due primarily to strong growth in the domestic food crop sector.

The Ministry of Agriculture Agricultural Policy Framework 2001-2004 reminds us that inadequate access to credit is traditionally linked to lack of collateral on the part of the majority of small scale producers and more recently to high interest rates.

In this changing environment, the private sector has an increased role to play in the overall development for sustainability of agriculture and rural life. However, to be effective it must be better organized.

IICA will continue to focus its attention on assisting the sector in its modernization and repositioning process to address the many challenges and capture any available opportunities.

Current Agriculture Programmes

The country has initiated a number of programmes in an effort to remove the trend of decline and to enhance the development of agriculture and rural life. Some of these programmes are highlighted below.

The Agricultural Support Services Programme (ASSP), launched in the latter part of 2000, is to be implemented over a four year period. It will place emphasis on the non-traditional sub-sectors. Its major outputs are expected to be:

- Enhancement of the competitiveness of Jamaica's agricultural production in domestic and global markets, while increasing the income of agricultural producers
- Improvement of profitability on a sustainable basis by attracting increased labour and capital into the sector, thereby maximizing the export value of agricultural commodities.

The Banana Support Programme (Phase III) commenced in 2000 and is aimed at strengthening competitiveness and improving the marketing of Jamaica's bananas in Europe. During 2000 the Government of Jamaica and the European Union signed a financing agreement for a ten year framework of assistance to traditional banana exporters to the EU.

The Fruit Tree Crop Project, which was initiated in January 2000, is intended to enhance agricultural diversification through greater utilization of hillside and marginal lands and to expand the supply of raw material to the agro-processing industry. The project will establish 1700 hectares of fruit trees over a three year period.

The Eastern Jamaica Agricultural Support Project (EJASP) is intended to increase production and productivity. In this case the focus is on the eastern end of the island and on the production of selected crops and small livestock.

3.0 IICA COOPERATION AGENDA

3.1 Cooperation Strategy

In 1998, IICA Jamaica redefined its cooperation programme in order to be more effective, more participatory and to give Jamaican institutions, stakeholders and individuals the opportunity to participate more actively in the programme of the Institute.

The strategy in implementation has been one of collaboration and consultation to support policy and programmes of the Ministry of Agriculture and other stakeholders involved in the repositioning of agriculture and enhancement of rural life.

3.1.1 Institutional Collaboration

In addition, the CA continued to foster collaboration between national, regional and international agencies that support the agriculture sector. The major cooperation and coordination actions are as follows:

- Through its Rural Development Specialist, the CA participated in the meetings of the International Partners Environment Committee, formerly the Donor/Lender Environment Committee, throughout the year. In 2001, the Committee was chaired by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).
- Cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) continued throughout the year. The new FAO Representative paid a courtesy call on the Office and a new framework for cooperation was discussed.
- As part of the process to strengthen and improve the linkages with other institutions involved in rural development, a number of meetings and consultations were attended throughout the year. On-going discussions were held with executives of the Jamaica 4-H Clubs, the Social Development Commission, the Bureau of Women's Affairs, the Association of Women's Associations in Jamaica (AWOJA) and the Centre for Gender and Development, University of the West Indies.
- Support to the College of Agriculture, Science and Education (CASE) continued throughout 2001. The IICA Award was presented to Kadian Hibbert, the most outstanding student in General Agriculture - at their Graduation Ceremony.
- The CA strengthened its association and collaboration with the local representative of Land O'Lakes Ltd. Through our efforts associated farmers groups, women's groups and individual beneficiaries from the Informal Credit Project benefited from the intervention of attachment of Land O'Lakes Technical and Management Consultants.

Recognizing that IICA is not a primary provider of development or investment funds, throughout the year the CA continued its collaboration with mainstream Donor/Lender agencies, creating

opportunities for improvement in agriculture and rural life and forging new alliances with national and international strategic partners.

In 2001, our key strategic international partners included the Organization of American States (OAS) and the USAID. Our local partners included the Jamaica Bauxite Institute (JBI) and the Jamaica Aluminum Company (JAMALCO).

3.1.2 National Consultations

a. *National Youth Consultation*


In collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, the CA held a National Youth Consultation on March 21, to examine the issues surrounding the participation (or lack) of youth in agriculture and the constraints facing the sector which has resulted in the declining numbers of youth in the sector.

A mini exhibition was also mounted to showcase some of the areas where youth continue to make an impact and which has increasing potential for growth in the future.

The results and recommendations of the Consultation have been forwarded to the Minister of Agriculture for his information and action.

**CONSULTATION
ON
YOUTH IN AGRICULTURE AND
FOOD PRODUCTION**

“Youth, Agriculture and National Development”



**March 21, 2001
8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
HEART Trust/NTA Ebony Park Academy
Tollgate, Clarendon, Jamaica**

b. National Consultation 2001

On July 6, 2001, the CA collaborated with the Ministry of Agriculture in the promotion of national dialogue for the development of short, medium and long term strategies and hosted a National Consultation with 36 leaders of the community of agriculture and rural life. A National Alliance for Sustainable Development of Agriculture and the Rural Milieu was formed from among members present. As with the regional Alliance, this CA will act as Secretariat for the National Alliance.

Following up on the Consultation, the CA assisted the Ministerial Delegate, Dr. Richard Harrison, and the National Alliance to draft the Ministerial Declaration and Plan of Action for its implementation. Elements of these documents were subsequently included in the Caribbean Ministerial Declaration and Plan of Action and the Hemispheric Bavao Declaration and strategic guidelines.

