

# IICA



A Report on the Contribution of the  
Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)  
to the Development of  
Agriculture and Rural Life in the Caribbean



# Annual Report 2001

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR – CARIBBEAN REGIONAL CENTRE	1
EXECUTIVE SUMMARIES	
ENGLISH	2
SPANISH	4
FRENCH	6
1. INTRODUCTION	8
2. THE STATUS OF THE REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL SECTOR: A BRIEF CRITICAL ANALYSIS	9
3. CARC'S MISSION AND VISION (2001)	11
4. PARTNERSHIPS	12
5. HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR ACTIONS IN 2001	13
6. INSTITUTIONAL MODERNISATION	24
7. OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEW INITIATIVES	24
8. CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF THE IMPLEMENTED ACTIONS AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS FOR THE FUTURE	25
9. FINAL REMARKS	25
10. COUNTRY REPORTS	26
10.1 BAHAMAS	27
10.2 BARBADOS	29
10.3 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	31
10.4 GUYANA	34
10.5 HAITI	37
10.6 JAMAICA	40
10.7 OECS	43
10.8 SURINAME	62
10.9 TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	65
ACRONYMS	69

## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR – CARIBBEAN REGIONAL CENTRE

---

The Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) and particularly its Caribbean Regional Centre (CaRC), is pleased to present this report to its stakeholders, collaborators/partners and clients in the Caribbean and beyond. This report is in furtherance of our aim to disseminate information on our initiatives aimed at the development of Agriculture and Rural Life in the Caribbean.

As the report is read, one would note our many accomplishments. These achievements were accomplished with the direct assistance and joint collaboration from many. Special mention must be made of the representatives of the Alliance for Sustainable Development of Agriculture and the Rural Milieu (The Alliance) who straddle the members of IICA's Governing Body, that is, 14 Ministers of Agriculture, along with their Permanent Secretaries and other staff members in their respective Ministries. The role of all the key players in the sector, at the national level, who participated in the 14 National Consultations, as a follow up to the Mandate of the Summit of the Americas Process, is greatly acknowledged. The views and opinions did not only inform the decisions of the IABA but also the respective national work programmes of IICA.

The dedication of the IICA staff in our 14 Cooperation Agencies who usually go "beyond the call" to satisfy our clients is deeply appreciated and greatly acknowledged. The funds received from external sources, as well as, the quota contributions from Member States are duly acknowledged.

We hope that you will accept this report as a true reflection of our work and contribution to agriculture in the Caribbean.

*H. Arlington D. Chesney*

Director – Caribbean Regional Centre

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report highlights the main actions of IICA in the Caribbean Region for the year 2001. It presents a brief critical analysis of the Region's agriculture and outlines our Mission and Vision for its development. Our actions are highlighted according to the Institute's Thematic Areas of Operation. These are Policies and Trade; Science, Technology and Natural Resources; Agricultural Health and Food Safety; and Sustainable Rural Development. These were supported by Training and Education and Information and Communication. Details at the national level are presented for the year 2001 in the Section titled Country Reports. During the year, the Caribbean Regional Centre (CaRC) strengthened its technical co-operation agenda and forged closer alliances with its clients and partners. This, together with direct support from Ministers of Agriculture in the Region, greatly assisted IICA in placing Agriculture and Rural Life on the Agenda of the Summit of the Americas. Agriculture in the Region is therefore now receiving attention at the highest political forum of the Americas.

**Policies and Trade:** During the year, our Policies and Trade Agenda contributed to the analytical information base, which was the basis of informing recommendations for changes to the CET regime. The CaRC also supported the region in Trade Negotiations with continued support to the Caribbean Regional Negotiating Machinery (CRNM). Industries were supported directly and indirectly through the operations of the Caribbean AgriBusiness Association (CABA) and some direct support to the pork and poultry industries. Under the auspices of the Regional Projects, Planning and Programming Unit (RPPPU) preparation of various training modules to enhance agribusiness development, in particular, Small Business Development for Young People begun. Conducted a Management Audit and reorganization of the Ministry of Agriculture – Grenada. Developed Business Plan for the St. Lucia Agriculturists Association (SLAA) – St. Lucia, and the South West Development Agency (SWDA) – Trinidad. Supported study on Expanding St. Lucia's Regional Trade in Bananas.

**Science, Technology and Natural Resources:** Our program in this area continued to collaborate with the Ministries of Agriculture and other national, regional and international agencies to improve the management of the Science and Technology Systems and the Natural Resources Management. Its actions were focussed in Trade Related Science Issues and Technology Innovation System for Competitiveness. Under our Trade Related Science Issues, the CaRC continued to sensitise the region on "Genetically Modified Organisms", "Intellectual Property Rights", "Technical Barriers to Trade", and "Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights." The CaRC continued to strengthen institutions that are responsible for technology generation and transfer at the regional and national levels. The work of the umbrella network for technology generation and transfer, PROCICARIBE, and in particular the CARIFRUIT network was notable in this regard with citrus in Trinidad and Tobago; passion fruit and pineapples in the OECS, receiving support in generating competitiveness within the Regional Fruit Industry. Other commodities, such as, hot peppers, dasheen, dairy, and goats in Jamaica, among others, received much needed attention.

**Agricultural Health and Food Safety:** As signatories, with the exception of the Bahamas, to the World Trade Organisation Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary

Measures, countries in the region are now bound by the international standards for trade. The CaRC continued to promote better understanding of these standards to facilitate trade. Specific recommendations were also made for strengthening the region's food safety infrastructure. Control and eradication of the Carambola Fruit Fly (CFF) achieved historic success with Guyana being declared CFF free in 2001. CFF populations were kept low in several major areas in Suriname, which indicates that the control and eradication techniques are working. An emerging threat for the region, the Black Sigatoka of Banana, received the attention of the regional experts at a regional workshop in Jamaica. Citrus Black Fly and Papaya Mealybug were some of the direct assistance provided to the region. The region was also sensitised to the FMD and BSE diseases.

**Sustainable Rural Development:** The Sustainable Rural Development Programme underscored significant progress during the year in bringing into the development process under-represented groups, particularly, rural women, youth and indigenous peoples in Suriname and Guyana. The work of the Caribbean Network of Rural Women Producers (CNRWP) is noteworthy. Representatives of this body are now participating at regional fora. The other group, rural youth, received support particularly in the OECS.

**Training and Education:** Our activities in this area continued to be well appreciated by our clients. The Caribbean Agro-Entrepreneurs Distance Learning Centre (CADLC) offers five courses and expanded its operations from Barbados to Grenada, Jamaica, St. Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago. Our efforts to assist regional tertiary institutions advanced during the year. The cross-accreditation programme was also kept on the front burner. Short-term training at Universities in the United States of America were availed by nine Caribbean professionals under the USDA Cochran Program, in collaboration with IICA's Northern Regional Centre.

**Information and Communication:** Our newsletters: AgriView, CARAPHIN News, IICA News, and the Tropical Fruits Newsletter, other publications, such as, In A Nutshell and our website [www.iicacarc.org](http://www.iicacarc.org) continued to be a major source of information to the region's agriculture. The active participation of the region in Agricultural Information and Documentation System for the Americas (SIDALC) also enhanced our capacity to serve the region's information needs during the year.



este informe, se detallan las principales acciones desarrolladas por IICA en la región del Caribe durante el año 2001. Se presenta un breve análisis de la agricultura en la región, y al mismo tiempo se definen nuestra misión y visión para el desarrollo de la misma.

Nuestras acciones están enmarcadas dentro de las Áreas Temáticas de Operación del Instituto – Políticas y Comercio; Ciencia, Tecnología y Recursos Naturales; Sanidad Agropecuaria y Seguridad Alimentaria; y Desarrollo Rural Sostenible. Dichas actividades reciben el apoyo de Entrenamiento y Educación y de Información y Comunicación. La información detallada a nivel nacional se presenta en la sección de los Informes nacionales para el año 2001. Durante el año, el Centro Regional para el Caribe fortaleció su programa de cooperación técnica, mediante alianzas más estrechas con sus clientes y socios. Esto, con el apoyo directo de los Ministerios de Agricultura de la Región, ayudó al IICA en gran medida para hacer que la Agricultura y la Vida Rural sean incluidas en el Programa de la Cumbre de las Américas. Por ello, la agricultura de la región está recibiendo la atención del mayor foro político de las Américas.

**Políticas y Comercio:** Durante el año, nuestro programa de políticas y comercio contribuyó a desarrollar una base de información analítica, la cual facilitó la elaboración de recomendaciones para el cambio del régimen de la TEC. EL CaRC apoyó la región también en las Negociaciones Comerciales, y dio su apoyo continuo a la Maquinaria Regional de Negociación del Caribe (MRNC). Las industrias recibieron apoyo directo e indirecto a través de las operaciones de Caribbean AgriBusiness Association (CABA), así como apoyo directo a las industrias porcina y avícola. Bajo el auspicio de la Unidad de Proyectos Regionales, Planificación y Programación (UPRPP), se inició la preparación de una serie de módulos de entrenamiento para el mejoramiento del desarrollo de los agronegocios, en particular, y el Desarrollo de Empresas Pequeñas para Jóvenes. Se llevó a cabo una auditoría y reorganización del Ministerio de Agricultura en Grenada. Se desarrolló un Plan de Negocios para la Asociación de Agricultores de Santa Lucía (SLAA) en Santa Lucía, y el South West Development Agency (SWDA) en Trinidad. El Instituto apoyó el estudio sobre la Expansión del Comercio Regional de Santa Lucía en Bananas.

**Ciencia, Tecnología y Recursos Naturales:** En esta área, nuestro programa continuó su colaboración con los respectivos Ministerios de Agricultura, tanto como otras agencias nacionales, regionales e internacionales, con el propósito de mejorar la administración de los sistemas de Ciencia y Tecnología y de la Gestión de Recursos Naturales. Concentró su atención en Asuntos Científicos relacionados al Comercio y Sistemas de Innovación Tecnológica para la Competitividad. Con respecto a los Asuntos Científicos relacionados al Comercio, el CaRC continuó su trabajo de sensibilización en la región acerca de los "Organismos Genéticamente Modificados", "Derechos de Propiedad Intelectual", "Obstáculos Técnicos al Comercio", y "Aspectos de los Derechos de Propiedad Intelectual relacionados al Comercio". El CaRC fortaleció las instituciones responsables de la generación y transferencia de tecnología – entre ellas PROCICARIBE y la red CARIFRUIT con cítricos en Trinidad y Tobago, maracuya y piñas en OECO, recibiendo apoyo en la generación de la competitividad en la industria

frutícola de la región. Además, se prestó mucha atención a otros productos tales como pimienta, malanga, productos lácteos, y cabras en Jamaica.

**Sanidad Agropecuario y Seguridad de los Alimentos:** Con la excepción de las Bahamas, los países de la región son firmantes del Acuerdo de la Organización Mundial de Comercio sobre Medidas Sanitarias y Fitosanitarias, y están obligados por las normas internacionales en materia del comercio. El CaRC promovió un mayor entendimiento de estas normas en la facilitación del comercio. También se hicieron recomendaciones específicas para el fortalecimiento de la infraestructura de la región en seguridad de alimentos. El control y la erradicación de la mosca de la carambola tuvo un éxito histórico, y Guyana fue declarado libre de esta mosca en 2001. Las poblaciones de la mosca fueron reducidas en muchas zonas de Suriname, lo que indica que las técnicas de control e erradicación funcionan bien. Una amenaza nueva en la región es la Sigatoka Negra de la Banana, la cual recibió la atención de los expertos regionales durante un taller celebrado en Jamaica. Se asistió a la región en materia de la mosca negra de los cítricos y la cochinilla de la papaya. También hubo sensibilización en la región a las enfermedades FMD y BSE.

**Desarrollo Rural Sostenible:** El Programa para el Desarrollo Rural Sostenible logró incluir en el proceso de desarrollo a los grupos mal representados, en particular las mujeres rurales, los jóvenes y los pueblos indígenas de Suriname y Guyana. El trabajo de la Caribbean Network of Rural Women Producers (CNRWP) es digno de mención. Las representantes de este grupo participan actualmente en foros regionales. El grupo de jóvenes rurales recibieron apoyo, particularmente en la OECS

**Entrenamiento y Educación:** En este ámbito, nuestras actividades fueron muy bien apreciadas por nuestros clientes. El Centro Caribbean Agro-Entrepreneurs Distance Learning Centre (CADLC) ofrece cinco cursos, y extendió sus operaciones desde Barbados hacia GrEnada, Jamaica, Santa Lucía y Trinidad y Tobago. Nuestros esfuerzos por ayudar las instituciones de educación de la región fueron incrementadas durante el año. El programa de equivalencias y acreditación sigue siendo una prioridad. Nueve profesionales del Caribe recibieron entrenamiento de corto plazo en Universidades norteamericanas como parte del Programa Cochran, en colaboración con el Centro Regional del Norte del IICA.

**Información y Comunicación:** Nuestros boletines informativos son AgriView, CARAPHIN News, IICA News y Tropical Fruits Newsletter. Las demás publicaciones, tales como In a Nutshell y nuestra página web [www.iicacarc.org](http://www.iicacarc.org) son una fuente importante de información para la agricultura en la región. La participación activa de la región en el Sistema de Información y Documentación Agrícolas para las Américas también nos ayudó a responder mejor a las necesidades de la región en materia de información durante el año.

