



GRENADA

IICA



Commemoration

of the

10th Anniversary of the opening

of the

IICA Office in Grenada

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1980 - 1990

IICA

IICA OFFICE IN GRENADA

WHAT IS IICA?

The Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) is the specialized agency for agriculture of the inter-American system. The Institute was founded on October 7, 1942 when the Council of Directors of the Pan American Union approved the creation of the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences.

IICA was founded as an institution for agricultural research and graduate training in tropical agriculture. In response to changing needs in the hemisphere, the Institute gradually evolved into an agency for technical cooperation and institutional strengthening in the field of agriculture. These changes were officially recognized through the ratification of a new Convention on December 8, 1980. The Institute's purposes under the new Convention are to encourage, facilitate and support cooperation among the 31 Member States, so as to better promote agricultural development and rural well-being.

With its broader and more flexible mandate and a new structure to facilitate direct participation by the Member States in activities of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture and the Executive Committee, the Institute now has a geographic reach that allows it to respond to needs for technical cooperation in all of its Member States.

The contributions provided by the Member States and the ties IICA maintains with its twelve Permanent Observer Countries and numerous international organizations provide the Institute with channels to direct its human and financial resources in support of agricultural development throughout the Americas.

The 1987-1991 Medium Term Plan, the policy document that sets IICA's priorities, stresses the reactivation of the agricultural sector as the key to economic growth. In support of this policy, the Institute is placing special emphasis on the support and promotion of actions to modernize agricultural technology and strengthen the processes of regional and subregional integration.

In order to attain these goals, the Institute is concentrating its actions on the following five programs: Agricultural Policy Analysis and Planning; Technology Generation and Transfer; Organization and Management for Rural Development; Marketing and Agroindustry; and Animal Health and Plant Protection.

These fields of action reflect the needs and priorities established by the Member States and delimit the areas in which IICA concentrates its efforts and technical capacity. They are the focus of IICA's human and financial resource allocations and shape its relationship with other international organizations.

The Member States of IICA are: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, the United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela.

The Permanent Observer Countries of IICA are: Arab Republic of Egypt, Austria, Belgium, Federal Republic of Germany, France, Israel, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Portugal, Republic of Korea and Spain.





Centro Interamericano de
Documentación e
Información Agrícola

1 5 FEB 1993

IICA — CIDIA

ISSN-0534-5391



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IUCA
PM: A2/GD
no. 90-01

BV-006296

Miscellaneous Publication Series
A2/GD-90-001
ISSN-0534-5391

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of the authors and do not necessarily reflect
those of the Inter-American Institute for
Cooperation on Agriculture."

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INTRODUCTION

Grenada was the first of the Eastern Caribbean States to become a member of IICA. One of the first activities undertaken in Grenada during 1980 was a Comprehensive Seminar/Workshop on Fruit Tree Crop Development as relevant today as it was then.

Significantly, participants at that workshop are still active in Grenada and Reginald E. Pierre, Director of Operations (Caribbean Area), Antonio M. Pinchinat, Technology Generation and Transfer Specialist, Rafael Marte, Fruit Tree Crop Specialist, Cosmos Joseph, Agronomist and Office Coordinator are available directly through IICA to Grenada at the present time.

As other countries of the Eastern Caribbean became members of IICA, Dominica and St. Lucia in 1984, Antigua and Barbuda, St. Vincent and the Grenadines in 1987, a subregional unit was formed and a strategy developed to implement multinational projects for the subregion to address shared national problems and strengthen international coordination.

Grenada participates in three multinational projects for the subregion and five for the wider Caribbean Area. These projects also form the basis for PLANLAC, the programme developed for modernization and revitalization of agriculture in support of the Caricom Regional Agricultural Programme and the OECS Agricultural Diversification Programme.

MESSAGE
from
Hon. Nicholas A. Brathwaite
Prime Minister & Minister of External Affairs

I am indeed exceedingly pleased to extend my profound congratulations to the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture on this tenth anniversary of the opening of its office here in Grenada.

Agriculture continues to be the mainstay of our economy and our largest foreign exchange earner; for this reason we are extremely grateful for the IICA's significant contribution to the development of our agricultural industry.