3.1.3 The Alliance for Sustainable Development of Agriculture and the Rural Milieu in the Wider Caribbean (The Alliance)

The Chairman of the Alliance, the Hon. Roger Clarke, requested the joint secretariat, IICA/CARICOM, to convene the 3rd Regular Meeting of the Alliance in Jamaica, which was held on October 2-3. Prior to the meeting of the Alliance there was also a meeting of Caribbean Ministerial Delegates to the Summit Implementation Resource Group (SIRG). The CA planned and facilitated the hosting of these two meetings.

Dr. Carlos Aquino Gonzalez, Director General, presented the main address at the Opening Ceremony of the Alliance Meeting, at which many Caribbean Ministers responsible for Agriculture were present. In addition there were Representatives from national and regional collaborating agencies such as:

- Caribbean AgriBusiness Association (CABA)
- Caribbean Council for Higher Education in Agriculture (CACHE)
- Caribbean Community (CARICOM)
- Caribbean Development Bank (CDB)
- Caribbean Network of Rural Women Producers (CNRWP)
- Jamaica Network of Rural Women Producers (JNRWP)
- Caribbean Regional Negotiating Machinery (CRNM)
- University of the West Indies (UWI)



Minister of Agriculture, Jamaica, Mr. Roger Clarke, (centre), speaks with (left) Mr. A.A. Pottinger, President of the Jamaica Agricultural Society and Mr. Gerd Jarchow, Head of Delegation of the European Commission to Jamaica, at the start of the Third Regular Meeting of the Alliance for Sustainable Development of Agriculture and the Rural Milieu, October 2, 2001.

3.1.4 The First Inter-American Week of Agriculture and the Third Caribbean Week of Agriculture

The CA itself participated and also facilitated the participation of national collaborating agencies from the public and private sectors in the third Caribbean Week of Agriculture which was held during the First Inter-American Week of Agriculture in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, in November 2001.



Touring the Dominican Republic: members of the JNRWP and their Caribbean counterparts, during the 3rd Caribbean Week of Agriculture in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic. Mr. Ron Gordon of CARICOM and Mr. Byron McDonald, DBJ, could not resist the company of the rural women



*Touring the Dominican Republic during the 3rd Caribbean Week of Agriculture were:
 (L- R.) Mr. Aaron Parke, Permanent Secretary, Min. of Agriculture, Jamaica ; Mr. Godfrey Eneas, Bahamas;
 The Hon. Roger Clarke, Minister of Agriculture, Jamaica; Dr. Chelston W.D. Brathwaite, then Director General Elect, IICA;
 Ms. Valerie Outen, Director of Agriculture of the Bahamas;
 Dr. H. Arlington D. Chesney, Director, Caribbean Regional Centre, IICA.*

3.2 THEMATIC AREAS

The CA's programme in the year was dominated by two of the institute's Thematic Areas, *viz.* Policy and Trade and Sustainable Rural Development. However, activities also took place in the Thematic Areas, Science, Technology and Natural Resources and Agricultural Health and Food Safety. These activities were complemented by actions in the support areas, Education and Training and Information and Communication.

3.2.1 POLICY AND TRADE

In 2001, activities in agricultural policy and trade in Jamaica were dominated by considerations surrounding a possible launch of a New Round of negotiations under the World Trade Organization, and continuing negotiations leading to the establishment of a Free Trade Area of the Americas. The CA offered assistance towards the development of a capacity to respond in terms of policy and compliance to these and other changes in the trading environment for agricultural products. Three areas were targeted, *viz.* Public Education, Technical Assistance and Fora for the Discussion of New and Emerging Issues in Agricultural Trade.

The following activities were carried out.

i. Public Education

The sensitization programme on globalization was continued in an effort to increase the level of awareness among stakeholders in the agricultural sector, of developments in the area of international trade in agricultural products. Four seminars were held and the programme paid increased attention in 2001 to the progress of negotiations towards the establishment of a Free Trade Area of the Americas and the CARICOM Single Market and Economy. The target audience included farmers, students of tertiary and agricultural institutions, extension officers and members of the Shipping Association of Jamaica. The process of public education includes an allowance for feedback, to enable government technicians to obtain the views of producers and traders in the sector.

ii. Technical Assistance

Assistance was provided to the Office of the Prime Minister and the Scientific Research Council in the development of plans for the establishment of an extractive (Neutraceutical) industry in Jamaica.

iii. Fora for the Discussion of New and Emerging Issues in Agricultural Trade

In 2001, the concept of the Fora was expanded to include issues other than those strictly associated with trade. Thus, the scope included the examination of a wide range of issues that directly and indirectly affect the community of agriculture and rural life.

The first Forum involved an examination of the role of *Youth in Agriculture and Food Production* and was intended to:

- Obtain the perceptions of youth on the feasibility of agriculture and related activities as options for employment and entrepreneurial activities.
- Assess the factors which limit the involvement of youth in the agricultural sector.
- Develop a set of recommendations that may inform decision-makers on policy measures necessary to promote youth involvement in agri-based enterprises.
- Present examples of successful youth involvement in agriculture.