## RÉSUMÉ



Le rapport résume les principales actions menées par l'IICA dans la Caraïbe pour l'année 2001. Une brève analyse de l'agriculture de la région est présentée, aussi bien que notre mission et vision pour son développement. Nos actions se sont déroulées suivant les sphères d'opération de l'Institut : Politique et Commerce ; Science, Technologie et Ressources Naturelles, Santé Agricole et Sécurité des Aliments et Développement Rural Durable. Ces actions sont appuyées par l'Entraînement et l'Éducation et l'Information et la Communication. Pour les pays individuels, les détails sont présentés pour l'an 2001 dans la section consacrée aux Rapports nationaux. Au cours de l'année, le Centre régional pour la Caraïbe (CRC) a renforcé son programme de co-opération technique, et a approfondi ses alliances avec ses clients et partenaires. Tout ceci, avec l'appui direct des Ministères de l'Agriculture de la région, a beaucoup aidé l'IICA à faire inclure au programme du Sommet des Amériques, l'Agriculture et la Vie rurale. Résultat – l'agriculture de la région est au premier plan du plus important forum politique des Amériques.

**Politique et Commerce:** Au cours de l'année, notre Programme en matière de Politique et Commerce a contribué à la formation d'une base d'information analytique. Cette dernière, à son tour, a joué un rôle lors de la formulation des modifications recommandées au régime du TEC. Le CRC a également donné son appui à la région pour les Négociations commerciales en aidant la Caribbean Regional Negotiating Machinery (CRNM). L'assistance par voie directe et indirecte a été reçue par les industries moyennant les opérations de Caribbean AgriBusiness Association (CABA), et l'appui direct aux industries porcine et de la volaille. L'Unité de Planification et Programmation pour les Projets régionaux (RPPPU) a préparé plusieurs modules d'entraînement destinés à mieux développer les agroentreprises, en particulier le Développement de Petites Entreprises pour les Jeunes. L'analyse et réaménagement du Ministère de l'Agriculture ont été réalisés à la Grenade. Un Programme d'entreprise a été développé pour les agriculteurs de St. Lucia Agriculturists Association (SLAA), et aussi pour le South West Development Agency à la Trinité. L'Institut a aidé avec l'étude sur l'expansion du commerce régional de Sainte Lucie en bananes.

**Science, Technologie et Ressources naturelles:** Notre programme a continué d'assurer la collaboration avec les Ministères de l'Agriculture et d'autres agences nationales, régionales et internationales, afin d'améliorer la gestion des Systèmes de Science et Technologie et la Gestion des Ressources naturelles. Ses actions se sont concentrées sur les Questions scientifiques liées au commerce et les Systèmes d'Innovation technologique pour la Compétitivité. Le CRC a sensibilisé la région sur les Questions scientifiques liées au Commerce telles que les « Organismes génétiquement modifiés », « Droits de Propriété intellectuelle », « Obstacles techniques au Commerce », et « Aspects des Droits de propriété intellectuelle liés au commerce ». Le CRC a continué de renforcer les institutions responsables de la génération et le transfert de la technologie au niveau national comme régional. Le travail PROCICARIBE, réseau de génération et transfert de technologie, et en particulier du réseau CARIFRUIT a été remarquable en ce qui concerne les agrumes à Trinité et Tobago, la grenadille et les ananas dans l'OECO, où la compétitivité a été générée au



sein de l'industrie fruitière de la région. D'autres produits tels que le piment, le madère, les produits laitiers et les chèvres à la Jamaïque, ont reçu beaucoup d'attention.

**La Santé agricole et la Sécurité des aliments:** Ayant signé l'Accord de l'Organisation Mondiale de Commerce (O.M.C.) sur les Mesures Sanitaires et Phyto-sanitaires, les pays de la région, à l'exception des Bahamas, sont obligés par les normes internationales en matière du commerce. Le CRC a continué de promouvoir une meilleure entente de ces normes pour la facilitation du commerce. On a aussi fait des recommandations spécifiques pour le développement de l'infrastructure de la sécurité alimentaire dans la région. Le contrôle et l'éradication de la mouche du carambole ont atteint un succès historique, et Guyana a été déclaré libre de cet insecte en 2001. Les populations de la mouche ont été bien contrôlées dans plusieurs parties de Suriname, indiquant que les techniques de contrôle et éradication marchent bien. Une menace émergente dans la région est la Sigatoka noire de la banane, qui a reçu l'attention des experts lors d'un atelier qui a eu lieu à la Jamaïque. La région a reçu de l'assistance directe pour les problèmes de la mouche des agrumes et la cochenille de la papaye. En plus, il y a eu une sensibilisation sur FMD et BSE.

**Le Développement rural durable:** Le programme de développement rural durable a connu des progrès pendant l'année avec l'introduction de groupes mal représentés au processus de développement. Il s'agit en particulier des femmes rurales, les jeunes et les peuples indigènes de Suriname et Guyana. On peut citer à cet égard le travail de Caribbean Network of Rural Women Producers (CNRWP). Des représentants de ce groupe participent actuellement à des événements régionaux. Les jeunes ont reçu de l'appui, surtout au sein de l'OECD.

**L'Entraînement et l'éducation :** Nos activités dans ce domaine ont été bien appréciées par nos clients. Le Centre Caribbean Ago-Entrepreneurs Distance Learning Centre (CADLC) offre cinq cours, et a élargi ses opérations depuis la Barbade vers la Grenade, la Jamaïque, Sainte Lucie et Trinité et Tobago. Nous avons pu augmenter nos efforts de porter assistance aux institutions d'éducation supérieure de la région. Le programme d'équivalences et accréditation est toujours une priorité. Neuf professionnels de la Caraïbe ont participé à des programmes de courte durée offerts par des universités aux Etats-Unis, grâce au Programme Cochran de l'USDA, en collaboration avec le Centre régional nord de l'IICA.

**L'Information et la Communication:** Nos bulletins sont AgriView, CARAPHIN News, IICA News et Tropical Fruit Newsletter. Les autres publications telles que In A Nutshell et notre site [www.iicacarc.org](http://www.iicacarc.org) sont une source importante d'information sur l'agriculture de la région. La participation active de la région au Système d'Information et de Documentation Agricoles pour les Amériques nous a aidé à mieux répondre aux besoins de la région en ce que concerne l'information pendant l'année.

## INTRODUCTION

The Caribbean Regional Centre (CaRC) continued to achieve significant successes for the year in review. Closer integration of Haiti, the Dominican Republic and Suriname were achieved through our programme for Caribbean integration. Our regional programmes, in addition to achieving their technical objectives, also contributed to greater integration of the region. Our efforts at preparing the region to face the challenges of globalisation were recognised. The CaRC achieved significant success in creating an enabling environment for agriculture, through the consolidation of the operations of the Alliance for Sustainable Development of Agriculture and the Rural Milieu, with its members, the Caribbean AgriBusiness Association (CABA), the Caribbean Council of Higher Education in Agriculture (CACHE), the Caribbean Network of Rural Women Producers (CNRWP), the Caribbean Research, Science and Technology Networking System (PROCICARIBE) and the Forum of Ministers. The Alliance continued to be a forum for all the major stakeholders to achieve reasoned positions for confronting the challenges and opportunities engaging agriculture. CACHE and our Caribbean Agro-Entrepreneurs Distance Learning Centre (CADLC) continued to address the development of the appropriate Human Resources for the region. CABA continued to strengthen regional agri-businesses and the CNRWP strengthened the role of women as a significant contributor to agricultural development. The harmonious relationship that exists between the Institute and the Governments in the region assisted IICA in successfully placing Agriculture and the Rural Milieu on the Agenda of the Summit of the Americas process.



**A**griculture remains a major and significant industry in the economies of many Caribbean countries. This significance goes beyond its traditional role of generating foreign exchange and employment in rural areas, to its potential in terms of enhancing food security, alleviating poverty, maintaining social stability and conserving environmental integrity. This notwithstanding, the situation with agriculture in the Caribbean remained largely unchanged in the early period of the 21st Century. This situation derived, in part, from the weakened condition of many Caribbean economies in 2001 due largely to the unfavourable external environment and from the significant pressures on agriculture occasioned by globalisation and trade liberalisation.

Consequently, in 2001, the performance of agriculture in most countries was mixed, with a general trend towards stagnation as both the traditional export and import competing sub-sectors faced serious adjustment challenges in the context of opening up of markets and other trade liberalising measures. Guyana was the only CARICOM country which reported growth in its economy relative to 2000, fuelled largely by improved performance in the agricultural sector. Most OECS countries reported slow and negative growth rates in agriculture as the banana industry struggled under intense competition in the traditional export market and exit of farmers from the industry continued. Banana production also declined in Belize as a result of adverse weather conditions. The sugar industry in all producing countries, except St. Kitts and Nevis, faced similar unfavourable conditions, reporting declining output relative to 2000.

Non-traditional primary and value-added agriculture, which reported robust growth during 2001, represented a significant unrealised potential. The poultry industry, in particular, has developed into the most organised and dynamic of the non-traditional agricultural industries. Measures to improve efficiency and competitiveness have resulted in an increased contribution to overall livestock production, in countries, such as, Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados. Food crop and vegetable production have also improved their performance benefiting from consumers' preference for fresh produce. These domestic market oriented industries, however, are confronting threats posed by the importation of cheaper competing imports. As part of their response, many of these industries are organising to establish strong regional lobbies to further their interests, particularly in the context of the negotiations for the formation of a Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA).

As the agricultural diversification process deepens, many agri-food industries continue to face the challenges of competitiveness. It is accepted that many regional industries, in spite of the implementation of productivity-enhancing measures and product development, will not

attain international competitiveness as measured against similar industries in developed countries. In fact, many Caribbean agricultural industries can never compete against the magnitude of subsidies and other domestic support provided to agriculture in developed countries. However, for economic and social reasons noted above, these agri-industries will remain a critical component of the regional agri-food system.

Faced with the erosion and eventual termination of preferential market access in 2009, the unfavourable conditions of access to non-traditional markets and the intensification of import competition in domestic markets, Caribbean policy-makers are confronting issues related to the future of agriculture, food security, market stability and rural welfare. In the small developing economies of the Caribbean, these are issues inextricably linked to sustainable economic development, including governance. The global scenario dictates that appropriate structural changes and well-targeted adjustment measures and policies be developed and implemented to ensure that agriculture is not further marginalised with possible closure of the more vulnerable industries. Strengthening regional and national capacity to engage in these negotiations is also seen as an indispensable component of the repositioning strategies to engender Caribbean agriculture's ability to function effectively within the new dynamics of the global economy.

### **3 CARC'S MISSION AND VISION (2001)**

#### **CARC'S MISSION FOR THE CARIBBEAN REGION**

The CaRC's Mission is to provide co-operation services and facilitate regional dialogue among Member States to reposition Caribbean agriculture to operate sustainably and competitively in the global market for the maximum and equitable benefit of Caribbean peoples.

#### **CARC'S VISION FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL LIFE IN THE CARIBBEAN REGION**

The CaRC's Vision is to become an effective partner in the quest to transform and reposition the Caribbean agri-food system to one that is competitive and equitable within a sustainable and holistic framework.

*M*any previously established partnerships were continued in 2001. These partnerships contributed to activities, which range from training of scientists, policy makers, agri-entrepreneurs and farmers; and the supply of information to joint execution of technical co-operation projects. They are active at the regional and international levels as highlighted below:

### REGIONAL

- ❖ Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI)
- ❖ Caribbean Network of Integrated Rural Development (CNIRD)
- ❖ CARICOM Secretariat
- ❖ Caribbean Regional Negotiating Machinery (CRNM)
- ❖ Caribbean Development Bank (CDB)
- ❖ Caribbean Food Crops Society (CFCS)
- ❖ Eastern Caribbean States Secretariat (ECSS)

### INTERNATIONAL

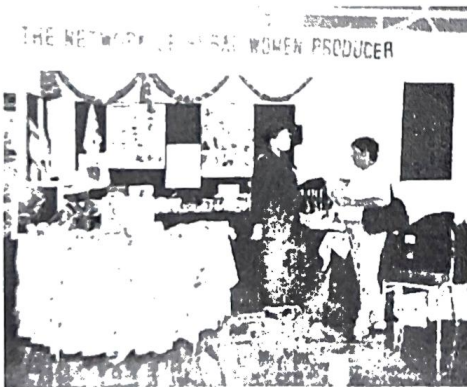
- ❖ Caribbean/Latin American Action (C/LAA)
- ❖ Florida Association of Voluntary Agencies for Caribbean Action (FAVA/CA)
- ❖ Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)
- ❖ French Mission for Co-operation
- ❖ Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)
- ❖ Organisation of American States (OAS)
- ❖ Caribbean Council for Science and Technology (CCST)

### A. GENERAL ISSUES

In order to implement the Quebec City Summit (2001) Mandate on Agriculture and Rural Development, the 14 Cooperation Agencies (CAs) in the Caribbean held National Consultations with key stakeholders. The results were National Ministerial Declarations and Plans of Action that were the basis of a Caribbean Declaration and Plan of Action (approved by the Alliance) and contributed to the Bavaro Declaration and Strategic Guidelines (2001). In the context of globalisation, the CaRC continued its activities aimed at developing an appropriate Enabling Environment to assist the member countries to address the existing challenges and opportunities relative to the repositioning of Agriculture and Rural Life. The Caribbean Week of Agriculture (CWA), which was initiated in 1999, was the trigger/catalyst for the First Inter-American Week of Agriculture, which was held in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic on November 26-29, 2001. The 3rd CWA was held at the same time.

### B. THIRD CARIBBEAN WEEK OF AGRICULTURE

The Week was a combination of activities that highlighted the accomplishments with Agriculture and Rural Life and the concerns of its key players. It also offered agri-businesses an opportunity to showcase their products at a Trade Show that was dominated by



Rural Women Participate in Trade Show

Caribbean exhibits but also included some exhibitors from throughout the Hemisphere. The workshop on "Trade and Investment Opportunities for Agri-Food Enterprises defined a vision for the Caribbean Agri-Food Enterprises of the Future. Some experiences in developing viable businesses were reviewed. Various options available in the region for financing small, medium and large agri-food enterprises were reviewed. The participants also looked at the logistics of expanding regional trade in agricultural products. A lively panel discussion looked at strategies for repositioning Caribbean

agri-food enterprises. A trade show also highlighted the products of the region. The Annual General Meetings of CABA, CACHE, and CNRWP were also held.