My government is strongly committed to creating a vibrant agricultural sector, and has devised a comprehensive programme designed to resuscitate the industry and to tackle the serious problems which beset the industry and impede its progress. This programme includes improving all support services to farms, such as extension services, farm and feeder roads expansion and maintenance, and proper storage for produce; the programme also involves the implementation of a national livestock programme; introducing appropriate technology for hillside cultivation and encouraging greater agricultural diversification.

We are indeed pleased to note that IICA's programme for Grenada is working towards the same end. IICA has channelled significant human and financial resources toward various aspects of agriculture in

Grenada, notably in the areas of non-traditional fruit tree crop development, the livestock sub-sector and pest and disease control.

The Institute's contribution in the form of technical assistance, research and training continues to be invaluable to the Ministry of Agriculture with which it cooperates directly. My Government welcomes the Institute's expert contribution in this important sector. We endorse and deeply appreciate the input of its staff thus far and resolve to work closely with them as we address ourselves conscientiously to solve our sectoral problems.

My Government will therefore give every support, encouragement and assistance to facilitate the implementation of the Institute's work in Grenada, and to help it in any other way to discharge the important responsibility with which it has been entrusted.

Nicholas A. Brathwaite

Prime Minister & Minister of External Affairs

MESSAGE

from

Hon. Ben J. Jones

Minister of Agriculture, Lands, Forestry & Fisheries

It is with profound pleasure and satisfaction that I join in celebrating the 10th Anniversary of IICA's presence in Grenada and I take this opportunity to extend to you the Government's and my own personal congratulations for ten years of very effective and fruitful operation here.

Please permit me to observe that during the period under review your Organisation has been staffed by a range of dedicated and committed officers who have rendered the highest quality of service and have contributed very significantly towards ensuring the health and vitality of our agricultural sector.

I recall too, the numerous occasions on which we have been threatened with disaster because of attacks by one form or the other of Pests and Diseases (two of the most recent being the corn worm invasion in Grand Anse and the islandwide invasion by the African Locust). On each occasion IICA has played the leading role in solving the problem.

All of this has been complemented by the direct financial and other technical assistance that you have provided over the years - the seminars, the workshops and other courses that you have conducted, both local and external, the collection of necessary data on food crops, the study of Farm Incomes in Grenada, the designing and putting in place of an accounting system for the Progressive Farmers Union etc. I now want to thank you for the invaluable contribution that IICA has made towards the development of a healthy and vibrant agricultural economy in Grenada.

I am pleased to note that IICA's programme for the new decade is designed to enable it to continue and to improve its contribution towards the development of our agriculture. We in the Ministry are delighted; we therefore pledge that we will do everything possible to develop the level of co-operation and create the kind of atmosphere that will permit us to act together for the continued benefit of both IICA and Grenada.

Many happy returns on your Tenth Anniversary.

Ben Joseph Jones

Minister of Agriculture, Lands, Forestry & Fisheries

MESSAGE
from
Dr. Martin E. Pineiro
Director General of IICA

On the tenth anniversary of the Celebration of the opening of our Office in your country, I send you on behalf of our Institute and on my own behalf, cordial greetings and best wishes for continued success and prosperity.

In your efforts to diversify and develop an agricultural sector which will be able to contribute effectively to overall development, an atmosphere of social and political stability is important. We, therefore, congratulate your Government and we look forward to fruitful cooperation.

We are well aware that the continued development and transformation of the agricultural sector is an important feature of your proposed new development strategy. This strategy aims, in the medium term, to diversify and modernize the sector through the introduction of improved technology, increased production of non traditional export crops, improved marketing and extension services and promotion of agroprocessing and small livestock development.

We also welcome your recent initiatives in agricultural diversification and subregional cooperation, which aim to increase food security, integrate marketing arrangements and provide mechanisms for the fullest use of economies of scale.

Your initiatives and our vision for the future are similar. We believe that agriculture must play a new, dynamic role in economic development and in this regard we have begun to implement PLANLAC, the

Plan for Agricultural Reactivation in Latin America and the Caribbean, which was approved at the recent meeting of the Standing Committee of Ministers of Agriculture of CARICOM and at the meeting of the Inter-American Board last October.

The Plan for the Caribbean takes as its point of departure the Caribbean Community Program for Agricultural Development and the OECS Agricultural Diversification Program. It must therefore be seen as complementary to provisions contained therein. The three initiatives (CARICOM, OECS and IICA) together form the basis of an overall Caribbean strategy for the modernization and reactivation of the agricultural sector through the 1990's and beyond.