Damian Mitchell of the Jamaica 4-H Clubs, presenting his ideas at the National Youth Forum

A Forum '*Towards the Development of a National Food Policy*' addressed the food security and nutritional aspects of a national food policy. The Forum heard presentations from Dr. Fitzroy Henry of the Caribbean Food and Nutrition Institute and Mr. Byron Noble of IICA and was held against the background of concerns about the impact of imported food on agricultural production and rural development. The Forum followed the presentation of a paper by Dr. C.W.D. Brathwaite and Mr. Noble in April on the relationship between relative food prices and the diets of the population ('Are Local Foods Too Expensive For a Healthy Diet?' [CAJANUS vol. 34 #2]).

A third Forum addressed the issue of '*Local Fresh Produce for the Tourism Sector: Quality Issues*'. The Forum was attended by farmers and hoteliers and was addressed by Mr. Dennis McIntosh, Executive Sous Chef, Ritz Carlton, Rose Hall; Ms. Janette Lawrence, Marketing Manager, Rural Agricultural Development Authority and Mr. Milton Murdock, President, Santoy Farmers' Group. Recommendations were made which addressed quality issues both from the perspective of farmers and hoteliers and included the introduction of production management and voluntary grading combined with the use of improved packing and storage systems.

The final Forum consisted of a briefing on developments at the Fourth Ministerial WTO Meeting and the FTAA for exporters and producers by representatives of the Ministries of Agriculture (Ms. Mavis Campbell) and Foreign Trade (Ms. Marcia Thomas). The briefing covered general information on the progress of multi-lateral trade negotiations and specifically on the results of the WTO Meetings in Doha.

3.2.2. AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Two seminars were coordinated on behalf of the Regional Centre.

- To address the identification and control of the Black Sigatoka disease in bananas and plantain. Technical officers from the Eastern Caribbean and Jamaica attended the seminar.
- To consult with the agricultural sector on the establishment of a Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency. The recommendations were incorporated into the final document.

In cooperation with the Caribbean Poultry Association (CPA) and Jamaican poultry producers IICA hosted a workshop on 'SPS, Food Safety and Animal Welfare Issues, the Case of Poultry'. A 10-year development plan was drafted for the Jamaica Poultry Industry.

3.2.3 SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

To strengthen the CA's capacity to address Science and Technology issues and use of Natural Resources the Rural Development Specialist participated in four workshops:

- Negotiation of Bio-prospecting Contracts (NCST/INBIO), held at the Jamaica Conference Centre in July.
- Conservation and Sustainable Use of Agro-biodiversity, Access, Benefit Sharing (IICA), at the Caribbean Development Bank in Barbados in October.
- Planning & Technical Review Workshop of the Caribbean Planning for Adaptation to Global Climate Change (CPACC), held in Jamaica in May.
- Environmental Sustainability (Jamaica Conservation and Development Trust), held in Jamaica in May.

3.2.4 SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT

In this strategic area the CA seeks to support agribusiness micro-enterprises with emphasis on participation of youth and women in agricultural development.

The specific areas of focus in 2001 were:

- i. The Rural Women's Project
- ii. The IICA/RADA Hotel Small Farmers project
- iii. The AgriBusiness Award
- iv. The Mocho Goat Development Project

i. The Rural Women's Project

This initiative concentrated on four major components in 2001.

- a. The Informal Credit Fund
- b. The consolidation of the Network of Rural Women Producers
- c. Development of Project Proposals to seek access to counterpart funding
- d. Training.

a. *Informal Credit Fund*

The Informal Credit Project which was established in 2000 with a grant of US\$90,000.00 from the Organization of American States (OAS) experienced high levels of activity in 2001. The Credit Committee, established to review and approve applications, approved 47 projects for funding. Forty-six (46) of these projects received funding totalling J\$3,511,240.00 (US\$78,028.00). The granting of loans to beneficiaries ceased with the official end of the Credit Facility in June 2001. However, monitoring activities of the beneficiaries continued throughout the year. To date, repayments are on schedule.

b. *Consolidating the Jamaica Network of Rural Women Producers (JNRWP)*

The CA assisted the JNRWP with the preparation of their Memorandum and Articles of Association. The registration of the Network as a legal entity was realised and instruments of association deposited at the Registrar of Companies. The CA continues to act as Secretariat for the Network. The CA continued to seek ways to give exposure to the rural women and facilitated their participation in a number of activities throughout the year as highlighted below:

- Denbigh 2001
- Jamaica Spice 2001
- Jamaica Exporters Association Seminar
- Third Caribbean Week of Agriculture
- Trade Shows
- Craft Fairs

The Annual General Meeting of the Network was held at Kings House in November and the new Council elected and installed. Members of the new council are:

| | | |
|------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| President | : | Cinderella Anderson (St. Mary) |
| Vice President | : | Elaine Salmon-Brouers (Portland) |
| Secretary | : | Kareen Markland (St. Catherine) |
| Assistant Secretary | : | Phelicia Campbell (St. Catherine) |
| Public Relations Officer | : | Teda Birch (St. Catherine) |
| Assistant Public Relations Officer | : | Petal Brown (Portland) |
| Treasurer | : | Sharman Welds (Clarendon) |
| Assistant Treasurer | : | Janeen McNish (St. Catherine) |

Regional Representatives

| | | |
|-----------------|---|-----------------------------|
| Western Region | : | Edna Edwards (St. James) |
| Northern Region | : | Avis Rowe (St. Elizabeth) |
| Central Region | : | Teda Birch (St. Catherine) |
| Eastern Region | : | Annette Thompson (Portland) |



The new Council of the JNRWP.