## C. ALLIANCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND THE RURAL MILIEU

The CaRC, along with the CARICOM Secretariat, spearheaded the consolidation of the Alliance for Sustainable Development of Agriculture and the Rural Milieu in the Wider Caribbean (the Alliance) which itself decided to have a more proactive role towards the conceptualisation and implementation of the strategies, policies and programmes for the development of Agriculture and Rural Life. The members of the Alliance are as identified in the Introduction. In addition, the Alliance proposes to establish a Caribbean Youth Association during 2002. Two meetings of the Alliance were held in June and October 2001.



Key Stakeholders at the Third Regular Meeting of the Alliance. L. Mr. A. Rodriguez, C. Mr. Roger Clarke, R. Mr. Gert Larsson

## D. POLICIES AND TRADE

With regard to Policies and Trade, one of the main deficiencies in the region is the dearth of trade-related analytical information. In order to contribute to the analytical information-base, the CaRC's Policies and Trade Programme spearheaded a 'Study to Inform Changes in the Common External Tariff (CET) for Agricultural Products in CARICOM.' This study fulfilled a mandate of the special Conference of Heads of Government that changes to the CET for agricultural products must be empirically informed. The Final Report, presented to senior CARICOM agriculture officials, provided detailed analyses on the agriculture and food import patterns and import tax generation for 1996 and 1997. The report also undertook simulations to determine the trade (imports) and revenue (tax collection) effects when the competing 20% CET rate was increased. It also provides general and specific recommendations for reform of



The Global Market Dynamic, Integrated and Competitive



the external trade regime, as well as, a way forward and time schedule for reforming the CET and Rules of Origin regimes. The study initiated a trade database to facilitate quantitative analysis of agriculture in the region. It represented the first comprehensive attempt to systematically extract and empirically analyse agricultural trade data in the Caribbean. The support received from the Policies and Trade Directorate at Headquarters and other regional professionals was critical to this success.

The CaRC continued as a key member of the Committee of Lead Agencies responsible for overseeing the implementation of the Regional Transformation Programme. Specifically, it led the discussions to adopt a new, industry-led approach to implementation. Accordingly, based on its responses from member countries and identified criteria, such as, economic importance, the following industries were prioritised: hot peppers, sweet potatoes, papaya, coconuts, poultry and small ruminants.

In order to strengthen regional and national capacity in the area of Trade Agreements and Negotiations, closer collaboration was forged with the Caribbean Regional Negotiating Machinery (CRNM). This involved the provision of technical assistance and collaboration on activities relating to education and training. The CaRC participated in the CRNM's externally funded Associate Professional Trainee (APT) Programme, which seeks to enhance the skills of the Caribbean's current and prospective technicians in international trade negotiations and agreements. Two interns were supervised for six months each. They provided research support to on-going initiatives and simultaneously were exposed to issues relating to agriculture and trade policy within the framework of the WTO. The IICA/CRNM partnership initiated a study in mid-2001 on evaluating the implications on regional exports to the EU and US markets of non-tariff measures and barriers. It explores the incidence of non-tariff trade measures on CARICOM's agricultural exports in an effort to enhance understanding of the impact and effects of such measures and potential mechanisms through which these might be overcome. It will be concluded in 2002.

At the industry level, the programme initiated research on the poultry and pork industries in Trinidad and Tobago. This was done to provide direct assistance to industry stakeholders to assist in the determination of the implications of trade liberalisation on their enterprises. A preliminary status and analysis on the Trinidad and Tobago poultry industry was detailed in the discussion paper "Import Competition and the Agricultural Sector: Case study on the Trinidad Poultry Industry." This was forwarded to the Caribbean Poultry Association (CPA) and key officials in the national poultry industry and contributed to a more broad-based competitive analysis of regional scope led by the industry stakeholders themselves.

The CaRC continued its dissemination of information and promotion of dialogue on new and emerging trade and policy issues. This was accomplished through both technical and other articles published in the AgriView Newsletter and the specialised publication series "In A Nutshell." The latter is now an accepted popular medium for reader-friendly dissemination of

technical information, which allows a wider cross-section of agriculture stakeholders to improve their appreciation of the trade and market related issues, specifically the WTO Agreements, and their potential implications for agriculture. Two issues of "In A Nutshell" on the WTO Agriculture Agreement and Organic Agriculture were published. The research on two other issues, Genetic Engineering Technology in Agriculture and Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) was initiated.

The CaRC continued its efforts to unite the agribusiness sector and to promote entrepreneurship via the Caribbean AgriBusiness Association (CABA). In 2001, the emphasis was on increasing membership, the creation of Local Chapters and the conduct of industry competitiveness studies, starting with poultry and pork. The study on poultry which was conducted by the CPA has resulted in a greater understanding by the policy-makers, government technicians and the general public on the economic and social importance of the industry and the measures required to enable it to become competitive in the medium term. A paper on the beef industry and its potential for satisfying the regional market was also presented to the Alliance. The Caribbean Rice Association (CRA) also initiated work on the development of the profile for the regional rice industry.

The Regional Projects, Planning and Programming Unit (RPPPU) successfully provided project support which resulted in the funding by the OAS to develop the Region's capacity to produce multi-media distance learning courses, as well as, provision of training through scholarships for farmers and unemployed/under-employed persons. The RPPPU also assisted the Antigua & Barbuda and Barbados Governments in the development of plans/strategies to reposition agriculture and/or restructure the involved institutions. A similar exercise is in the planning stage for the Government of Grenada.

The RPPPU and the Agricultural Health Programme developed a framework document and held thirteen national consultations to obtain feedback from key stakeholders on the feasibility of establishing a Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA). A regional consultation was also held at the Caribbean Plant Protection Commission (CPPC) Meeting in Trinidad.

## **E. SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

Strong performance of agricultural industries is contributed to by timely, disciplined, cost effective and focussed scientific research towards technology innovation and development. Therefore, competitive industries must have access to the best modern technology available. This implies that the quality of scientists and researchers must be improved and the agri-entrepreneurs must be apprised of the latest innovations. To this end, in 2001, IICA collaborated with the Ministries of Agriculture and other national, regional and international agencies to improve the management of the science and technology system and natural resources and focussed on building capacity in:

- Trade Related Science Issues and
- Technology Innovation Systems for Competitiveness.

Since 1999, IICA has been sensitising professionals in the public and private sectors on issues related to Genetically Modified Organisms, Intellectual Property Rights, Technical Barriers to Trade, Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights and Traditional Knowledge. In 2001, direct support was provided to the OECS, Barbados, Trinidad & Tobago and Jamaica to assist with the development of national policies, programmes and model legislation. Regional surveys on the status of the related policies and legislation were conducted to determine future interventions. The CaRC also hosted a regional workshop on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Agro-biodiversity, Bio-prospecting and Benefit Sharing. Over 30 persons from a range of disciplines participated in the workshop and agreed that there is need to continue to strengthen the regional capacity to respond to the global trends in research and the new bioeconomy.



Improving Competitiveness and Expanding Regional Trade in Fruits

The CaRC assisted countries in developing a solid foundation for Increased Trade in Fresh Produce and value-added products, through the following activities.

The FAO/IICA/CTA/CDE international three-day conference "Supporting the Diversification of Exports in the Caribbean/Latin American Region through the Development of Organic Horticulture" with 100 participants. A two-day Regional Fruit Meeting "Developing a Caribbean Response – Improving Competitiveness & Expanding Regional Trade in Fruits" with over 50 participants representing industry, marketing agencies, exporters, producers,

Ministries and international shipping and carriers from throughout the Caribbean; and Caribbean Food Crops Society (CFCS) 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting "Science, Technology and Education – Empowering Caribbean Agriculture" held in Trinidad and Tobago, with over 100 participants from throughout the Caribbean and Latin America.

In addition to promoting the holistic development of the fruit crop sector, the CaRC also targeted the development of specific fruit crops, namely pineapples, citrus and passion fruit, in 2001. An assessment of the Dominica and Trinidad & Tobago pineapple industries was completed and a Training Workshop on Field Research Project Management with focus on

the pineapple industry was conducted for 25 technicians of the Ministry of Food Production and Marine Resources (MFPMR) of Trinidad & Tobago and one participant from Dominica.

Additionally, 30 technicians and nurserymen were trained in citrus propagation and nursery management. Over 60 farmers and technicians were trained in "Improving the Productivity of Citrus Orchards" in Trinidad and Tobago. Pineapple and Passion Fruit Farmers in Suriname were trained and supported in improving production technologies and establishing new orchards. Over 30 technicians from Jamaica were trained in Tropical Fruit Propagation and Nursery and Orchard Management. Fruit processors in Guyana, Haiti and Trinidad & Tobago were supported in meeting facility design and product requirements for exports to US and Caribbean markets.

Clients and partners from the public and private sectors continue to rely on the CaRC for information and knowledge to support their decision-making relating to the fruit crops. Issues No. 38/39 and 40/41 of the Tropical Fruits Newsletter were disseminated to 1200 subscribers. In addition, 100 manuals on "Production Technology for Yellow Passion Fruit" were disseminated to technicians and producers in Suriname. Manuals in Tropical Fruit Propagation and Nursery and Orchard Management were circulated to Ministries and Universities in the region.

The CaRC continued to lead the process of strengthening cooperation at the technical and industrial levels for the development of the regional fruit crop industry. At the technical level, the CARIFRUIT Network continued to establish effective international linkages and support functional National Fruit Committees. CARIFRUIT, in collaboration with National Fruit Committees, jointly developed and implemented regional and national work programmes for the expansion of Tropical Fruits. Chairpersons of seven National Fruit Committees participated in the Annual Technical Meeting and exchanged information and experiences with international specialists from the University of Florida, CIRAD and Malaysia. At the industrial level, the Caribbean Fruit Industry Association (CFIA) which was formed in 2000 was strengthened in 2001.

The Institute continued its support to the region's designated Technology Provider, Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI). This is done through an annual subvention that is used to finance projects that are mutually agreed upon. One major activity is PROCICARIBE.

## **F. AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY**

### General

With the exception of the Bahamas, all of IICA's Caribbean Member Countries are signatories to the World Trade Organisation Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (WTO/SPS Agreement). As such, for the Caribbean to engage in exports and

intra-regional trade, national and regional standards must be harmonised with international standards, so that they are not used to restrict trade. Furthermore, as net food importers, Caribbean countries must provide effective quarantine and inspection services to safeguard the health of their national populations and biodiversity.

The CaRC continued to promote a better understanding of the implications of compliance with SPS Agreements. In this regard, workshops were held in Barbados, Guyana, the OECS countries, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago to sensitise officials from the public and private sectors. The Chief Plant Quarantine Officers from Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago, visited Grenada to witness the validation of pressure washing trials, as part of the development protocols for the resumption of trade in Annonas and other Fresh Produce. The non-participating countries benefited from the information provided.

The CaRC contributed significantly to the Region in modernising and improving the efficiency of its agricultural health and food safety system. For example, 14 Representatives from the Caribbean Region participated in a seminar on "Modernisation of Food Inspection Systems" and a "Workshop on the Codex Alimentarius", May 28 – June 1 at Guelph, Ontario, Canada. As a result, the key players involved at decision-making levels of the national food inspection systems, now have a clearer understanding of the Codex Alimentarius standards. Specific recommendations for the Caribbean to strengthen its food safety infrastructure were also developed at the seminar.

The Plant and Animal Disease Surveillance Information System (CORRAL) was installed in several Ministries of Agriculture and has improved the management of surveillance data. A harmonised CARICOM protocol was developed to prevent the introduction of Foot & Mouth Disease (FMD) and Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) into the Caribbean Region. A Model Animal Quarantine Act prepared for CARICOM countries was presented at the meeting of CARICOM Chief Veterinary Officers.



IICA Black Sigatoka Workshop in Jamaica  
(Inset, Symptoms of the Disease)

In addition, many workshops on Plant Quarantine, Pest Management, HACCP, Good Agricultural Practices and Safe Use of Pesticides were held in various countries of the Region and a pre-feasibility study was conducted for the creation of the Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA).

The CaRC continued to receive credit for its support to the Region in analysing and responding to emerging and emergency agricultural health issues. In this regard, the CaRC

developed a Plant Protection Plan against the Black Sigatoka Disease of bananas, plantains and other *Musa* spp. Support was also provided to the Region in the control of the Pink Hibiscus and Papaya Mealybugs, as well as, the Citrus Black Fly. Several countries, including Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago, were assisted in developing Plant and Animal Pest/Disease Emergency Preparedness Plans.

#### Carambola Fruit Fly (CFF) Project

In 2001, the CFF programme worked basically for the containment of the CFF population in the areas where the insect is present. The geographical distribution of the pest did not increase. The project recorded some significant achievements. The Republic of Guyana and Brazil (except some areas in Amapá), where in previous years the programme had controlled the population, were maintained CFF free. A large trapping network system is in place to detect any introduction or re-introduction. The outbreaks in Amapá, along the Oyapock River – including the Oiapoque and Clevelândia, along the BR 156 and in the southern part of the state Pacuí, were controlled. The population level on the French side of the Oyapock River was kept low, using only the Male Annihilation Technique (MAT) methodology. A joint operation at the French-Brazilian border for trapping and control with members from both countries was initiated in June, increasing the efficacy of the program in the area. The control in French Guyana has advanced from Regina towards the Northwest, including Cacao and Roura. In Suriname, the pest has been contained in areas south and west of Paramaribo. However, fly populations remain in this area and total control was not obtained in 2001. The use of minugel – as an alternative for the blocks – worked well in Paramaribo where the population dropped significantly. However, towards the end of the year, the project had to limit its activities because of financial constraints. Measures have been initiated to redress this situation in 2002.

