



## Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

### Significant achievements in 2010

- Over 150 technical staff and producers (extension agents, farmers, marketers and exporters) in the sweet potato industry are more aware of the potential of popular sweet potato varieties in terms of their productivity, pest and disease resistance and marketability, following experimental work done by CARDI under the joint IICA-CARDI projects.
- The Institute strengthened the technical capacity of the Plant Protection and Quarantine Unit of the Ministry of Agriculture by involving plant protection and quarantine personnel in an IICA regional workshop on the identification of heteropteran pests. The Institute also enhanced the development of the internal capacities of the unit by facilitating the participation of its personnel in a regional workshop held by the IPPC to review the draft version of the international standards for phytosanitary measures.
- The Animal Health and Production Division of the Ministry of Agriculture has enhanced capabilities for disease surveillance as a result of the interventions of IICA under the Veterinary Epidemiology and Para-epidemiology Project. In particular, the Division benefited from external training received in simulations of Blue Moon Fever outbreaks, from the attendance of a VEP staff member at the 114<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the United States Animal Health Association, and from its participation in research on outbreaks.
- Thanks to IICA, 62 stakeholders in the vegetable industry are better informed of the issues and challenges facing the subsector and the opportunities that exist to improve productivity and competitiveness at all levels. This result was achieved at the Second Annual Agribusiness Conference, where the 62 stakeholders sanctioned the development of a comprehensive program for the vegetable industry. In addition, the recovery of commercial vegetable producers from the damages sustained from Hurricane Tomas has been accelerated through the direct technical and material support provided to them by IICA.

- The Ministries of Agriculture and Tourism and private-sector stakeholders are better positioned to engage in agrotourism thanks to IICA's facilitating the visit of four industry stakeholders to agrotourism sites in Barbados and Jamaica to acquire knowledge and experience gained as a result of similar investments in these countries. These stakeholders form part of the agrotourism industry committee responsible for implementation of the OAS-funded agrotourism project in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.
- The support provided to the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Agricultural Forum for Youth (SVGAFY), and a training workshop on project conceptualization and development, facilitated by IICA, enhanced the capacity of young leaders engaged in agriculture.
- Members of the Alliance from St. Vincent and the Grenadines are more aware of current issues and challenges relating to Caribbean agriculture, as well as opportunities for further regional integration of the sector as a result of the participation of the SVGAFY and the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Network of Rural Women Producers (SVGNRWP) in the 10th Caribbean Week of Agriculture, held in Grenada.
- The SVGNRWP is better positioned to increase farm production and productivity thanks to their participation in IICA training workshops in entrepreneurship development and compost production. Its members are also better positioned to improve their vegetable seedling production capabilities and establish networks through initiatives undertaken by IICA and Mission Taiwan. The Institute also provided technical support to strengthen its internal structures and the execution of their annual program.