L -R Teda Birch, Kareen Markland; Sharman Welds, Cinderella Anderson, Edna Edwards, Elaine Salamon-Brouers, Petal Brown, Avis Rowe, Annette Thompson, Phelicia Campbell

Two members of the Council and two ordinary members of the Network participated in the activities of the 3rd Caribbean Week of Agriculture held in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic and represented the JNRWP at the Annual General Meeting of the Caribbean Network of Rural Women Producers.

c. *Development of Project Proposals to gain access to counterpart funding*

On-going training in Business Management was recognised as a critical success factor for sustainable development of the micro-enterprise projects, and therefore the need for counterpart funding to support the training activities for beneficiaries was evident.

Four proposals, ranging in value from US\$45,000.00 to US\$113,200.00 were developed and submitted to different agencies seeking financial assistance for the development and training of network members. These proposals focused specifically on:

- i. The need to provide training in leadership, management and computer applications for beneficiaries of the Informal Credit Project and other members of the Network.
- ii. Support monitoring activities for beneficiaries under the Informal Credit Project.

The proposal "To Strengthen the Business Capacity of Rural Women through the Provision of Business and Computer Training" was approved in April for funding by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). A grant of US\$42,500.00 was received to purchase computer equipment and execute the training activities. This project will continue until October 2002.

Texaco Caribbean Inc. also provided financial assistance in the amount of US\$4000.00 to support four business training workshops.

d. *Training*

Forty-seven (47) women were trained in small business management and introduced to basic computer applications and the Internet use.



Joan Browne, Consultant delivering business training to members of the NRWP.

ii. IICA/RADA/ Hotels Small Farmers Project

The CA strengthened its cooperation with RADA and the small farming community. It acted as a catalyst in facilitating enhanced relationships between RADA, the tourism sector and small farmers groups. Specifically, the CA:

- increased its financial support to the small farmers project during 2001, and sponsored four on-farm training activities targeting approximately 30 farmers each
- assisted with the formation of a new Farmers Group in the community of Garlands, St. James
- with RADA and the Farmers Group, signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort for the continued marketing of quality produce to the hotel and for development assistance to be provided by the Resort
- held preliminary discussions towards collaboration with principals of other hotels, including the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Montego Bay.

The events of September 11 have prevented total realism of the goals set out in the Memorandum of Understanding with Holiday Inn.

iii. The IICA Agri-Business Award

The CA continues to foster and encourage entrepreneurship among the agricultural community in Jamaica. In this regard, the Agribusiness Award, which was developed to promote entrepreneurship, innovation and employment in the Agribusiness Sector, was presented in 2001 to Twickenham Cottage Industries Ltd., for developing a new product: *The Cassava Pancake Mix*. The Awardee received a plaque and its representative was supported and afforded the opportunity to participate in the Third Caribbean Week of Agriculture.

A Certificate of Merit was also presented to Kay C. Farquharson for her entrepreneurship in the (Bee) Apiculture industry. Both awards were presented at the Annual Denbigh Agricultural show 2001.



Ms. Carmen Edwards of Twickenham Cottage Industries Ltd. receiving the IICA Award from Mr. Aaron Parke, Permanent Secretary, MINAG. Seated at the far right is Agriculture Minister - Hon. Roger Clarke



Kay C. Farquharson receiving her award from Mr. Aaron Parke.

This Award continues to assist in enhancing the visibility of IICA in Jamaica and the importance of value-added products to Agri-development and sustainability.

iv. The Mocho Goat Development Project

The Project: Recovery of Mined-out Bauxite Lands for Goat production in the Mocho Area of Clarendon, Jamaica, is part of the Bauxite Community Development Programme (BCDP) of the Jamaica Bauxite Institute (JBI), which seeks to improve the well-being of persons living in bauxite mining communities.

In January 2001, an agreement was signed between the JBI and IICA to implement the project.



Dr. Chelston W.D. Brathwaite (left) signing the agreement on behalf of IICA, with representatives from the JBI: Mr. Parris Lyew-Ayee, General Manager (centre) and Ms. Dianne Gordon, Programme Administrator for the Bauxite Community Development

The goals of the project are:

- a. To expand the present operations of goat production in the project area to include a nucleus-breeding herd of 150 does and 15 bucks;
- b. To introduce modern and appropriate technologies associated with goat production;
- c. To improve the managerial and technical capabilities of farmers and technical officers associated with the project;
- d. To add value to the products of goat production.

The project has introduced a semi-intensive system of goat production, the Goat Agroforestry Production System (GAPS), to the Mocho area.

The JBI, JAMALCO and RADA have played critical roles in developing, coordinating, financing and implementing the project. The JBI has donated Twenty Million Jamaica Dollars (J\$2,000,000.00) to finance the project for five years. JAMALCO has donated lands for the construction of the mother farm and established several acres of pasture with African Star Grass. RADA, through its May Pen branch, provided office space for the project. IICA has overall management and implementation responsibilities for the project.

Activities the Project throughout 2001

- Project launch - On July 20, 2001, the project was officially launched at the project site, by The Hon. Roger Clarke, Minister of Agriculture. Other participants in the ceremony were: Mr. Parris Lyew-Ayee, General Manager, Jamaica Bauxite Institute; Mr. Jerome Maxwell, Lands Manager, JAMALCO; Mr. Albert Shand, Executive Director, RADA; Dr. H. Arlington D. Chesney, Director, IICA Caribbean Regional Centre, IICA Representative in Trinidad & Tobago and Representative a.i. in Jamaica; Dr. Chelston W.D. Brathwaite and Farmers of Mocho.
- Building of Farm and Goat House - A two bedroom farm house was built and a goat house with the capacity to house 222 goats.
- Establishment of pasture - Approximately seven acres of pasture were established with African Star Grass. Animals will be able to graze in some areas of the pasture while hay will be manufactured from others.
- Meetings - During the year, the Project held five local management meetings, eleven Steering Committee meetings and three Board meetings.