### **G. SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

Public discussions were initiated on the new concepts on Rural Development, namely, the 'New Rurality' and Territorial Competitiveness' including formal sessions with students of the University of the West Indies (UWI), as part of the undergraduate curriculum in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Extension, specifically, the course entitled Principals of Rural Sociology. Training was also provided in the utilisation of Gender Analysis Tools in Grenada, St. Vincent & the Grenadines and Trinidad & Tobago to enhance the capabilities of change agents and beneficiaries in evaluating developmental projects and programmes.

The focus has been on consolidating the achievements of national initiatives relating to enhancing the participation of women and youth in the rural development processes. The process of enhancing participation among individuals and groups has continued among national associations of rural women producers through the provision of technical and administrative support to national networks of women in agriculture and rural communities in

Barbados, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St. Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago. Specific actions include organisational strengthening of the respective national groups and enhancing commercial viability through market promotions. National revolving credit schemes targeted at the national communities continued in Haiti and have been introduced in Jamaica and Trinidad & Tobago. The implementation of a comprehensive training programme, incorporating business management, agronomy, gender, food preservation and handicraft in association with Cupertino services have been targeted at rural community groups.

The legal registration of the Caribbean Network of Rural Women Producers (CNRWP) as a non-profit organisation in Guyana was successfully completed. The regional network has become the vehicle for facilitating the process of transformation of rural societies and territorial units through the promotion of active participation by individuals and groups in the decision-making processes, specifically, policies directed at overcoming social, economic, institutional, ecological and gender inequalities and policies which seek to enhance opportunities for human development.



CNRWP: Promoting Micro-Entrepreneurship among Rural Women

The regional umbrella organisation, the CNRWP, has initiated the commemoration of World Rural Women's Day regionally to highlight the concerns of female, small scale, rural producers and celebrate their achievements. The CNRWP also proposes to establish a regional Revolving Micro-Credit Facility to promote production and marketing initiative among members.

The other main focus of the activities has been in the area of technology transfer in dairy productions systems in Guyana, and Trinidad & Tobago whereby the dissemination of the technology associated with the St. Stanislaus Dairy Production continues among small and medium-sized dairy farms, alongside organisational strengthening of farmers' groups.

Rural youth has continued to receive active support in Barbados, the Dominican Republic, St. Kitts & Nevis, and St. Lucia with income-generating projects receiving administrative support and technical backstopping.

## H. TRAINING AND EDUCATION

### The Caribbean Council of Higher Education in Agriculture (CACHE)

The Caribbean Council of Higher Education in Agriculture (CACHE) continued its support to regional tertiary educational institutions in redesigning their curriculum, and cross-accreditation of the programmes offered by the various institutions. Specifically, staff and

students from CACHE Member Institutions benefited from a workshop on **Curriculum Design: an alternative for change at the University**, which was held in March. They examined the mega trends that affect curriculum development and evaluated the various Universities performance in producing graduates that will satisfy the future demands of the Region. The CACHE held its Annual General Meeting during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Caribbean Week of Agriculture and elected a new executive.

#### Caribbean Agro-Entrepreneurs Distance Learning Centre

Specifically, the Caribbean Agro-Entrepreneurs Distance Learning Centre (CADLC) was operationalised with 'outlets' in Barbados, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, St. Lucia and Trinidad & Tobago. Five regionally produced or adapted courses viz., Farm Management for Technicians, Managers and Owners (three separate courses); Health and Occupational Safety, Introduction to E-Commerce; Organic Farming; and Agricultural Extension, were offered. The OAS supported this activity by providing funding for the development of courses; for development of the regional human resource capacity in the production of multi-media courseware and the provision of scholarships for students pursuing the courses. In 2001, over 100 students graduated from these courses.

#### Student Internships

The CaRC signed an agreement with the University of the West Indies (UWI) to host students for summer attachments at both the undergraduate and postgraduate levels. At the undergraduate level, three students were hosted. In addition, two American students were also hosted, one from the World Food Prize and the other from the Future of Americas Programme. During the year, two UWI postgraduate students conducted their research projects jointly with IICA.

#### Cochran Fellowship Program

In collaboration with the Northern Regional Centre and the USDA, 12 professionals from the Caribbean were awarded short-term scholarships in the Cochran Fellowship Program in 2001. Nine took up the offer. Poultry Health, HACCP, Processed Foods, Dairy Herd Management and Dairy Processing were the subject areas covered. All the participants reported that these courses were applicable and improved the knowledge required in their jobs.

## **I. INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION**

#### Newsletters

With respect to information dissemination, two issues of the AgriView Newsletter with 750 copies/issue; one issue of CARAPHIN News with 1200 copies/issue; four issues of the Tropical Fruits Newsletter with 1200 copies/issue and two issues of the IICA Caribbean News, with 1200 copies/issue, as well as, 1000 copies of the In A Nutshell booklet, were published and distributed regionally and internationally. In addition, close to 10,000 visits



were made to the CaRC's WebPages. Technical information on an assorted range of issues is also continuously provided directly to a large number of our clients.

#### Agricultural Information and Documentation System for the Americas (SIDALC)

Under the aegis of the hemispheric project, Agricultural Information and Documentation System for the Americas, national agricultural information networks, involving the major agriculture libraries in the Caribbean, were operating in Barbados, Bahamas, Dominica, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, the Dominican Republic, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, Suriname and Trinidad & Tobago. This programme allows Caribbean professionals – librarians and practitioners – to readily access information on agriculture anywhere in the hemisphere.

#### Website

Our Website, [www.iicacarc.org](http://www.iicacarc.org), offers our clients, partners and the general public, greater access to information about the CaRC. Any staff member can be contacted electronically via the site. Selected papers from workshops and seminars can also be accessed on the site.

## 6 INSTITUTIONAL MODERNISATION

The above sections outlined the achievements of IICA in creating a favourable environment for sustainable agriculture in the region. In addition, the Institute adopted measures that facilitated communication both internally and externally. This has resulted in quicker communication with our clients on emerging issues and faster delivery of decisions. More importantly than the internal modernisation, the Institute assisted in the reengineering of several Ministries of Agriculture and stakeholder organisations to meet the challenges of globalisation. In Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas and Grenada, the Regional Projects, Planning and Programming Unit (RPPPU) assisted in the development of plans for the reorganisation of the Ministries of Agriculture. In Trinidad and Tobago, IICA provided support and feedback to the Ministry of Food Production and Marine Resources (MFPMR) in the development of its Sector Plan and assisted in the updating of its system for Emergency Preparedness for the introduction of exotic diseases. The Agricultural Societies in Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago were strengthened. Commodity Associations, such as Oils and Fats, Rice and Poultry were also supported and efforts were initiated to establish new ones, such as the Dairy and Dairy Products Association.

## 7 OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEW INITIATIVES

The region's institutions that deal with agriculture must accelerate their pace of modernisation in the context of "opening up" of markets. Consequently, opportunities abound to continue the work that we begun on the modernisation of Ministries of Agriculture and the strengthening of Commodity Associations. As the transition period to free trade is coming to an end, opportunities exist for IICA to work closely with national authorities and the private sector to meet their commitments under these Trade Agreements and to develop sustainable agriculture nationally. In this regard, taking into consideration our limited financial resources, the Institute will sponsor the professional and technical development of its staff so that they can continue to identify important emerging issues and be able to address same for the benefits of its clients and partners.

## 8 CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF THE IMPLEMENTED ACTIONS AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS FOR THE FUTURE

The work of the Institute is regarded as timely and appropriate by the key players in the sector. The demands placed on the Institute continue to be heavy. Despite the limited human and financial resources, the contributions of the Institute are recognised as valuable by our clients and partners. Our actions to foster an Enabling Environment and facilitate dialogue among all sections of the sector are outstanding. There is need to continue to strengthen this process.

## 9 FINAL REMARKS

### CONCLUSIONS

IICA continues to be a positive force in the development of sustainable agriculture and the enhancement of rural life in the Caribbean Region. This is particularly so in its development of a co-ordinated response to the challenges of Trade Liberalisation and other emerging issues confronting agriculture.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

IICA should continue to integrate its activities at the national and regional levels and strive to achieve greater co-ordination among the various actors. In doing this, IICA can better contribute to the new regional dynamic (that will be enshrined in the imminent CARICOM Single Market and the Economy) and that for the Hemisphere with the FTAA (2005).

## 10 COUNTRY REPORTS

The following pages highlight the actions of our Nine Cooperation Agencies (CAs) in the 14 Member States that make up the CaRC.

## 10.1 BAHAMAS

### INTRODUCTION

In 2001, the Bahamas CA supported the preparation of a National Declaration and Plan of Action and sponsored a National Consultation. The activities undertaken to achieve this objective included the drafting and acceptance of terms of reference for a broad-based National Committee on Agriculture to oversee the process. The establishment of the twelve person committee was co-shared by the IICA Representative and the Director of Agriculture (Acting); Position Papers by the committee on key elements as a 'Point of Departure' for the consultation were prepared and distributed. The consultation took place on September 20 and included representatives from New Providence and nine of the Family Islands, and involved the active participation of sixty persons and finalization and transmission of the Declaration and Plan of Actions.



Agribusiness association formed to promote Agriculture

### POLICIES AND TRADE

The CA co-sponsored a two-day workshop on 'Trade Issues Affecting Agri-business.' The other sponsors were the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MoAF) and the private sector. The workshop was held on the Island of Abaco. It drew groups and individuals from five Bahamas Islands and an attendance of forty-five persons. A keynote speaker from Jamaica, knowledgeable on WTO Matters, addressed the gathering. Out of this meeting, the Bahamas Agribusiness Association (BAA) was conceived. The CA then supported its development, including assistance in structuring their Articles of Association, which is based on the model of the Caribbean AgriBusiness Association (CABA). At the end of the year, lawyers were finalizing the draft Articles of Association.

### AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

The Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA) draft framework document was presented to twelve senior officers of the MoAF. They expressed a concern

that Regional institutions do not usually bring meaningful benefits to the Bahamas. However, they agreed to support CAHFSA and to monitor its development.

### **TRAINING AND EDUCATION**

The CA developed course material on 'Organic Farming for Entrepreneurs' for use in the Caribbean Distance Learning Initiative. This course was also translated into Spanish. Both versions were transmitted to the CA in Barbados for final steps in developing these courses.

## 10.2 BARBADOS

### INTRODUCTION

In 2001, the Government of Barbados instituted a program to boost the activities of farmers and agro-entrepreneurs. The following are the major facets of this programme: Cotton Development; Expanded local market; Export promotion; Livestock development; Re-tooling the fishing and dairy industries; Farm security; Farm Management and Agri-Business; Support to farmers' organizations; Resource Protection and Management; Post Harvest Technology; Organic Farming; New Crop Technology (greenhouse and hydroponics system). These development programs should increase the agricultural production, allow a diversification of the activities, create a new class of entrepreneurs and better link the local production with the market.

Through its training activities, the CA supported this program which addressed the needs of farmers as well as technicians. A significant achievement for the CA in 2001 was obtaining the responsibility to manage, on behalf of the governments of Barbados, Grenada, Jamaica, St Lucia, and Trinidad and Tobago, a project in distance learning financed by the Organization of American States (OAS)/Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) fund.



Providing Training for Improved Crop Production

### POLICIES AND TRADE

A meeting was organized in collaboration with the Barbados Agricultural Society (BAS) and other partners to form a local chapter of the Caribbean AgriBusiness Association (CABA). One of the objectives of this chapter is to sensitise the agro-entrepreneurs to the impacts of the new trading rules on the agricultural sector.

Several meetings were organized by the Barbados Agricultural Development and Marketing Corporation (BADMC) with the participation of IICA for the development of a system to give more marketing information to agro-entrepreneurs. The most tangible result of these efforts was the creation of an on-line marketing system for agri-food products, which was put in place in Barbados and in other countries of the Caribbean. The agent for this system in Barbados is the BADMC.

### SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

A regional workshop, which was organised in Barbados on "Conservation of Sustainable Use of Agro-biodiversity: Bio-prospecting, Access and Benefit Sharing" by the IICA regional office was supported by the CA.

### **AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY**

The IICA office participated with the Government Analytical services in the organization of a workshop concerning the "WTO Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures". A meeting concerning the formation of the Caribbean Agricultural Health Food Safety Agency, which analysed the implications of such an organisation for Barbados and the region, was also held.

### **SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

A tour was organized for tour operators and national and international organizations to show the potential projects in agro-eco-tourism in Barbados. Following this visit the Regional Projects, Planning and Programming Unit (RPPPU) in collaboration with governmental and private sector organizations prepared three project proposals for financing.

### **TRAINING AND EDUCATION**

Distance learning courses were organised in the following fields for farmers and technicians: Farm Management; Organic Farming for Entrepreneurs; Health and Occupational Safety; Information and Extension Methods; and An Introduction to E-Commerce. Over 100 students attended these courses in 2001.

### **INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION**

Under the auspices of the *Agricultural Information and Document System for the Americas (SIDALC)*, the CA organized, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), a training session for eighteen (18) technicians on "The use of the Agricultural Information and Document System of Latin America and the Caribbean."



## 10.3 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

### INTRODUCTION

The major focus of the CA in 2001 was the organisation of the Inter-American Week of Agriculture and Rural Life and the Eleventh Inter-American Board of Agriculture and the Third Caribbean Week of Agriculture. These events required the joint efforts and extraordinary collaboration of 14 organisations of Central Government and the private sector, IICA Headquarters and the other IICA offices in the 34 Member States. The great significance that was placed on these events was reflected in the participation by the President of the Dominican Republic for two days during the events.

The CA enjoyed a high degree of achievement during the year. On several occasions the President requested support to lead the efforts in several projects and estimates for the agricultural sector, the national economy and to strengthen the private sector base while implementing joint actions to combat rural poverty. In this regard, the CA supported the Hemispheric Program for Gender Equality and the Development of Rural Women (PADEMUR). The CA also developed and is now implementing a Special Program for the Dominican Fruit Industry (PRODEFURD). Successful results were achieved in executing a project to strengthen agricultural health in which the CA administered the resources and gave technical support to the Department of Agricultural Health of the Secretary of State for Agriculture (SSA).