IICA's initiatives in the Caribbean are therefore not designed to resolve the problems of agriculture unilaterally, but our Institute seeks to cooperate with international, regional and subregional bodies and institutions to rationalize and coordinate our various contributions to overall economic development.

In order to provide this additional dimension to national, subregional and regional plans and programs, IICA bases its Plan for the Caribbean on:

- * Strengthening of national and regional institutions and institutional arrangements for the provision of support services to both the public and private sectors in strategic areas such as policy analysis, planning and management, technology generation and/or acquisition and transfer, investment incentive policy, joint marketing and animal health and plant protection.
- * Strengthening farmers' organizations to improve agricultural production and marketing; and motivating and promoting the participation of youth in agricultural transformation and rural

development in the Caribbean.

- * Upgrading the region's institutional capability for the development, production and marketing of non traditional crops, such as fruits, food crops and vegetables.
- * Exploiting opportunities with respect to the agricultural sector through the development and fuller utilization of regional trade and integration mechanisms of the Caribbean Community.

The achievement of the objectives of PLANLAC requires an adequate flow of external financial resources to the subregion, which can only be successfully achieved if IICA and the OECS countries together promote joint actions with donor agencies and international financial institutions. These actions must of necessity coincide with the national development plans and subregional initiatives of the countries.

During the last decade, the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean experienced a definite deterioration in economic and social development. The decade of the 1990's, on the other hand, promises to be a challenging period for economic development.

Two major factors which offer both opportunities and challenges in this period are the European Community single market in 1992 and the recent developments in Eastern Europe. The former, with its 320 million consumers, has the potential of becoming an expanded market for tropical agricultural products. There is also the possibility for the establishment of mechanisms to maintain current concessional regimes for some of the region's major commodities - sugar, bananas and rum. The success of these initiatives, however, depends on coordinated negotiation and

careful management of the process of change, so that all opportunities are maximized.

The economy of small countries such as Grenada is particularly vulnerable to the changes in external economic conditions and when combined with limited land area, scarce technical and financial resources, limited access to capital markets and absence of possibilities for economies of scale, economic development becomes difficult.

As you face the future, our Institute stands ready to cooperate with you and other international, regional and subregional bodies in your efforts to modernize the agricultural sector. We are convinced that this is the only way in which we can ensure a comfortable standard of living for this generation and prepare the way for the generations to come.

I hope, therefore, that the next decade will be for all of us a new dynamic phase in technical cooperation as we seek to improve the quality of life not only for Grenada but all the peoples of our region.

I wish to conclude by stressing that IICA will continue to support the efforts of member countries of the region. In its role as a technical cooperation agency, we will seek to facilitate integration among the countries and improve access to resources from international financing agencies.

I send you my best wishes for much success in your future endeavours.

Martin E. Pineiro

Director General of IICA

MESSAGE
from
Dr. Reginald E. Pierre
Director of Operations (Caribbean)

Grenada was the first of the smaller Caribbean countries to join IICA. This it did in 1980. Grenada soon was followed by Dominica and St. Lucia, both in 1984, and later Antigua and Barbuda and St. Vincent and the Grenadines during 1987. Membership for St. Kitts and Nevis currently is being processed, so that soon, IICA's Caribbean Area will include an almost full component of the territories which comprise the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), together with the more developed countries of CARICOM plus Haiti and Suriname.

As a Grenadian, I am pleased to note that Grenada has registered yet another 'first', and it is significant that on this occasion it has been done without 'prompting' from nationals within the Institute. Of this I am sure.

This, undoubtedly, is indicative of the perceived benefits which membership in IICA could bring to Grenada, and I am happy to state that the record of achievements over the past decade attest to these tangible benefits.

The Institute has provided tangible support to a number of national activities in the agricultural sector, in addition to facilitating linkages with other regional and hemispheric initiatives which otherwise would have been difficult to accomplish.

In the ensuing years, IICA expects to play an increasingly significant role in fostering regional and hemispheric linkages through the implementation of projects that are conducive to joint action by

member countries. This is consistent with the mandate given by the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA), of which Grenada is an integral part, to develop and implement, in association with member countries and other international agencies, a Plan of Joint Action for the Reactivation of Agriculture in Latin America and the Caribbean (PLANLAC).