According to the Critical Pathway Analysis, the project is approximately six months behind schedule. However steps are being taken to correct this delay.

Constraints in implementation

The absence of adequate transportation, the lack of electricity and sewage system for the farm house hampered smooth implementation. These three components should be addressed and be rectified by late March to early April 2002.

3.2.5 EDUCATION AND TRAINING

3.2.5.1 Development of the Agri-Distance Learning and Training Centre

The major activity of the CA was the development of the Agri-Distance Learning and Training Centre (ADLTC)

In an effort to enhance the critical mass of highly trained professionals, technicians and entrepreneurs and to continue to assist the Ministry of Agriculture in the modernization of the Agricultural Sector, the ADLTC commenced the offering of web-based and CD-ROM courses.

In early 2001, IICA hosted some of its main collaborators at a consultation/demonstration and showcased highlights of the courses to be offered at the ADLTC through distance training. The courses were also widely promoted in the local press and via several live morning radio interview programmes.

In October 2001 the IICA Agri-Distance Learning and Training Centre began offering the following courses:

- Farm Management
- Information and Extension Methods in Agriculture
- Health and Occupational Safety for Entrepreneurs
- An Introduction to E-Commerce
- Organic Farming for Entrepreneurs



On-farm tutorial session with members of the first and second batch of students of the Organic Farming group on a field visit to Greencastle Estate in Annotto Bay, St. Mary

At the end of 2001 sixty (60) students were registered in courses at the ADLTC.

The development of the ADLTC is being managed jointly by the Rural Development Unit and the Information and Communication Unit.

In 2001, to support the activities of the Caribbean Agriculture Distance Learning Programme, the Caribbean Agricultural Council for Higher Education (CACHE), on behalf of IICA, received funding from the Organization of American States (OAS) to award scholarships to participants in the distance learning courses. The funding was achieved under the project: "Strengthening the Capabilities of Caribbean Professionals and Micro-Entrepreneurs through the Use of Modern Information and Communication Technology". A Board consisting of Permanent Secretaries in the Ministry of Agriculture or their representatives in each of the 5 countries involved in the project, as well as one representative from IICA and CACHE, manages the project. Mr. Michael Pryce, Director of the Databank & Evaluation Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Jamaica represents the Permanent Secretary on this board.

A local Scholarship Committee was formed which reviewed scholarship applications received. Forty-three scholarships valuing US\$4,300.00 were granted to the participants.

The members of the Scholarship Committee are:

Mr. Michael Pryce – Director, Databank and Evaluation Division, MINAG, (Chairman)
Dr. Joseph Lindsay – Director of Research, MINAG
Ms. Winsome Phillips – Training Manager, RADA
Mr. Lenworth Fullton – Executive Director, Jamaica 4-H Clubs
Ms. Una May Gordon – Rural Development Specialist, IICA
Miss Kathryn Duncan – Information Specialist, IICA

The complement of students registered comprises individuals as well as groups of students from the following institutions within the sector: the Rural Agricultural Development Authority (RADA); the Sugar Industry Research Institute (SIRI); Ebony Park HEART Academy; members of the Jamaica Organic Agricultural Movement (JOAM). The members of JOAM are receiving the training under the JOAM/CPEC Project: "HRD Support for Competitive Organic Agriculture".

Tutors

Mr. Byron Noble - Farm Management
Mr. Robert Reid - Information and Extension Methods in Agriculture
Mrs. Meva Gadishaw - An Introduction to E-Commerce
Dr. Joseph Lindsay - Organic Farming for Entrepreneurs



Participants in the course: Information & Extension Methods in Agriculture attending a tutorial session at the ADLTC, IICA Office Jamaica

3.2.5.2 Postgraduate Training/Supervision

In June, July and August the CA hosted and supervised Mr. Jairzenho Bailey of the Faculty of Agriculture & Natural Sciences, University of the West Indies, St Augustine. Mr. Bailey, a candidate for the degree of MSc, conducted an assessment of the international competitiveness of banana production in Jamaica.

3.2.6 INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

This area seeks to:

- Establish a programme on agricultural information and documentation to provide bibliographic, electronic and market information to the sector;
- Promote wider use of the Internet to access and disseminate information;
- Facilitate linkages to AGROINFO and network with Latin American and Caribbean institutions;
- To provide training opportunities in information technologies both at the professional and farmer levels;
- To support information needs of the specific areas of the technical agenda of the Office;
- To promote training in the critical areas of the technical agenda of the Office.