Controlling and Eradicating Classical Swine Fever in Pigs

### POLICIES AND TRADE

The CA made important interventions in identifying sectoral priorities and strategies. The CA participated in the formulation of a 10-year development plan for the agriculture sector. It also provided organisations within the agriculture sector with information on agricultural and rural credit. The Secretariats of State and Agriculture were supported in the follow-up to the Summit of the Americas process. The country was also supported in its commitments to the Post Uruguay Round of the WTO Trade Negotiations.

## **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

The CA supported the establishment of the Dominican Research Institute in Agriculture and Forestry. Its objective is to generate knowledge that will contribute to the elevation of technology employed by producers of agricultural and forestry products in order to enhance their productivity of the basic commodities that will develop the economic and social conditions of the country.

The CA supported the evaluation of the Centre of Development of Agriculture and Forestry (CEDAF) jointly with specialists from ISNAR, technicians from the CA and a Technology Generation and Transfer Specialist from Headquarters.

The Dominican Agribusiness Association (Junta Agroempresarial Dominicana, JAD) was assisted in the hosting of a Seminar/Workshop on Organic Agriculture. Technical support was also provided to several members of JAD.

## **AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY**

The main actions in this Strategic Area were the administration and technical coordination of the funds donated under section 416(b) by the Government of the United States of America, in the sum of US1.27 million, for the execution of a project to strengthen agricultural health. This project was executed in collaboration with the SEA, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, and the Technical Secretariat of the President of the Dominican Republic. The project aimed at prevention, control and eradication of pest and diseases, strengthening the actions of diagnostic laboratories; control of internal spread, training and provision of technical advice and quarantine at the border.

During the year several laboratories were equipped. Technical persons, together with thousands of farmers in different areas, were trained mainly in the control and eradication of classical swine fever (CSF) and integrated control of pest and diseases. Quarantine Control Points were constructed and put into operation in the highways along the main production areas. Two quarantine points were also installed at Dajabón and Jimaní at the border area. Vehicles, equipment and computers were acquired. All the technical personnel involved in the control of CSF were trained in a system of registration and analysis of zoonotic information. The first group of veterinarians was incorporated through an accreditation system. Information campaigns were completed and both crops and livestock producers were trained at the national level.

## **SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

The CA contributed to different areas of Sustainable Rural Development and in other areas that impacted at the national level, such as, commerce and agribusiness. Additional capacities among agricultural producers were developed including reforestation and environmental improvement. Case profiles on projects, proposals and institutional characteristics for studies conducted employing innovative experiences in the management

of the land in the Dominican Republic and Haiti, and another on the reduction of interest rates on credit for small and medium producers, were compiled.

During the year studies on the commercialisation of basic commodities were completed and sent to the SEA's Special Program for the Development of the Dominican Horticulture. Completed profiles of projects had been successfully executed by organisations in the agriculture sector. A study on the relationship between agriculture and the tourism was completed. Several training events were organised on gender and violence against women, masculine concept on gender, rural development, business management, creating family businesses that are managed by women, leadership and management of rural development and community organisations, among others.

#### **INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION**

Important gains were made with the operation of four databases, the SIDALC network was strengthened with the incorporation of new members; five national databases were included in the Agri2000 metabase; provided technical assistance to information units of institutions in the agriculture sector to organise, catalogue and classify their documents.

Also, completed a database on statistics of the agriculture sector and designed a new format of presentation daily prices; the CA's Webpage was updated periodically. Video conferencing was done to train technical persons of INDRHI. Organised courses on the use of microcomputers and the MS Windows Network and the Internet for the production of electronic databases for researchers and personnel of IDIAF. Search strategies and use of controlled vocabulary was also covered in the courses.

## 10.4 GUYANA

### INTRODUCTION

This CA's activities in 2001, focused on consolidating past initiatives and successes through a concentration on improving and institutionalising management systems for community-operated enterprises. The CA drew attention to the importance of small farmers' organisational capacity to ensure long-term social sustainability of technological interventions in both the NGO and public sector communities.

The CA continued to support, and elucidate the importance of, small farmers in Guyana's efforts to become the 'bread basket of the Caribbean' and to diversify traditional reliance on sugar and rice. Of note in this regard are the organic production efforts in cocoa that have catalysed a national level organic programme.

### POLICIES AND TRADE

The year saw the CA's implementation of the project "Development of the Organic Cocoa Industry in Guyana" stimulate interest in the development of a national export-oriented organic agricultural production programme. With support from IICA and the British High Commission, the National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI) took the lead in developing a draft policy for setting normative guidelines in organic production, identifying prime commodities and areas suitable for organic production and acquiring regional organic certification. The Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Crops, Fisheries and Livestock (MFCL) have now made the development of organic production a high priority.

IICA sponsored the initial establishment of the Guyana Chapter of the Caribbean AgriBusiness Association (CABA), an organisation designed to serve the mutual interests of Guyanese agri-business persons and assist them in establishing links with the rest of the Caribbean. The CA also lent support to the local Rural Women's Network (RWN) and their institutional relationship to the Caribbean Network of Rural Women Producers (CNRWP). This linkage has resulted in a variety of economic and cultural exchanges between the Guyanese women and similar groups in Barbados, Grenada, and Dominica, as well as, the leadership of the CNRWP being awarded to a member of the Guyana RWN.

### SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

IICA's organic cocoa project, in collaboration with NARI and the Cocoa Research Unit in Trinidad, incorporated important research on indigenous cocoa germplasm with implications for national property rights and resources for international marketing. This initiative has also included development of cocoa-specific organic cultivation regimes and adaptive technology for cocoa processing.

Research on new varieties, improved cultivation regimes and modified mechanical techniques continued within the context of the North Rupununi Peanut Project. Research was undertaken as a collaborative effort among NARI, MFCL, University of Florida technicians and local peanut farmers, supported by a grant from the European Community's Cariforum Agribusiness Research and Training Fund and FAVA/CA and administered by IICA. In 2002, this effort will be extended and amplified for the entire Rupununi with anticipated new funding from USAID.

The CA also provided technical support to the National Dairy Development Programme in their implementation of a FAO-funded milk pasteurisation plant, as well as assisting in the establishment of the Guyana Dairy Development Project whose objective is the modernisation of the dairy sector. IICA continues to assist the National Cattle Farmers Association and the Saint Stanislaus Model Farm and Training Centre. Finally, the CA and the Iwokrama International Centre for Rain Forest Conservation & Development identified areas of mutual collaboration in micro-enterprise development within Amerindian communities.

#### **AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY**

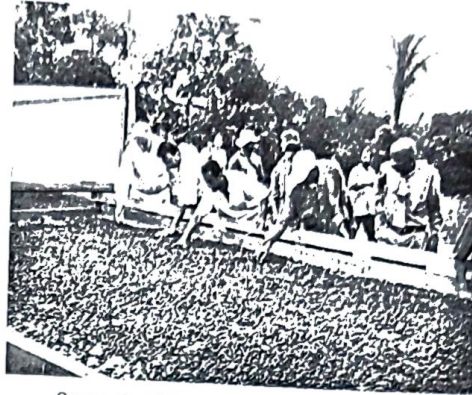
Through IICA's Regional Agricultural Health and Food Safety Project, consultations throughout the year with Ministry of Fisheries, Crops and Livestock staff contributed to the on-going efforts to modernise agricultural health and food safety systems in Guyana. The CA has brought HACCP and GAP training to a number of producers and processors, which in turn has facilitated exports to other Caribbean markets. On the consumption side, this programme mounted a media campaign focussing on consumers' attention to the importance of wholesome and sanitary foods and spearheaded national consultation on food safety issues facing Guyana.

#### **SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

Two previously implemented projects, the Helping Hands Cashew Processing Facility in Region 9, with the support of UNICEF's Amazon Programme, and the St. Deny's Cassava Processing Plant in Region 2, were the subject of hands-on business management training resulting in more efficient production, financial management and marketing systems fully operated by the women themselves.

In addition to the technical improvements in cocoa production and processing, the Mabaruma/Hosororo Organic Cocoa Growers Association (MHOCGA) was institutionalised and business and financial management systems were put into operation. The MHOCGA was visited for the second time by their organic certification agency's inspector and full organic certification is expected in early 2002. Their initial production of one ton of organic cocoa was exported to Europe for which they received a premium of 35% prevailing over international cocoa market prices. Their second season's production promises to more than double the first.

The former Coffee Revitalisation Project in Region 2 suffered the fate of most coffee production projects last year in the context of 30-year lows in coffee prices and world over-production and under-consumption. Fortunately, these farming systems are sufficiently flexible to allow increased production in alternative crops, specifically cassava, without having to absorb significant losses. The CA has modified its support to these farmers in the improvement of cassava production and identifying new market opportunities for it.



Supporting the Expansion of Organic Cocoa Production

The CA's support of the Rural Women's Network has assisted them in obtaining funding from two international sources for the expansion of their training programme and the development of a revolving credit fund to the advantage of almost 70 rural women's groups.

#### **INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION**

The CA continued support to the establishment of the Guyana Agricultural Information Network (GAIN) resulted in the electronic linkage of most public sector agricultural institutions and the launching of a Ministry of Agriculture/GAIN website. A significant expansion of services through this network will be achieved with the launching of the CA's Rural Development Learning Centre, incorporating SIDALC with Kellogg Foundation funding, in early 2002.

## 10.5 HAITI

### INTRODUCTION

In 2001, the CA concentrated on the deepening and widening of relations at national level with producers associations, exporters, traders, local and international NGOs, and Governmental Institutions, such as, various Ministries, Institute for Agrarian Reform, First Lady's Office. Funding and co-operation was sought from international cooperation agencies and all the diplomatic missions accredited in Haiti. Cooperation and the exchanges with the Dominican Republic was fortified with the establishment of an Agricultural Advisor in the Haitian Embassy in the Dominican Republic, who collaborates directly with the CA. Successes were achieved in integrating Haiti with the Hemisphere through support provided to the different networks (CABA, CACHE, CRIDNET), among others.

### POLICIES AND TRADE

In this Thematic Area, the CA continued to support meetings between members of the private sector. The CA in Haiti promoted alliances between different enterprises from the private sector to encourage them to invest in the agricultural sector. In addition, we promoted the participation of Haitian enterprises at regional meetings, such as, IABA and the Caribbean Week of Agriculture, which was held in Dominican Republic. The members of the private sector participated in the Trade Show and regional meetings (CABA, CACHE, CNRWP). This office also represents the secretariat between groups of the private sector and the government. Through this secretariat, we promote investments in the sector. The CA continues to promote an appropriate environment for further investment. In this sense, we are in the process of creating an organisation similar to the "Junta Agroempresarial Dominicana (JAD)."



Improving Crop Varieties and Promoting Trade

### SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

In coordination with the Ministry of Agriculture, this CA introduced improved varieties of seeds of the following crops: corn, bean, sorghum, pasture, cassava and tropical crops. These different improved varieties have been validated in different plots on the producers' farms in different ecological zones. Those with superior qualities have been selected and multiplied for

distribution for commercial production. This initiative contributed to an increase in the levels of productivity of basic staple crops with high consumption.

In animal production, 3,500 hens, Rhode Island Red and Plymouth Rock, were imported and distributed to 300 families. The hens produce in yard about 20 eggs per month, without any supplementary food. The CA also acquired for the Ministry of Agriculture a total of 1,500 guinea hens. These guinea hens have been placed in the MARNDR's farm. This program has allowed the Ministry to start a National Aviculture Program that benefits a large number of rural families.

The dairy production is very poor. About 95% of the dairy products consumed are imported from the USA and Europe. To improve local production, 10 bulls "Brown Swiss" had been imported from UNPHU, Dominican Republic and placed in 10 different breeding centres.

#### **AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY**

In this area, this CA executed during 2001 a short-term action on the control of the Black Sigatoka. A specialist in this matter visited Haiti from the Dominican Republic and worked with the technicians of the Ministry to prepare a programme for the control of this disease.

The CA also continued to work on the control of the Coffee Berry Borer with the funding of European Union. Information on this disease continues to be broadcasted around the country for the benefit of the coffee producers. About 143 trainers from public and private sectors, NGOs and Cooperatives participated in training on the Integrated Control of the Coffee Berry Borer. Each of these trainers had the responsibility to train at least 5 groups of 20 producers. To date, more than 1,500 producers have already been trained on the Integrated Control of the Coffee Berry Borer.

Through the PWOTOKOL project, the CA completed training for a total of 95 Animal Production and Health Agents (APSA), to assist animal producers in their respective areas. Those 95 APSA are distributed over the country, in very difficult areas where farmers really need assistance. Medicines are made available to them by a credit system established by the CA, through a Cooperative called UNAPEL.

#### **SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

The CA continued to strengthen the institutional capacity of the organizations created within the different cooperation instruments implemented by this CA, e.g. The association for Rice production and processing in Maribaroux, the Fish Cooperative in Jackzyl, the producers association of La Valle de Jacmel, Viallet, Ennery, Desbarrieres, Tapion, and all the credit



committees of the KrediFanm project. In addition the office started the process of legally registering the KrediFanm Foundation.

In the rural zones, animals are used as the most important means of transportation. For this purpose, mules are considered as the stronger animal. Within the PWOTOKOL project, two donkeys (American Jack) have been placed in breeding centres for the production of mules that will help the community in transportation. During 2001, 21 mules were born.