Here in the Caribbean, PLANLAC is supportive of and complementary to two regional mandates, one emanated from the Standing Committee of Ministers responsible for Agriculture (SCMA) which gave rise to CARICOM's Regional Agricultural Sector Programme and the other from the OECS Authority which resulted in the OECS Diversification Programme.

I am happy to state that IICA's professional staff featured prominently in the development of both these initiatives, and we are equally committed to their successful implementation.

As Area Director, fully cognisant of the importance of agriculture in the development of the region, I wish to assure the Government and people of Grenada, the OECS, CARICOM and its associated countries, Haiti and Suriname of IICA's continued support in their efforts to develop their agricultural sectors and improve the well-being of the people of the Caribbean.

Reginald E. Pierre

Director of Operations (Caribbean)

IICA HEADQUARTERS



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Costa Rica**

IICA OFFICE IN GRENADA



**Address: #25 Carifta Cottage
Morne Rouge
St. George's**

(New Location - The Villa, St. George's)

HISTORY OF IICA IN GRENADA

The IICA Office in Grenada was opened in April 1980. It was then temporarily housed at the Ministry of Agriculture building, Botanic Gardens, St. George's. Mr. Mario Franca (Brazilian) was the first Director (Representative) of the local IICA Office, and Ms. Gail Peters was the first local IICA employee.

In January 1981, the IICA Office was re-located at No.25 CARIFTA Cottage, Morne rouge, St. George's. That site is now required for tourism development, and plans are already well advanced toward re-siting the IICA Office at The Villa (Campbell's Building) St. George's.

During the past ten years, twenty-three (23) Grenadians have been employed with the local IICA Office for durations ranging from six months to more than nine years. Since January 1988, the local IICA staff has consisted of four (4) persons. Additionally, the Office has on occasions contracted the services of short-term local consultants in accordance with needs.

Three National Professionals are included among the twenty-three Grenadians who were employed with IICA. They have served in the following project areas:

- 1) Agricultural Marketing - Mr. David Fletcher (Economist) from 1981 to 1982.
- 2) Technology Generation and Transfer - Mr. Cosmos Joseph (Agronomist) 1981 to Present.
- 3) Plant Protection - Dr. Cyril Dominique (Entomologist) from 1984 to 1987.

Since 1983, Mr. Joseph also functions as Administrative Coordinator. Mr. Allen Martinson (Horticulturist), Peace Corps Volunteer, has been attached to the local IICA Office since December 1988. He works in the area of Technology Generation and Transfer. Another Peace Corps Volunteer, Mrs. Cheri Matthews (Agricultural Economist), worked with IICA Grenada from December 1988 to October 1989 in the area of Rural Development.

At the beginning of 1983, the first Director (Representative) of the IICA Office in Grenada was transferred to Bolivia. He was replaced by Dr. Reginald E. Pierre (Grenadian) based at the IICA Office in St. Lucia but with responsibility for the IICA Offices in Grenada, Dominica and St. Lucia. Dr. Pierre was transferred to Costa Rica as Director of Operations for the Caribbean Area in May 1987 but subsequently relocated to Barbados during 1989. He was succeeded by Dr. Franz Alexander (Jamaican) who serves the Windward Islands and Antigua and Barbuda.

Apart from the IICA Office Representative, two other International Professionals and one National Professional undertake development activities within the sub-region: Mr. Jerry La Gra (Specialist in Marketing and Rural Development), Dr. Antonio M. Pinchinat (Specialist in Technology Generation and Transfer), Mr. Everton C. Ambrose (Plant Protection Specialist) serve Grenada in their respective fields of expertise. Mr. La Gra, Dr. Pinchinat and Mr. Ambrose have operated out of the IICA Office in St. Lucia since 1985, 1987 and 1985 respectively. Grenada also benefits from the services of professionals with responsibilities for multinational projects in the area. Among these are:

Lyndon Mc Laren	-	Area Director, 1980-83
Claude Brouillard	-	Area Director, 1984-86
Reginald Pierre	-	Plant Protection/ Director/Area Director, 1980-90
Chelston Brathwaite	-	Plant Protection, 1980-87
Franz Alexander	-	Animal Health, 1980-87
Irwin Telfer	-	Planning, 1984-90
Gonzalo Estefanell	-	Planning, 1984-90
Rafael Marte	-	Fruit Tree Crops, 1984-90
Deep Ford	-	Rural Development, 1983-86
Hector Munoz	-	Livestock Production, 1984-90
Barry Stemshorn	-	Animal Health, 1987-90
Theresa Bernardo	-	Animal Health, 1988-90.