The following are the highlights of the Information Centre for 2001:

i. Information Dissemination

The Information Centre continued to service its clients, providing information in response to questions as well as preparing and distributing bibliographies, acquisitions lists and regional IICA publications.

ii. IICA Jamaica website

The CA website www.agroinfo.org/caribbean/iicacarc/jamaica continued to showcase the news and activities of the Office, as well as provide electronic access to some of its publications and links to other useful sites on the Internet. The site registered an average of 74 hits per month during the period April – December 2001.

iii. Jamaica Agricultural Documentation & Information Network

The CA continued its collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, in the management of the Jamaica Agricultural Documentation and Information Network (JADIN). This network is the Jamaica arm of the Agricultural Information and Documentation System for Latin America and the Caribbean (SIDALC). The CA is the Country Coordinating Centre for SIDALC in Jamaica. In March a working day entitled “Products and Services for our Clients” was held for members of JADIN at the College of Agriculture, Science and Education (CASE), with the object to encourage member units to improve the services offered to clients and to develop special products to meet their needs. Network members were also introduced to The Essential Electronic Agricultural Library (TEEAL), acquired by the Agriculture Library at CASE.

iv. Question and Answer Service

The Information Specialist participated in a regional CTA/CARDI/MINAG workshop, *Management of a Question and Answer Service (QAS)*, from September 24 – October 5, 2001. Subsequent to this workshop, the five participants from Jamaica convened a Jamaica QAS Committee and developed a project to manage a QAS for Jamaica. A project proposal entitled: “Improved Access to and Utilization of Information for the benefit of Agriculture and Rural Development in Jamaica through the Management of a Question and Answer Service” was written by the IICA Information Specialist and the Director of Information & Documentation Services, MINAG and submitted to the Caribbean Agricultural Information Service (CAIS) for part funding. The project was accepted and approved for funding by CAIS. The first phase of the project will be run in Jamaica from January – June 2002, managed by JADIN.

Members of the Jamaica QAS Committee are:

Mrs. Claudette Milford-Allen – Director, Information & Documentation Services Unit, MINAG

Ms. Brenda Smith – Senior Librarian, MINAG

Mr. Phillip Chung – Plant Protection Specialist, RADA

Mrs. Shelley Anglin-Smith - Information Officer, RADA

Mrs. Sonia Reynolds - Programme Manager, Agri-Business Council of Jamaica

Mrs. Eileen Chong – Market Information Specialist, Jamaica Exporters Association

Miss Kathryn Duncan – Information Specialist, IICA



Members of JADIN at the field day at CASE, March 2001.

Back row (l. to r.) C. Francis, Knockalva Agricultural School; J. Roberts, UWI Science Library;

V. Peart-Fraser, Elim Agricultural School; C. Milford-Allen, MINAG; B. Smith, MINAG

Front row (l.-r.) I. Miller, Knockalva; Student, Elim; K. Duncan, IICA; C. Howell, SRC.

3.3 STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

On January 8 2001, **Chelston W. D. Brathwaite**, IICA Representative in Jamaica, celebrated 20 years of service to the institute and on June 1, went on Leave of Absence to campaign for the position of Director General of the Institute for the period 2002 - 2006.

Dr. Brathwaite won the elections which were held during the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA) Meeting in November in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic.

H. Arlington D. Chesney, Director, Caribbean Regional Centre, assumed responsibility for the Jamaica CA with effect from June 1, 2001.

Una May Gordon, Consultant on Rural Development, was appointed to the position of National Specialist in Rural Development and was also charged with the day to day responsibility of managing the CA.

Andrea Tucker, Programme Secretary for the Rural Development Unit, was selected by Staff as the CA's Employee of the Year. In the regional competition, she was the first runner up to the Caribbean Employee of the Year and received her award from the President of the Dominican Republic during the staff recognition ceremony in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic.

Sherene Rochester, Accounting Assistant, successfully completed her course of study in Business Administration at the University of Technology, Jamaica, earning the Diploma in Business Administration.



Mr. Henry Powell (left) presents a cricket bat autographed by the Staff of IICA Jamaica, to Dr. Chelston W.D. Brathwaite, on the occasion of his twenty years of service. Status: "NOT OUT"!

3.4 OTHER ACTIVITIES

The professional staff of IICA Jamaica participated in the following additional programme-related seminars/workshops in 2001:

| Activity | Duration | Name | Work area of focus | Sponsor |
|--|-----------------------|---|--|------------------------------|
| 1. Jamaica Cultural Development workshop on environmental sustainability | 4 days | Una May Gordon | Natural Resource management | JCDT |
| 2. Farm Road Improvement & Community Tourism Workshop | 1 day | Una May Gordon | Rural Development | |
| 3. Forum on Youth in Agriculture | March 21 | All professional staff | | |
| 4. Portland Local Sustainable Development Committee Meeting | 1 day | Una May Gordon | Rural Development | ENACT |
| 5. Farquharson Institute of Public Affairs Seminar on "Crisis in Agriculture" | March 17 | Chelston Bradwaite; Byron Noble Una May Gordon | | FI |
| 6. Caribbean Planning Adaptation to Global Climate Change (CPACC) technical review workshop | May 21-25 | Una May Gordon | Water Resource Management | CPACC |
| 7. Field Day: "Products and Services for our Clients" | March 31 | Kathryn Duncan | Information Management | SIDALC |
| 8. Seminar on Foot and Mouth Disease and BSE | April 12 | All professional staff | | IICA/CASE |
| 9. Workshop on Preparation of CD-ROMS (Barbados) | February 27- March 2 | | ADLTC | IICA/CARDI |
| 10. Regional workshop on Negotiation of Bioprospecting Contracts (Jamaica Conference Centre) | June 19-21 | Una May Gordon | Natural Resource Management | NCST and INBIO of Costa Rica |
| 11. Seminar on development of the distance training centre (Trinidad & Tobago) | One day | | ADLTC | CACHE |
| 12. Jamaica Society of Agricultural Scientists (JSAS) 12 th Annual Conference (Bodles Research Station) | May 29-30 | Una May Gordon/Byron Noble/ Kathryn Duncan | Professional Development | JSAS |
| 13. Introduction to Knowledge Management | May 10-12 | Kathryn Duncan | Information Management | |
| 14. Standards Seminar at Jamaica Conference Centre | August 28 | Una May Gordon/ Byron Noble | Professional Development | JBS/CSE |
| 15. Management of a Question and Answer Service | September 24 – Oct. 5 | Kathryn Duncan | Information Management | CTA/CARDI |
| 16. Symposium on Furthering Social & Economic Development in Jamaica: A case for micro-enterprise activities | October 23 | | Rural Development | JNBS |
| 17. Seminar on promoting Agro-biodiversity by UWI Dept. of management Studies | | Una May Gordon | Natural Resource Management & Agrobiodiversity | CARDI |