## 10.6 JAMAICA

### INTRODUCTION

The CA continued to foster cooperation among national, regional and international agencies that support the Agriculture Sector. Two new projects, the Mocho Goat Development Project and USAID/Texaco Project were funded and commenced implementation in 2001 to strengthen the business capacity of rural women through the provision of business and computer training,

In collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, the CA hosted two National Consultations in 2001. The first, "Youth in Agriculture and Food Production" was organised to obtain the perceptions of youth on the feasibility of agriculture as an option for employment and entrepreneurial activities and also, to present examples of successful youth involvement in agriculture. The Consultation



Distance Learning Centre Opened to Enhance Human Resource Capacity

developed a set of recommendations, which were presented to the Minister of Agriculture. The second, "National Consultation 2001" promoted 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.

### POLICIES 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. Four areas were targeted for assistance during 2001. *Public Education*: The training and sensitization programme for farmers, extension officers and students continued but was re-oriented to place 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 was continued and was dominated by considerations surrounding the eventual launch of a new round of negotiations under the WTO. *Continuation Forum on New and Emerging Issues in Agriculture In 2001*: the major issues discussed were the involvement 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.

### **SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

The CA strengthened its capacity to address Science, Technology and Natural Resources 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); and 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 was involved in the development of plans for the introduction of a nutraceutical industry in Jamaica.

### **AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY**

Two regional seminars were successfully coordinated and hosted by the CA: The first, which dealt with the emerging threat of the Black Sigatoka was attended by technical officers from the Banana Industry in the Eastern Caribbean and Jamaica. The other focused on the Establishment of a Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Institute. In addition, a National workshop for broiler and egg producers considered avian health and animal welfare issues affecting the poultry industry in Jamaica.

### **SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

This strategic area of the CA continued to support 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*: 47 women received monies under the OAS-funded Informal Credit Project to start or enhance their micro-enterprises and 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 Agri-Business Awards*: one Award and a Certificate of Merit were granted. *The Mocho Goat Development Project* commenced operation in January 2001 with the first drawdown of funds from the Jamaica Bauxite Institute (JBI).

### **TRAINING AND EDUCATION**

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 Development of the Agri-Distance Learning Training Centre (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; An Introduction to E-Commerce; Organic Farming for Entrepreneurs. As of October 2001, sixty (60) students had been enrolled.

The CA also arranged several specialised study tours in 2001. A Technical Officer of the Coffee Industry Board was sent to Honduras to attend a workshop and field tour on "Mildew and Coffee Quality"; The Executive Director of Tijule Ltd visited the Dominican Republic and viewed cassava production and processing at Casabe Guaraguana Farm.

#### **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 focused 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.

### Antigua and Barbuda

#### INTRODUCTION

The economy of Antigua and Barbuda is dominated by the services sector – banking, insurance and tourism. Combined, these sectors contribute just over 40% to GDP. Agriculture provides 3.5% of GDP and 8% of the total labour force of 30,000, which is a comparatively large contribution to employment.

Antigua and Barbuda has a weak agriculture export sub-sector (6.4% of total exports) it is highly dependent on imports for fresh and processed food (17.4% of imports) for the hotel sector as well as the general population. The high dependency on imports of fresh produce requires an adequate quarantine system in place, to enhance minimum risk to exotic diseases. The importance of the hotel industry to the economy also places priority on improving quality and standards of locally produced fresh fruits and vegetables and, in general, an acceptable food safety system.



Improving Quality Standards of Fresh Fruits and Vegetables

#### POLICIES AND TRADE

A workshop on Agricultural Trade Policy – the WTO Issues in Antigua and Barbuda and St Kitts and Nevis, scheduled for Antigua had to be postponed because of the unavailability of the two key resource persons. However, through various publications, such as *In A Nutshell* and *AgriView*, the sector continued to sensitise the sector on the key issues pertaining to international trade.

A draft sector policy and implementation strategy prepared by the Regional Project, Planning and Programming Unit was submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture for consideration. This was the final outcome of several missions to Antigua and Barbuda and a National Consultation to expose the policy options and to receive the inputs of a wide range of stakeholders.

### **AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY**

Assistance towards a model Agricultural Health and Food Safety Entity: A draft framework for the restructuring of agricultural health and food safety system was prepared. The intention of this was to bring together all the agricultural health and food safety agencies, including pieces of relevant legislation into a single entity, in an effort to establish an effective and efficient sustainable plant protection system. The element of cost-recovery was also addressed.

### **SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

Under the multi-country project, technical assistance has been provided to successfully establish integrated pest management systems for sweet potatoes in Antigua and Barbuda. The work, which was initiated with the assistance of FAVA/CA, has impacted positively on the quality of sweet potatoes harvested.

There is an agreement with the Ministry to document the production and post harvest management under the IPM system.

### **SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

In collaboration with FAVA/CA, the Regional Project, Programming and Planning Unit prepared a Strategic Plan for the Antigua Beekeepers Association, which was accepted.

A review of the Gilbert Agricultural Rehabilitation and Development Centre (GARDC) was conducted, in order to determine its financial viability and its contribution to social and economic development in Antigua and Barbuda. Further assistance was provided to GARDC in its promotion drive, through the part financing of information brochures prepared and disseminated by the Centre.

Assistance was provided to enable the Ministry to improve the quality and standards of fresh produce sold to the hospitality industry with emphasis on hotels. This was achieved through a series of workshops to train relevant persons in minimum standards for fresh produce developed by the Ministry in cooperation with the hotel industry.

### **TRAINING AND EDUCATION**

The CA, in collaboration with CERES, facilitated the participation of Antigua and Barbuda in a food safety training conducted in Costa Rica; a training workshop in Grenada to evaluate protocols for trading in pink mealy bug infested fresh produce, as part of an effort to maintain intro-regional trade and in training in the management of Black Sigatoka Disease in bananas, in a workshop conducted in Jamaica.

In national workshops, sixty-five persons received training in survey of the Pink Hibiscus Mealybug. Twenty persons received training in post-harvest handling and inspection to maintain minimum standards in fresh produce, destined for the hospitality industry.

### **INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION**

The CA provided information on its activities to its clients and the general public by means of the print electronic media. It also responded to specific requests for information from its many stakeholders. In addition, copies of the publications – AgriView, COMUNIICA, CARAPHIN News, In A Nutshell, and IICA Caribbean News – were widely circulated.

# Dominica

## INTRODUCTION

Agriculture is a major contributor to the economy of Dominica. Despite a fall in its percentage of GDP, (from 30% in the late 80s to 20% in 1999) agriculture also contributes 30% of employment, 70% of exports and about 60% of the food needs of the population. The CA, through a number of projects implemented under its four Thematic Areas, continued to make a significant contribution to the modernization of agriculture and the improvement of the standard of living of the rural communities. As a result of its limited resources, the CA established strategic alliances with several national, regional and international agencies to deliver and implement activities on the ground.

The role of the Institute in the development of the agricultural sector is well appreciated by the many beneficiaries of its actions in both the public and private sectors. With some closer coordination of its regional programmes and projects, the Institute can make an even greater impact on the lives and well being of the people of Dominica.

## POLICIES AND TRADE

A national workshop on Agricultural Trade Policy – the WTO Issues for Dominica and the OECS had to be postponed to 2002 because of the unavailability of the two key resource persons. However, through various publications, such as, the *In a Nutshell* and the *AgriView* the CA continued to sensitize the sector on the key issues pertaining to international trade.



Improving quality control and inspection for increased competitiveness of the Fresh Produce Trade

## SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Under the project, *Supporting Fruit Industry Expansion in the Caribbean*, the CA supported agricultural diversification and addressed some of the critical issues related to fruit production and marketing in the Caribbean. Some of the achievements for 2001 included: the formation of the National Fruits Committee; support for the continued operation of the Caribbean Fruit Network (CARIFRUIT); training in "Fruit Propagation and Nursery and Orchard Management"; training in "Organic Farming"; provision of technical assistance, through a CIRAD Specialist, to the pineapple farmers and the Nature Island Pineapple Producers Association and dissemination of relevant information on the production and marketing of tropical fruits.



The project, *Quality Control and Inspection for Increased Competitiveness of the Fresh Produce Trade in the Windward Islands*' overall goal is to contribute to the increased national, regional and international competitiveness of the country's fresh produce industry, through trade in consistently good quality fresh fruits, vegetables, roots and rubbers, and cut flowers and ornamentals. This was achieved through a process of institution building, training at all levels, improvement in the infrastructure and putting in place the necessary legislation. This contribution enhanced and complemented the results of activities undertaken by the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), Economic Development Unit (EDU), CARDI and IICA in support of the Agricultural Diversification Programme of the OECS. The project completed training in HACCP, Post Harvest Technology and Quality Control and Certification. On-going activities included finalization of Fresh Produce Policy Document and Legislation, inspection manuals and fresh produce standards.

#### **AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY**

The CA, with support from the Regional Project in Agricultural Health and Food Safety, made some significant achievements, which included: support to the control of the Citrus Black Fly and the Pink Hibiscus Mealy Bug; support with survey of pests of citrus and pineapple; production and dissemination of annual Plant and Animal Health Reports; training in Risk Assessment, Inspection and Certification and Quarantine Procedures; development of protocols to facilitate trade; development of model SPS compliant quarantine legislation; promotion of formation of Food Safety Committees to develop model food safety systems, GAPs and HACCP programmes; promotion of the Emergency Preparedness Plan for the Entry of Exotic Pests; support to the Coordinating Group of Pesticides Control Boards; production and dissemination of the CARAPHIN Newsletter.

#### **SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

Under this Thematic Area, the CA's *Integrated Project* focused on strengthening capacities to manage the production and marketing of selected commodities, increase capabilities to manage agri-enterprises and improve linkages between agriculture, tourism and processing.

Dasheen and pineapple are being supported in Dominica under this multi-national project. Assistance has been provided to the Division of Agriculture with the conduct of a survey of the dasheen farmers, the development of a production strategy and a workshop held on the development of a monitoring system for production and marketing of dasheen. Funds were made available to CARDI to conduct research trials on the variability in yields of the different dasheen cultivars, as well as, effects on yields of different agro ecological zones. Data from these trials will assist with increasing the accuracy of production forecasting.

In the case of pineapple a Commodity Systems Investigation was carried out to lead to the development of a production and marketing strategy. Technical assistance has also been

provided directly to pineapple farmers, the Nature Island Pineapple Association and the extension officers of the Division of Agriculture.

#### The Sustainable Livelihoods Project:

A UNDP funded project executed by the OECS and implemented by IICA. This project seeks to build managerial and administrative capacity of one selected NGO, the Dominica National Council for Women (DNCW), which has identified a community based organization (CBO) in the Carib Territory, the Kalinago Nutrition Association (KNA), to work with and to develop and implement sub projects to increase their income generating capacity. A local consultant was hired to conduct needs-based assessments of the NGO and the CBO and propose actions to strengthen the administrative, managerial and technical capacities of these two organizations. The DNCW was trained in project formulation, development, implementation and monitoring, while actively providing support to the community based agricultural activity developed as part of the project. They also received recommendations on requirements for more efficient organizational management procedures. The KNA, which comprises of twenty-six women and two men, have benefited from training in group formation and dynamics, gender analysis and in technical areas including rabbit rearing and vegetable production. Many of the members have been assisted in establishing backyard rabbit or vegetable projects. The group also has access to a communal plot on which a water tank and irrigation system has been installed to assist them with vegetable and root crop production.

#### **TRAINING AND EDUCATION**

The CA facilitated the attendance of Ministry of Agriculture professionals, as well as, private sector entrepreneurs to the following workshops and seminars in 2001: National Organic Production Workshop and Promoting the Development of the Pineapple Industry were held in May in Dominica; Food Safety/Codex Workshop, was held in *Canada*, in September, the Cochran Training Program in Poultry Health was held in Washington in October; the Black Sigatoka Workshop, which was held in October in Jamaica; Supporting the Diversification of Exports in the Caribbean/Latin American Region through the Development of Organic Horticulture, held in Trinidad in November; and the Production and Forecasting Workshop held in Dominica in November.

#### **INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION**

The Agricultural Library of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Environment has been designated the national co-ordinating centre of the Agricultural Information and Documentation System for the Americas and has been provided with some basic equipment, a computer and copier, under the project. Staff of the library also received training in the use of WINISIS software for networking. The local network continued to provide local entrepreneurs and technicians access to the hemispheric network.

## INTRODUCTION



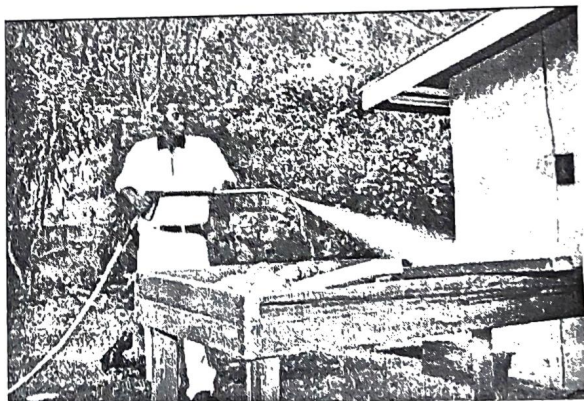
Grenada's agricultural sector's contribution to GDP declined from 12.63% in 1991 to 8.20% in 2000. This was due mainly to the extremely poor performance of the island's banana industry, and the slow pace of development of the non-traditional export crops (fruits, vegetable, roots & tubers and cut flowers). These latter crops have been generally affected by pest problems of quarantine significance. This, coupled with fruit quality problems experienced by the banana industry, has had disastrous effects on agricultural export earnings.

The CA developed partnerships with a number of national and regional agencies to implement activities related to human resource development, technology development, rural development, environmental protection, and networking. Activities were implemented in each of IICA's Strategic Areas. However, those activities were more intense in Rural Development and Education and Training.

## POLICIES AND TRADE

Work in this Strategic Area was concentrated in the reduction of the pest risk associated with trade in fresh produce from Grenada. Protocols were developed and tested, in collaboration with MoAs (plant Quarantine Units) of Grenada and Trinidad & Tobago. This was done towards facilitating a resumption of the fresh produce agricultural trade between both countries, which were suspended following the discovery of the Pink Hibiscus Mealybug in 1994. Meetings

were convened in Grenada among plant quarantine officials from Grenada, Antigua & Barbuda, Barbados and Trinidad & Tobago to seek to establish/re-establish fresh produce trading links among those countries.