Additionally, short-term international consultants are accessed based on identified needs which cannot be adequately addressed by IICA's regular staff.

Since its establishment in 1980, the IICA Grenada Office has benefitted from the excellent cooperation given by the Ministry of Agriculture through its various Permanent Secretaries:

- 1) Mr. Norbert Fletcher (up to December 1981)
- 2) Mr. Phillip David (May 1982-October 1983)
- 3) Mrs. Ruth Rahim (December 1983-May 1985)
- 4) Mr. Denis Noel (May 1985-February 1986)
- 5) Mr. Otto George (March 1986-February 1987)
- 6) Mr. Osbert Benjamin (May 1987-May 1988)
- 7) Mrs. Pamela Steele (May 1988-September 1989)
- 8) Mr. Algernon Antoine (September 1989-Present)

HIGHLIGHTS OF IICA ACTIVITIES
IN GRENADA

(April, 1980-March, 1990)

Following are some of the major activities/actions undertaken by IICA in Grenada during the past decade:

- 1) Investigated Grenada's marketing systems, and published a document entitled "An Analysis of Markets and Marketing Systems for Fruits and Vegetables in Grenada". (1980).
- 2) Conducted a "Caribbean Workshop on Traditional and Non-Traditional Fruit Tree Crop Development". (November, 1980). Workshop proceedings were published.
- 3) Implemented the Grenada component of two multi-national projects in "Plant Protection" and "Animal Health", respectively. (1980-1987). Through these projects, Grenada's plant protection and animal health personnel participated in meetings and short courses held annually; the Caribbean Plant Protection Newsletter was produced and distributed to Ministry of Agriculture technical officers; government was alerted of new outbreaks of plant and animal pests and diseases in the region; plant and animal research findings were disseminated; and the Ministry of Agriculture was assisted in preparing the "Delivery of Veterinary Services Project" which is expected to be an integral part of Grenada's planned National Livestock Development Programme.

- 4) Investigated and reported on Grenada's plant protection problems. (1981). Two separate documents available.
- 5) Sponsored overseas and local training courses for personnel of the Agricultural Planning Unit (1981-1982).
- 6) Conducted inservice training courses in Crop Production and Farm Management (1983-1986) as well as Integrated Pest Management, Pesticide Usage and Plant Quarantine (1985-1987). Also conducted lectures in Crop Production (1982-1986) and Crop Protection (1985-1987) at the Mirabeau Agricultural Training School.
- 7) Collaborated with the Ministry of Agriculture's Extension Division and Communications Unit in producing and distributing more than three thousand (3000) leaflets on seven different topics related to vegetable and root crops production. (1983-1986).
- 8) Compiled cost-of-production data on seven (7) selected food crops (1983-1986).
- 9) Produced a series of fact sheets on "Crop Pests of Economic Importance in Grenada". (1985-1987).
- 10) Established a reference collection of crop pests and diseases. (1985-1987).
- 11) Assisted WINBAN in implementing the Moko Eradication Programme in Grenada. (1985).
- 12) Assisted the Ministry of Agriculture in establishing its Pest Management and Plant

Quarantine Unit. (1985-1987).

- 13) Supervised the Fruit Fly Monitoring and Trapping Programme. (1986-1987). Grenada has since been declared fruit fly free and its fruits can now enter the United States market without having to undergo expensive fumigation treatment prior to being exported.
- 14) Analysed the Ministry of Agriculture's National Agricultural Research System and presented proposals for the system's functional re-organization in order to facilitate more efficient management and increased capability to capitalise on available technology both within and outside Grenada. (1987). (Draft document available).
- 15) Collaborated with the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) in conducting a study on joint (Windward Islands) agricultural marketing. (1987). The final report "The Fruit Sub-Sector in the Windward Islands: Diagnosis-Strategy-Actions" is available.
- 16) Conducted an "Appraisal of the Agricultural Sector for Policy Setting and Project Identification". (1988). Document available.
- 17) Provided both technical and financial (emergency funds) assistance to the Grenada Government during the African Locust incursion into the region. (1988). Report available.
- 18) Conducted a "Preliminary Study of Farm Incomes in Grenada". (1988). Report available.