4.0 OPERATIVE BUDGET

The IICA CA in Jamaica managed an operative budget of US\$522,541.34 during 2001. Of this total, 70% corresponds to IICA's quota resources and 30% came from external funding, including the Jamaica Bauxite Institute (JBI), the Kellogg Foundation, the Agri-Distance Learning and Training Centre (ADLTC) and OAS/PC Bank Funds.

| Amount (US\$) | Source | Project |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 353,649.00 | IICA Quota Budget | |
| 700.00 | Kellogg Foundation | SIDALC |
| 75,856.00 | Jamaica Bauxite Institute | Mocho Goat |
| 1,384.97 | ADLTC | Rural Development |
| 90,951.37 | OAS | Rural Women's Project |
| Total: 522,541.34 | | |

ANNEX I – EXTERNAL COLLABORATION

In 2001, the IICA Office in Jamaica facilitated the participation of several individuals in overseas seminar/workshops. The most significant of these are:

| Date | Names | Destination | Purpose of trip |
|----------------|---------------------|---------------------|--|
| February | Una May Gordon | Barbados | Participated in McGill sponsored Course on the development of CD-ROM and to observe operations of the ADLTC in Barbados |
| March | Diane Williams | Trinidad and Tobago | Attended CACHE meeting |
| April | Juliet Newell | Dominican Republic | Viewed cassava production and processing at Casabe Guaraguana Farm |
| May | Michel Shaw | Belize | Rendered professional consultancy services to the Belize Sugar Industry |
| May | Chelston Brathwaite | Guyana | Participated in the Caribbean Representative meeting |
| June | Byron Noble | Barbados | Attended the RNM meeting on WTO/FTAA/EU Relations |
| August | Alford Williams | Honduras | Attended a Technical Committee meeting of PROMECAFE |
| August | Michael Pryce | Trinidad and Tobago | Attended special meeting of CACHE at UWI Faculty of Agriculture |
| August | Una May Gordon | Trinidad and Tobago | Attended special meeting of CACHE at UWI Faculty of Agriculture towards implementation of the OAS Project |
| August | Aston Clarke | El Salvador | Attended workshop on "Diluted Fertilizer |
| August | Timon Waugh | Honduras | Participated in workshop on "Mildew and Coffee Quality" |
| August | Byron Noble | Trinidad and Tobago | Participated in the project review "Policies & Trade Support for the Agri-food Competitiveness in the Caribbean" |
| August | Patrick Sibbles | Trinidad and Tobago | Participated in the project review "Policies & Trade Support for the Agri-food Competitiveness in the Caribbean" |
| September | Michael Ramsay | Jamaica | Participated in the Regional Black Sigatoka Workshop |
| September | Alford Williams | Costa Rica | Attended workshop on Coffee Berry Borer |
| September | Gusland McCook | Costa Rica | Attended workshop on Coffee Berry Borer |
| September | Albert Shand | Trinidad and Tobago | Participated in the Regional Fruit Workshop entitled "Developing a Caribbean response - Improving Competitiveness and Expanding Regional Trade in Fruit" |
| October | Chelston Brathwaite | Chile | Participated in the 3 rd Water Meeting |
| October | Richard Harrison | Costa Rica | Attended meeting which reviewed the Ministerial Declaration and Plan of Action |
| October | Patrick Sibbles | Guyana | Visited IICA CA in Guyana re CABA |
| October | Una May Gordon | Barbados | Participated in the workshop on conservation and sustainable use of agro-bio-diversity, access and benefit sharing. |
| November | Roger Clarke | Dominican Republic | To participate in the 11 th Regular Meeting of IABA and the 3 rd CWA |
| | Aaron Parke | | |
| | Andrea Tucker | | Secretary to the 11 th Regular Meeting of IABA |
| | Cinderella Anderson | | To participate in the Third Caribbean Week of Agriculture |
| | Marlene Taylor | | |
| | Titina Costley | | |
| | Carmen Edwards | | |
| | Teda Birch | | |
| | Sonia Reynolds | | |
| | Karl Wellington | | |
| | Byron McDonald | | |
| Una May Gordon | | | |
| Lorna Gooden | | | |

ANNEX II - COLLABORATORS

- Agribusiness Council
- Banana Industry Board
- Canadian International Development Agency
- Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute
- Caribbean Food and Nutrition Institute
- Coffee Industry Board
- College of Agriculture Science and Education
- Caribbean Planning Adaptation to Global Climate Change
- European Union
- Food and Agriculture Organization
- Jamaica Agricultural Development Foundation
- Jamaica Agricultural Society
- Jamaica Bauxite Institute
- Jamaica Broilers
- Jamaica Exporters Association
- Ministry of Agriculture
- National Commission on Science and Technology
- National Library of Jamaica
- Natural Resources Conservation Authority
- Organization of American States
- Rural Agricultural Development Authority
- Scientific Research Council
- United Nations Development Programme
- United Nations Environment Programme
- United States Agency for International Development
- United States Peace Corps
- University of the West Indies

ANNEX III: STAFF OF IICA JAMAICA



Dr. Chelston W.D. Brathwaite
Representative

Dr. H. Arlington D. Chesney
Representative a.i.