Protocol for Trade in Fresh Produce Employing Pressure Washing Developed

Contact was made with USDA/APHIS officials, through IICA's Agricultural Health Specialist for the ECS, to seek a response to Grenada's request for permission to export the Annonas and sapodilla to the USA. This was a follow-up to Grenada's submission of the results of a survey conducted, with respect to "Internal Feeders" of the Annonas and sapodilla, as requested by USDA/APHIS. A response to Grenada's request is being awaited. Fresh

produce trade database and Website were developed and installed at the Grenada Bureau of Standards.

### **SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

New hot pepper "varieties" and improved hot pepper production technology was introduced from Trinidad. Consequently, Grenada's hot peppers are more acceptable on the export market, and hot pepper yields have increased considerably. Sweet potato varieties, including two varieties introduced by IICA from Puerto Rico, were field tested by the Ministry of Agriculture. One of the Puerto Rican varieties was outstanding.

### **AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY**

IICA's Agricultural Health Specialist for the ECS conducted a local seminar to present the pre-feasibility study report with respect to the proposed formation of a Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency. Technical support for monitoring of Grenada's fruit fly free status continued. Grenada's monitoring reports were forwarded to USDA.

### **SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

Organisational and management support was provided to the Grenada Association of Beekeepers (GAB) which was formed in 1998 by a group of fourteen (14) youths trained by IICA, with assistance from FAVA/CA. The group's membership at the end of 2001 was twenty-five.

The River Sallee Women's group was assisted in obtaining a loan for expanding its agro-processing enterprise. IICA collaborated with the Grenada Community Development Agency (GRENCODA) in organising and supporting a community group "Clozier United Development Organization (CUDO)" in a community (Clozier) identified, through a "Poverty Assessment Survey", as one of the poorest communities in Grenada.

### **TRAINING AND EDUCATION**

A Business Development Seminar was conducted for forty members of the Clozier United Development Organization (CUDO). Six members of the River Sallee Women's Group participated in a workshop on "Business Plan Preparation." The workshop was aimed at facilitating the preparation of a "Business Plan" to access the revolving loan fund under the Sustainable Livelihoods Project. A draft Business Plan, which was prepared was subsequently finalised and submitted for funding. A 2-day Gender Analysis Workshop was conducted for representatives of a NGO and two CBOs.

Thirty-two public and private sector personnel participated in a seminar on Sustainable Agricultural and Rural Development conducted by IICA's Rural Development Specialist based in Guyana. Eight small agro-processors, including six women, participated in a workshop on "Improving the Quality of Hot Pepper Sauce." They also received training in "Implementation of the HACCP System". The local fresh produce Quality Control Inspection Supervisor participated in a 6-day training attachment at the Canadian Food Inspection

Agency. Selected staff members of the Grenada Bureau of Standards (GDBS) were trained in database and Website operation and management. A brochure and training video on "fresh produce quality control" was produced (by local consultant) and made available to the GDBS.

#### **INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION**

IICA's Agricultural Distance Learning Centre (ADLC) was established at the CA in Grenada. Courses to be administered at the ADLC were promoted through the local print and electronic media.

## INTRODUCTION

**St.** Kitts and Nevis is faced with the challenge of consolidating the economic gains of the last decade within a global economic environment characterized by increased trade liberalization and reductions in aid flows. The sugar industry is still a significant contributor to economic activity, but with the expected cessation of the preferential arrangements for the exportation of sugar and the unprofitable state of the sugar industry, steps have to be taken to reduce costs and increase efficiency in the industry. The CA continued to act in collaboration with stakeholders in 2001 to support the diversification efforts and improve efficiencies in production.



Water Collection for Irrigation Project - Promoting Diversification

## POLICIES AND TRADE

Within this Strategic Area, the CA participated in the following main activities in 2001. Discussions on a Draft Document entitled, "***Agriculture and Fisheries Policy***." In collaboration with the Regional Projects, Planning and Programming Unit, the CA assisted in developing a plan for the improvement of the performance of the Agri-food sector. The policies, strategies and actions necessary to achieve improved efficiency were identified. Options for the sector were identified and prioritised.

The CA and the Ministry of Agriculture co-hosted the 2001 Consultation on June 29. Twenty-seven stakeholders participated and provided the national input that was incorporated into the hemispheric Plan of Action. A National Alliance Steering Committee Meeting was convened on September 25, the purpose of the meeting which was to review the draft document of the Ministerial Declaration and Plan of Action for the Caribbean.

## SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The activities that the CA was involved in under this Strategic Area included **Support for the Tropical Fruit Crop Programme**. As part of its commitment to the expansion of the fruit sub-sector in St. Kitts and Nevis, the IICA office was successful in sourcing 2 kg of Tristeza Virus Free citrus seeds for the Department of Agriculture. These have been sown and are ready for budding at year's end. Two propagation workshops were conducted. Provided the propagation units of the Departments of Agriculture with tangerine and mango scion

materials, which came from St. Vincent, Dominica and Florida, respectively. Participated in the Fruit Crop Committee during the year. Provided improved Passion Fruit Germplasm for both islands. Two farmers also participated in a workshop entitled "**Supporting the Diversification of Exports in the Caribbean/Latin American Region through the Development of Organic Horticulture**" which was held in Trinidad, October 8-10.

The CA responded to a request, which was made by the ECS Representative, to document a practical and innovative way of harvesting, storing and utilizing water for agricultural purpose. Consequently, a manual entitled "**Cades Bay Irrigation Ponds Project**" was developed. The System consists primarily of a series of ponds, which are constructed in close proximity to a watershed area. A Seminar aimed at improving the skills of farmers in using drip irrigation systems was successfully conducted by Majestic Enterprises in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture and IICA. Thirty-five participants were taught specific techniques in designing and installing irrigation systems for different types of crops and making adjustments to the system for flat land or hillside crops. Participants also received expert advice on solving some of the problems that they experienced when designing and calculating irrigation needs.

#### **SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

Within this Thematic Area, the CA continued to support groups, such as peanut and beekeepers farmers' association. The CA participated in three Peanut Farmers Meetings, which were organised by the Department of Agriculture. These meetings were primarily for planning and training purposes. At one of the Meetings, a farmer who was sponsored by IICA to look at peanut production in the USA, gave an account of the experience gained from attending the Georgia Peanut Tour 2000. The CA, in collaboration with FAVA/CA, sourced a peanut expert to visit the Federation during the period June 15-23. During the visit, he reviewed and analysed the current techniques of peanut production, with a view to specifically improving the harvesting and post harvesting technology. In December, the CA co-sponsored with the Department of Agriculture and CARDI, a training workshop in Peanut Production. Thirty-four farmers participated in this workshop, which dealt with planting, insect and weed control, application of fertiliser, harvesting and drying.

The Ministry of Agriculture requested IICA's assistance in developing beekeeping on St. Kitts. To satisfy this request the CA has pursued a number of activities, which include: The conducting of a survey, which targeted supermarkets, pharmacies, farmers, honey cutters and prospective beekeepers. Prepared and submitted a project proposal for funding to the Canadian Fund for Local Initiative this was later approved by Canadian High Commission with a contribution of CDN\$12,404.00 for developmental activities. The official launching of the St. Kitts Beekeepers' Co-operative took place on December 5, 2001.

#### **AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY**

Trade and Agricultural Health and Food Safety issues are inextricably linked. In this regard the CA undertook the following actions during the year. Two Plant Quarantine and Pest

Management Workshops were held on Nevis and St. Kitts during the period April 30 – May 3. A follow-up meeting was convened on July 10. Issues dealt with the standardizing of quarantine practices on both islands and the need to update the present legislation, among others. During 2000, the Institute conducted a sub-regional workshop on the Papaya Mealy bug (*Paracoccus Marginatus*) for crop protection and quarantine officers. As a follow-up to this workshop, the CA conducted workshops on St. Kitts and Nevis for farmers and extension officers. Two nationals participated in a seminar for Caribbean countries, on “**Modernization of Food Inspection Systems**,” and a workshop on the Codex Alimentarius Commission on May 28–June 1, 2001 in Guelph, Ontario, Canada. The CA, in collaboration with the Pesticides Control Boards of the OECS and with funding from the Caribbean Regional Human Resource Development Programme for Economic Competitiveness (CPEC) inaugurated the project. “**Assistance to Institutionalised Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) for selected commodities in the OECS**” on December 6. A one-day consultation of persons in the agricultural trade and health sectors was held on October 31. This meeting discussed “**the formation of the Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA) and its implications for the Region**”. It was proposed that a **National Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (NAHFSA)** be established and work collaboratively with the CAHFSA. Two local technicians participated in Caribbean Sigatoka Management Workshop, which was held in Jamaica from October 2-5.

#### **TRAINING AND EDUCATION**

More than 20 events (workshops, conferences, and fora) were held by IICA during the past year. It is estimated that approximately 300 persons, including women, youth entrepreneurs, students, leaders of public and private sectors, farmers and technicians from the Ministry of Agriculture benefited from these training. The CA collaborated with the Department of Agriculture in hosting a one-day workshop on Farm Management and Record-keeping. Eighteen farmers attended and each received a Farm Management Record Book. One veterinarian participated in the Cochran Fellowship Programme, which dealt with Poultry Health, took place at the University of Arkansas from September 26 to October 6, 2001. The CA also facilitated a visit to Nevis by two farmers from St. Kitts to observe the use of solar fence line for deterring monkey damages to crops on farms.

#### **INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION**

The CA provided information on a wide range of subjects and issues to its various clients and stakeholders. The following modes of communications were used in this process: Information searches for farmers; Radio Programmes. Four interviews and ten news items on the activities of the CA were aired. Newspaper – twelve press releases and articles were printed in the local newspaper. Approximately 150 copies of the following publications were distributed: COMUNIICA, AgriView, Tropical Fruits Newsletter and IICA Caribbean News. Ten computers that were received from the AgriFuture Foundation were re-programmed and refitted and donated to the Ministry of Agriculture. This gesture is part of IICA's initiative to bring information technology to the rural communities.



## INTRODUCTION

The overall performance of the agriculture sector in St Lucia is still largely influenced by the performance of the banana sector. However, like all other African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) banana exporting countries, St. Lucia has not been spared the uncertainties and challenges in the European market. Notwithstanding its difficulties, the agriculture sector contributes 8% of the GDP and creates employment for 21% of the employed persons.

The CA continued in 2001 a holistic approach to its collaborative actions in support of the sector's goals. Accordingly, the CA provided assistance in a wide range of areas. Despite the focus on the post-WTO influences on agriculture, the CA kept in focus the multi-functional role of agriculture, as well as, some of the traditional pre-WTO constraints experienced by small farmers. Technologies were promoted to increase small farmers' access to water for irrigation.



Promoting Fruit in Support of Diversification

Agro-tourism was promoted to strengthen the linkages between agriculture and tourism and as a development tool in farming communities. Selected rural groups and key institutions were strengthened.

## POLICIES AND TRADE

The activities of the CA within this Strategic Area concentrated on the facilitation of the fresh produce trade. The establishment of a quality control inspectorate for fresh produce was supported by the CA. Sixteen product standards were approved by the Bureau of Standard and are now in place. Fresh Produce Inspectors and trained auditors are now in place. Documented training material in post-harvest handling, quality inspection and HACCP, brochures on licensing procedures and copies of the product standards were handed over to the Bureau of Standard and the Ministry of Agriculture. A database for the fresh produce system was also installed in the Ministry and a Website, [imcprotrade.org](http://imcprotrade.org), will allow relevant information on the fresh produce trade in St. Lucia to be accessed on-line.

Under the theme 'Understanding Today's Agri-food Markets - Realities, Expectations and Opportunities', fifty stakeholders and media personnel participated in a two-day event organised in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. Participants were updated on the WTO Agreement on Agriculture, including SPS and TBT

Agreements, Intellectual Property Rights, Genetically Modified Organisms, Food Safety and Competition Policy. Other areas included the CARICOM Negotiating Proposals, the CARICOM CET and the status of the OECS and WTO Agreements.

The CA also collaborated to promote an enterprise approach to agriculture both at the individual level and the institutional level. A Commodity Costing System Generator Software was developed in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture. The software is designed to estimate cost of production and processing activities on agricultural enterprise over a specific period, using an established production technology. At the institutional level, the RPPPU provided technical assistance to prepare a 5-year Business Plan for the St. Lucia Agriculturists Association.

### **SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

The CA continued to provide technical assistance to strengthen the production, marketing and diversification within selected commodities. In this regard, it promoted the production and marketing of passion fruit for the fresh and processed markets. The CA also supported the Ministry of Agriculture to produce and distribute seedlings to establish an additional five acres of yellow passion fruit, train farmers in land pollution and other agronomic practices for passion fruit and assisted two technicians to visit passion fruit growers in St Vincent and the Grenadines to observe pink passion fruit farmers and collect cuttings. It also promoted the reduction in production costs of dasheen by employing clean planting material.

### **AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY**

The CA conducted an analysis of the options for controlled Yellow Sigatoka (leaf spot) disease of bananas and presented its report to the Ministry of Agriculture. The CA also led a Yellow Sigatoka Leaf Spot Monitoring Committee, which comprised the Ministry of Agriculture, WIBDECO and private sector representatives. Technical support was also provided to the Government-appointed banana task force. Support to the Pesticides Control Board included a review of the draft pesticides and toxic chemical act.

Under the emerging issues fund, the CA developed a protection plan against Black Sigatoka of bananas, plantains and other musa spp. Information on Black Sigatoka Control was disseminated including posters on the symptoms of the disease. Model legislation designating Black Sigatoka a notifiable pest was supplied to the Ministry.