- 19) Sponsored a training course on "Preparation of Educational Radio Programmes and Printed Materials to Foster Rural Development in the Caribbean". (1989). The course was held at IICA's Headquarters in San Jose and was attended by the Ministry of Agriculture's Communications Specialist and the CARDATS Country Officer in Grenada.
- 20) Assisted the Ministry of Agriculture in
 - identifying and developing seven (7) commodity-based development programmes for implementation (1989) (document available);
 - selecting and formulating priority commodity-based projects (1989) (three project documents available);
 - conducting a study of its five Agricultural Stations with the aim of improving their organization and management to effectively support the country's agricultural diversification drive through the development of non-traditional crop commodities. (1989). Document available.
 - establishing nine Pilot Commercial Pawpaw Plots using disease tolerant cultivars. (1989).
- 21) Prepared a detailed report on the livestock sub-sector in Grenada.
- 22) Prepared profiles of Farmer Organizations in Grenada. (1989).
- 23) Established an Inter-Island Steering Committee of Farmer Organizations in the Windward Islands and Antigua (1989). Representatives of the Grenada Livestock Association (GLA) and the Productive Farmers

Union (PFU) are members of that Committee which meets quarterly to exchange experiences, identify priority projects, approve actions of the Committee's Secretariat (based in St. Lucia) and plan future actions.

- 24) Investigated Grenada's soil and water management needs. (1989). A preliminary report is available.
- 25) Conducted short overseas course in Epidemiology and Basic Computer Training for animal health and plant protection personnel expected to implement the plant and animal health data monitoring system in Grenada. (1989).
- 26) Sponsored visits to St. Lucia and Dominica by a group comprising one livestock extension officer and two livestock farmers from Grenada to observe improved models of sheep and goat production systems. (1989).
- 27) Carried out an analysis of the managerial and administrative needs of the PFU and trained its executive members in management planning, organization and decision making. (1989).
- 28) Designed and put in place an Accounting System for the PFU, and trained its staff in the use of the system. (1989).
- 29) Prepared a report on the legal status of the PFU, with recommendations for restructuring. (1989).
- 30) Provided technical assistance to the GLA to design a strategy for strengthening the

livestock sub-sector. (1989).

- 31) Sponsored a trip by a representative of the Grenada Banana Cooperative Society (GBCS) to visit Coffee Diversification Project in Colombia. (1989).
- 32) Sponsored a trip by two technical officers of the Ministry of Agriculture to receive on-farm training in pawpaw production in Barbados. (1989).

ONGOING MULTINATIONAL PROJECTS

SubRegional

- Project: Support of the organization and management of technology generation and transfer in the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS).
- Project: Strengthening farmers' organizations to improve agricultural production and marketing in the OECS.
- Project: Strengthening plant protection and quarantine capabilities in the countries of the OECS for the production and marketing of non-traditional crops.

Regional

- Project: Policy Analysis, Planning and Management in Support of Agricultural Development in the Caribbean.
- Project: Cooperative program for agricultural research, technology transfer and exchange between the Caribbean and Latin America (PROCICARIBE - COTER).
- Project: Supporting the development of tropical fruit in the Caribbean.
- Project: Survey and monitoring of animal and plant diseases and pests to facilitate increased production efficiency in the Caribbean.
- Project: Regional Project Unit for the Caribbean.



*Dr. Martin E. Piñeiro,
IICA's Director-General (Based in Costa Rica)*



*Dr. Reginald E. Pierre,
IICA's Representative in Barbados and
Director of Operations for the Caribbean Area
(Based in Barbados)*



*Franz Alexander,
IICA's Animal Health Specialist and Representa-
tive in Antigua and Barbuda/Dominica/Grenada/
St. Lucia/St. Vincent and the Grenadines*



*Jerry La Gra,
IICA's Rural Development and Marketing
Specialist (Based in St. Lucia)*



*Everton Ambrose,
IICA's Plant Protection Specialist
(Based in St. Lucia)*



*Rafael Marte,
IICA's Fruit Crop Specialist
(Based in Barbados)*



*Antonio M. Pinchinat,
IICA's Technology Generation
and Transfer Specialist
(Based in St. Lucia)*

PLAN OF JOINT ACTION FOR
AGRICULTURAL REACTIVATION
IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE
CARIBBEAN - PLANLAC

The Plan of Joint Action is a proposal designed to put into action the political consensus that has been reached on the essential role to be played by the modernization of agriculture in reactivating the economies of Latin America and the Caribbean. The initiative gained importance at a time when the development models adopted in the region began to show signs that they had run their course and were no longer efficient; the severity of the crisis called for a restructuring of economic reactivation strategies.