Una May Gordon
Rural Development Specialist



Byron Noble
Agricultural Trade Specialist



Zithroy Annikie
Manager, Mocho Goat Project



Kathryn Duncan
Information Specialist



Donna Halstead
Administrative Assistant



Sherene Rochester
Accounts Assistant



Maureen Machado
Executive Secretary



Andrea Tucker
Programme Secretary



Andrea Marquis
Secretary/Receptionist



Henry Powell
Driver/Mechanic



Leonie Simmons
Office Attendant



Aston Daley
Gardener

ANNEX IV - ACRONYMS

| | | | |
|---------|--|---------|---|
| ABC | Agribusiness Council of Jamaica | EJASP | Eastern Jamaica Agricultural Support Project |
| ADLTC | Agri-Distance Learning & Training Centre | EU | European Union |
| AWOJA | Association of Women's Organizations in Jamaica | FAO | Food and Agriculture Organization |
| ASSP | Agricultural Support Services Programme | FTAA | Free Trade Association of the Americas |
| CA | Cooperation Agency | GAPS | Goat Agroforestry Production System |
| CABA | Caribbean Agribusiness Association | IDB | Inter-American Development Bank |
| CACHE | Caribbean Council for Higher Education in Agriculture | IICA | Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture |
| CAIS | Caribbean Agricultural Information Service | INBIO | Istituto Nacional de Biodiversidad |
| CARDI | Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute | JADIN | Jamaica Agricultural Documentation and Information Network |
| CARICOM | Caribbean Community Programme for Horizontal Technical Cooperation in Agriculture between the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean | JAMALCO | Jamaica Aluminum Company |
| CARILAC | Caribbean Community Programme for Horizontal Technical Cooperation in Agriculture between the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean | JAS | Jamaica Agricultural Society |
| CASE | College of Agriculture Science and Education | JB I | Jamaica Bauxite Institute |
| CDB | Caribbean Development Bank | JEA | Jamaica Exporters Association |
| CIB | Coffee Industry Board | JNRWP | Jamaica Network of Rural Women Producers |
| CNRWP | Caribbean Network of Rural Women Producers | JOAM | Jamaica Organic Agricultural Movement |
| CPA | Caribbean Poultry Association | JTB | Jamaica Tourist Board |
| CPACC | Caribbean Planning for Adaptation to Global Climate Change | MINAG | Ministry of Agriculture |
| CPEC | Caribbean Regional Human Resource Development Programme for Economic Competitiveness | NTA | National Training Agency (HEART) |
| CRNM | Caribbean Regional Negotiating Machinery | NCST | National Commission on Science and Technology |
| CSME | Caribbean Single Market and Economy | OAS | Organization of American States |
| CTA | Centre for Technical & Rural Cooperation | QAS | Question & Answer Service |
| DBJ | Development Bank of Jamaica | RADA | Rural Agricultural Development Authority |
| | | RCGBA | Rio Cobre Goat Breeders Association |
| | | SIDALC | Agricultural Information and Documentation System for Latin America and the Caribbean |
| | | SIRG | Summit Implementation Resource Group |
| | | SRC | Scientific Research Council |
| | | TEEAL | The Essential Electronic Agricultural Library |
| | | USAID | United States Agency for International Development |
| | | UWI | University of the West Indies |
| | | WTO | World Trade Organization |

WHAT IS IICA?

In early 1998, the IICA Office in Jamaica instituted a process for the redefinition of the focus of its technical cooperation programme in Jamaica. The process coincided with the appointment of a new Minister of Agriculture, the Honourable Roger Clarke, who defined modernization of the agricultural sector as the new mandate of his Ministry. In addition, IICA designated Dr. Chelston Brathwaite to the post of Representative of its office in Jamaica. The process of redefinition was consultative and participatory and began with consultations with the various entities of the sector and culminated in a seminar in July 1998 where representatives of the sector presented their views on what they perceived to be the future role of the Institute in Jamaica.

As a result of the consultations and the views expressed in the seminar, IICA Jamaica has produced a strategic plan to guide the future work of the Institute in Jamaica. The plan has, as its basic objective, cooperation with national agricultural institutions to improve the competitiveness of Jamaica's agriculture. The strategic areas for intervention are to:

- Assist the Jamaica Agricultural sector in its preparation for free trade and participation in the global economy.

- Promote the sustainability of Hillside Farming Systems and Watershed Management.
- Support agri-business micro enterprises with emphasis on the incorporation of women and youth in agricultural development.
- Facilitate cooperation and interchange of technology and experiences between Jamaica, the wider Caribbean and Latin America.

The member states of IICA are: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, the United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela. Its Permanent Observers are: Arab Republic of Egypt, Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, European Community, France, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kingdom of the Netherlands, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Poland, Romania, Russian Federation and Spain.

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