The Ninth Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Agriculture (ICMA) met in Ottawa, Canada, in 1987, and charged the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), in collaboration with its member countries and other international organizations, with the development of a strategic Plan of Joint Action in support of Agricultural revitalization and economic development. At the General Assembly of the Organisation of American States (OAS), the request for the preparation of the proposal was endorsed by Latin America and Caribbean foreign ministers.

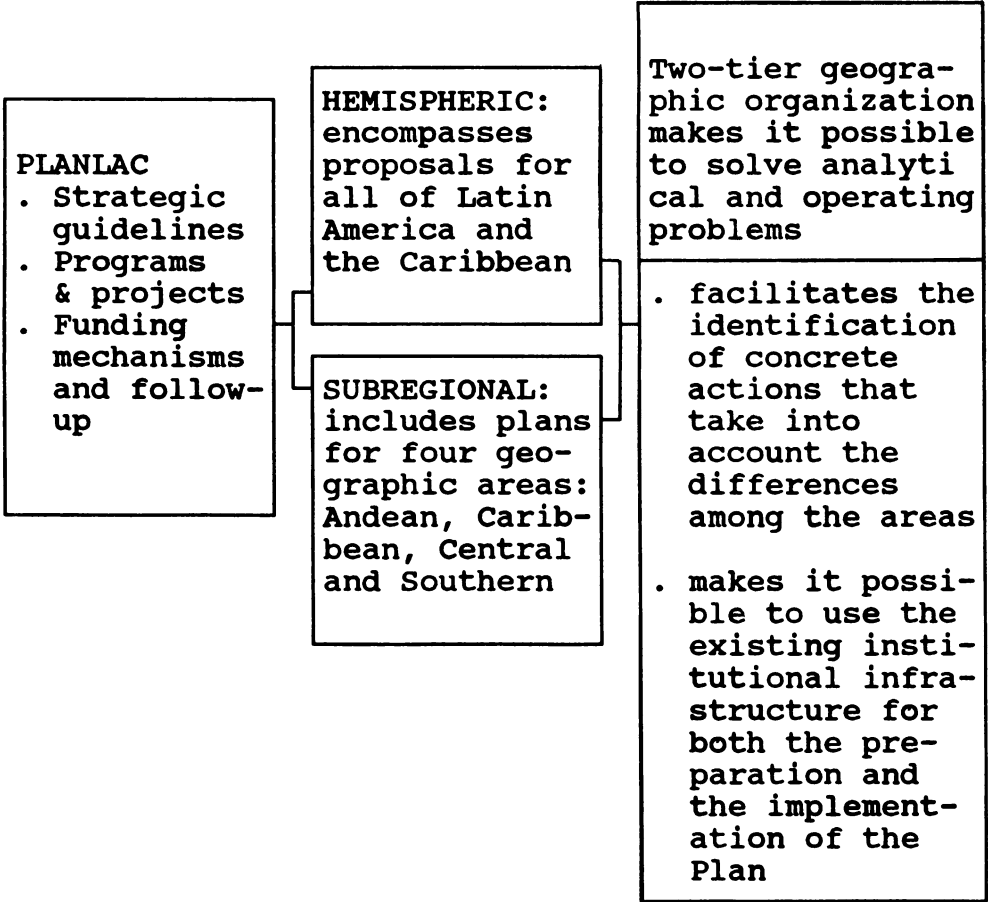
The belief that agricultural modernization can serve as a new formula for economic development in Latin America and the Caribbean is based on the fact that the region has numerous comparative advantages, and on the sector's potential strengths vis-a-vis the process of adjustment that became necessary in the 1980s. In view of the economic recession and instability experienced in the majority of countries of the region, agriculture is one of the few

production activities that can respond to new global challenges. Agricultural activity:

- . can be competitive at the international level and constitute a source of net foreign exchange savings for the economy because it produces exports or substitutes imports,
- . requires relatively low levels of external inputs and investments,
- . involves a high degree of local know-how and skills in production,
- . uses technologies that help create jobs.
- . brings about multiplier effects in other production activities,
- . has a cost structure capable of resisting inflationary pressures and contributes to the domestic supply of goods, and
- . can expand within a macroeconomic framework characterized by a limited supply of credit, lack of state subsidies, and flexibility vis-a-vis new relative price situations.



STRUCTURE



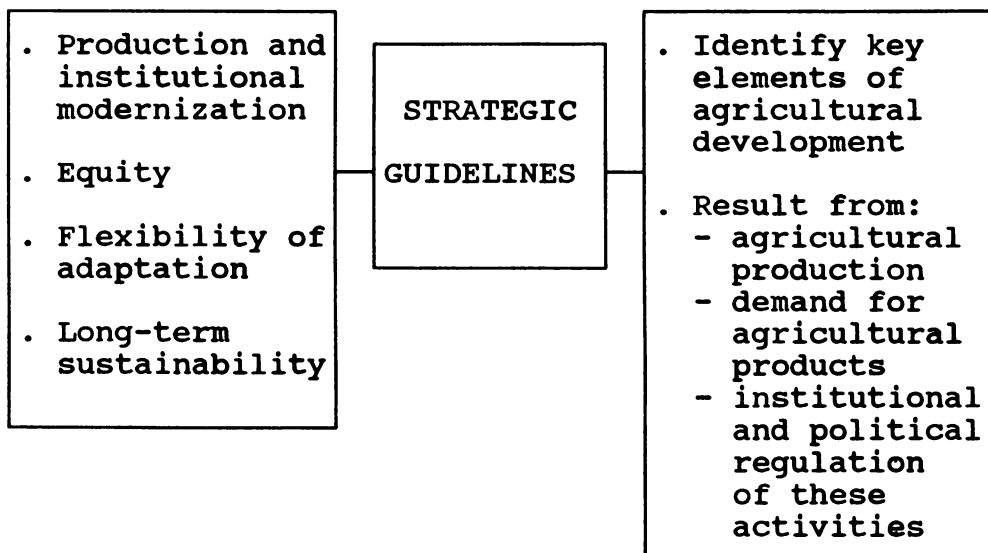
CHARACTERISTICS

- * It is a Plan of Action and not a study. The analysis is based on previous studies and is aimed at identifying and formulating specific recommendations and especially proposals for action (programs, projects, others).
- * There is no quantification of goals or other approaches normally followed in a planning exercise, as this would not be realistic for such a case.
- * The purpose is not to produce a document, but rather to give rise to a participatory process that generates ideas and action proposals that make it possible for agriculture to play a new role in economic development strategies. The Plan will be reviewed periodically.
- * This is a Plan of Joint Action. It is not intended to cover all relevant issues, but rather concentrate on aspects which are common to the countries and which can be addressed through Joint Action.
- * The Plan is designed to be incorporated into the overall strategy for economic integration. It will also serve as an instrument for reaching agreement on joint actions at the regional and subregional levels and contribute to the search for international resources for regional projects.

HEMISPHERIC

Key Elements of the Reactivation Strategy

The crisis and the adjustment process have shown that a well-defined development policy is needed in order to get back on the track of economic and social development. First and foremost, a strategic framework must be established that identifies appropriate policies and measures needed for strengthening the agricultural sector's contribution to economic and social development, based on the real conditions of the crisis and the position Latin America and the Caribbean hold in the international economy.



TOPICS ANALYZED

1. Economic policies and investment
2. International economic relations
3. Modernization of the state and institutional reform
4. Technological strategy
5. Agroindustrial development
6. Rural development and promotion of small-farm economy.

IICA STAFF IN GRENADA



**LOCALLY BASED PROFESSIONAL AND SUPPORT STAFF
OF THE IICA OFFICE IN GRENADA.**

*(From left to right: Emery Thorne, Agnes Williams, Allen Martinson,
Cosmos Joseph. Missing from photograph is Mrs. Merril St. John)*

FECHA DE DEVOLUCION


IICA-PM-
A2/GD-90-01

Autor

Título Commemoration of the 20th.
Aniversary of the opening of
the IICA in Grenada

Fecha
Devolución

Nombre del solicitante



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