Assistance was also provided to the Ministry in reviewing the recommended conditions under which Bermuda grass is to be used for a National Cricket Ground. A protocol to be employed for the treatment of the grass was also provided.

### **SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

During the year, the CA intensified its efforts at promoting agro-tourism. In this regard, the Black Bay Small Farmers Association (BBSFA) capacities to manage contractual

arrangements to supply fresh vegetables, fruits and root crops to hotels and supermarkets were strengthened. In addition, agro-tourism as a product (farm tourism) in Black Bay and its environs was promoted.

Over an eighth-month period, the CA collaborated with FAVA/CA and the St. Lucia Heritage Tourism Programme to organise and conduct an activity to strengthen capacities of the BBSFA and other groups in the area. Four specific local workshops and one district workshop were held. This resulted in a seven-member umbrella body being formed comprising representatives from Black Bay and Shambala and from the three areas of interest, namely horticulture, agro-processing and craft.

A follow up meeting to the National Agro-Tourism Workshop held at Fox Grove Inn in December 2000 was held in June 2001. This successful meeting agreed on the formation of a St Lucia Agro-tourism Association spearheaded by interested persons in the Southern Micro Region. A small group was identified and given the task of defining the process towards establishing agro tourism as a development concept in St. Lucia.

The CA continued to provide support to a group of women in Anse-la-Raye/Millet in agro processing and craft. The main support is in training in the processing and marketing of products mainly to the tourism trade. Funding in the amount of US\$55,000 was approved by the BNIF/CDB for a project titled Anse-la-Raye Agro-tourism Project - St. Lucia. The funds will improve the facilities and infrastructure for agro-tourism, train women in relevant technical and managerial skills related to agro-tourism and promote greater entrepreneurship among the women of the area.

A group exchange was organised with a women's group of Guyana as a follow up to the contacts made at Punta Cana during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Caribbean Week of Agriculture.

### **TRAINING AND EDUCATION**

Technicians and farmers received training in a wide range of areas including quality inspection, HACCP in fresh produce, post harvest handling and selected agronomic practices. Fresh produce exporters were sensitized to the importance of quality inspection in fresh produce. Selected rural groups received training in skill areas such as agro processing, technical and managerial and in networking.

Through the Distance Learning Centre, technicians and farmers received training in E-Commerce for agro-entrepreneurs. Overseas training was facilitated by the CA in processed food safety and poultry health, organic horticulture and fruit crop development, as well as, in the management of Black Sigatoka Disease of banana and plantains.

## **INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION**

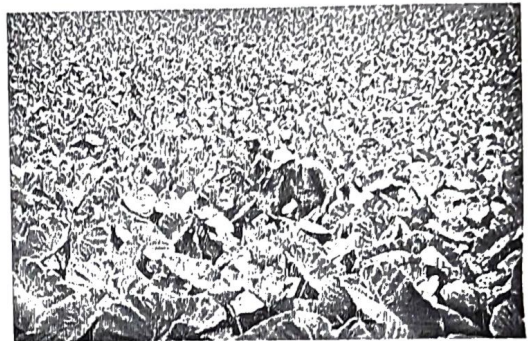
The CA provided information on its activities to its clients and the general public by means of the print electronic media. It also responded to specific requests for information from its many stakeholders. In addition, copies of the publications - AgriView, COMUNIICA, Caraphin News, In A Nutshell and IICA Caribbean News - were widely circulated.

## INTRODUCTION

**A**griculture is a major contributor to the economy of St. Vincent & the Grenadines. Banana production dominates agriculture sector. Due to its deteriorating competitiveness, diversification, import substitution and their impact on food security and poverty alleviation were major challenges.

In 2001, the CA took an integrated, holistic and participatory approach in the implementation of its activities. These activities were in support of the sustainable development of agriculture and rural life in St. Vincent & the Grenadines.

In collaboration with its strategic partners, the CA implemented a CPEC- funded project to increase the competitiveness of the Fresh Produce Trade in the Windward Islands. The CA also served on the government-appointed Banana Advisory Committee on the restructuring of the banana industry. The CA also coordinated a National Consultation as a follow up to III Summit of the Americas Process. The National Chapter of the Alliance for Sustainable Development of Agriculture and Rural Milieu in the Caribbean was launched in 2001.



Promoting Competitiveness in Fresh Produce

## POLICIES AND TRADE

The CA continued to support trade, particularly in fresh produce. This support was largely in reducing pest and disease risks associated with trade and enhancing quality of local produce. This was achieved through the implementation of the Quality Control and Inspection for Increased Competitiveness of the Fresh Produce in the Windward Island, with funding from the Caribbean Regional Human Resource Development Program for Economic Competitiveness (CPEC) and the governments of the Windward Islands. During the year, the project strengthened the Bureau of Standards through the recruitment of additional staff, amendment of legislation governing the export of fresh produce, the training of exporters and technicians in the Ministry of Agriculture and the Bureau of Standards in inspection procedures, inspection and auditing and the establishment of a database and Website.

Two standard officers were trained in Grenada and an Inspection Supervisor in Canada. Others were subsequently trained locally. A cadre of fresh produce inspectors now exist that are competent in the examination of fresh produce destined for export markets and the

preparation of requisite worksheets and inspection certificates. Exporters were sensitized to the importance of satisfying the regulations governing the exportation of fresh produce and commenced the adoption of the recommended standards.

The CA supported the development and establishment of the project, Assistance to Institutionalize Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) for Selected Commodities in the OECS." The Government is also providing financial and in-kind assistance for the implementation of this project.

### **SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

Within this Strategic Area, the CA continued to focus on an integrated approach to the production and marketing of Hot Peppers which was identified by the St. Vincent Marketing Corporation as having excellent market opportunities, both locally and for exports. The CA hosted several meetings of the major stakeholders, namely, CARDI, St. Vincent Marketing Corporation, the MoA and farmers, to plan the production and marketing of hot peppers. This led to 15 farmers entering into contractual arrangement with the St Vincent Marketing Corporation. The CA also assisted the Marketing Corporation to produce seeds of the preferred varieties. A one-day Production and Marketing of Hot Peppers was also hosted by the CA for farmers and extension officers.

Two representatives from St Vincent were facilitated in attending an Organic Horticultural Conference and Regional Fruit Workshop in Trinidad & Tobago. The CA continues to sensitise the sector on the potential of organic agriculture.

### **AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY**

The CA continued to support the local authorities through training of technicians engaged in the Fruit Fly surveillance programmes to maintain the country's Fruit Fly free status.

As stated earlier, banana production remains the main economic activity in the agricultural sector. The Black Sigatoka disease which is present in the Caribbean poses a serious threat to the local banana industry. The CA facilitated the participation of a technician from the MoA to attend a Regional Workshop on Black Sigatoka in Jamaica. The CA continues to lend support in the sensitization of the industry to this threat.

The CA hosted a national Consultation on the establishment of the Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency.

### **SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

The CA successfully completed the Sustainable Livelihoods Project in 2001. Its major achievement was the introduction of 12 women and 2 men from rural communities to commercial banking principles. They were trained in the preparation of business plans. Based on their business plans, they were able to access loans from a revolving fund set up at a commercial bank for the production of a variety of root and vegetable crops.

The CA also hosted a workshop on Gender Analysis at which 25 participants were trained in issues related to gender in project development.

The CA presented 10 refurbished computers, donated by the AgriFuture Foundation of IICA, to the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries. This donation is contributing to the Ministry's effort to establish a computer network system to benefit the farming sector.

Participants at the Poverty Reduction through the Implementation of SARD Projects were pleased with the several options discussed, particularly with those involving horticultural enterprises.

### **TRAINING AND EDUCATION**

Approximately 250 persons participated in education and training activities organized by the CA. The main events were training workshops, field tours, national consultations and technical meetings. Participants represented Ministries of Agriculture, Trade and Health; the Bureau of Standards, NGOs, farmers and exporters.

### **INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION**

The CA provided information on its activities to its clients and the general public by means of the print electronic media. It also responded to specific requests for information from its many stakeholders. In addition, copies of the publications - AgriView, COMUNIICA, Caraphin News, In A Nutshell, and IICA Caribbean News - were widely circulated.

## 10.7 Suriname

### INTRODUCTION

In 2001 Suriname continued its effort to revitalise its economy by promoting a higher and more efficient production in the agriculture sector. The newly installed Government implemented various macro economic policies together with special measures for opening up its market. It is in this context the CA in Suriname developed its action during the year, in collaboration with counterparts, especially the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Regional Development, the Ministry of Natural Resources, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the University, CELOS, Association of Producers, and other private and public sector organizations.

Another important achievement for the year was the revision of the Plan of Action of IICA in Suriname with support from IICA Headquarters and the Regional Centre. New ventures and alliances were also established. IICA and Peace Corps signed an agreement to provide support for rural communities with the involvement of various strategic partners.



Promoting Efficiency in Agriculture at Trade Fair

In support of the mandate of the III Summit of the Americas, the CA, with the participation of all its staff, together with the Ministry of Agriculture and about 40 stakeholders, completed a process of consultations and successfully developed proposals for the Declaration and the Plan of Actions that was submitted to the IABA.

### POLICIES AND TRADE

The CA participated actively in the revision of the Terms of Reference for the Sectoral Analysis requested for the Agricultural Sector by the Dutch Government in order to grant more support from its Treaty Fund. Through the CA, the assistance of an Indian Specialist was provided to the LVV and of the Dairy producers towards the revision of the national dairy subsidy policy.

Within this Thematic Area, the CA provided assistance for the development of the Agri-business sector. In this regard, the CA provided support to two entrepreneurs from Trinidad and Tobago, who were interested in developing joint ventures in the rice and animal feeding sectors. Contacts were made with coffee producers in Suriname and processors in Guyana for possible collaboration. The CA also assisted several local agri-entrepreneurs.



## **SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

The CA, in collaboration with Regional Fruits Project, conducted an important Strategic Planning exercise for the fruit and vegetable sectors in Suriname. This has strengthened the Government's plans for fruit and vegetable production. The CA also gave considerable assistance to the SURLAND Directors and technicians regarding their main problems with the price received for their bananas and their management difficulties encountered as a state owned company. Alternatives for diversification were discussed.

The CA organized a one-day workshop on GMO in Rice, in collaboration with CRIDNET, ADRON and one representative of the rice producers sector in Nickerie. The Office also provided support for LVV Soybean program, bringing inoculants from Argentina.

## **AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY**

Within this Thematic Area, the CA successfully entered into several strategic partnerships. The CA was asked to execute an LVV-IDB Project to provide technical cooperation to LVV in the area of Agricultural Health and Food Safety. The total amount of US\$172,000 is to be executed in three years. Similarly, in collaboration with PAHO other public and private sector, stakeholders collaborated on a National Plan of Action for Food Safety in Suriname. The CA, together with the Regional Veterinary Officer of PAHO jointly with the private and public sectors in Suriname promoted the creation of a Food Safety Program and the establishment of a National Food Safety Board.

The CA also successfully arranged several exchanges between Suriname and Brazil in the areas of Animal Health, Agroecological Zoning, exchange of technology and germplasm. With assistance of the Regional Director for the Southern Cone, the CA arranged for the Minister of Agriculture and the Director of Animal Health of Suriname to establish contact and develop meaningful collaboration with the Brazilian authorities.

The year 2001 was a successful year for the Carambola eradication and control activities. Contributions from the Dutch Government, USDA/APHIS and IFAD contributed to the success of the program.

## **SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

The CA continued its support to the indigenous peoples in the Upper Surinam Communities. Supported by the IRD Project one Gangasa (community kitchen) was inaugurated with Canadian funding. The work among these communities was refocused in 2001 with the national authorities carrying out the main tasks on the ground with the CA playing a supporting role.

## **TRAINING AND EDUCATION**

At the end of 2001, the construction of the Centre for Information, Documentation and Distance Training in Agribusiness for Suriname was initiated. This Centre was constructed as an extension of the actual IICA Office. The Centre will be inaugurated in 2002.

During the period of February to May 2001, the CA received and supported the scholarship of a Canadian young professional, an Environmental Science graduate. He collaborated with the CA, NIMOS and with ECOSYSTEM 2000.

## **INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION**

IICA Suriname continued the publication of its Bulletins: "Partnership" and "Koboogo" bringing articles and information of interest to promote new topics or to inform IICA's actions in Suriname, in the Caribbean Region and the Hemisphere.

The CA continued to implement SIDALC's network in Suriname. One professional from the Library of the University of Suriname was sent for training in Trinidad & Tobago. Equipment was purchased and distributed to the following institutions: Library of the University of Suriname; Faculty of Technology of this same University; Ministry of Agriculture; Anne van Dijk Rice Research Institute Nickerie (ADRON); and IICA Suriname.

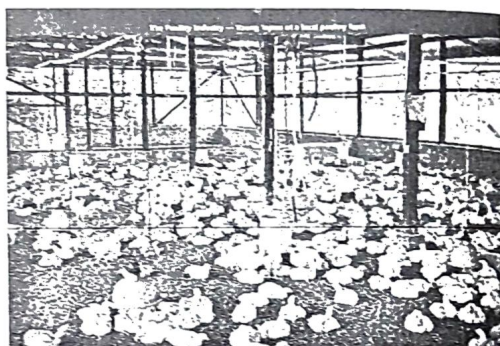
During five days at the end of April and beginning of May, the CA participated again at the Agro Fair Suriname 2001 organized by the Chamber of Commerce. IICA distributed different information and bulletins related to the IICA work in Suriname, in the Region and in the Hemisphere.

### INTRODUCTION

The CA continued in 2001 to aggressively promote the reengineering of agriculture and the development of an appropriate enabling environment. The "In A Nutshell" series continued to demystify crucial issues to provide a greater understanding of important concepts and emerging issues in agriculture.

### POLICIES AND TRADE

The National Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Agriculture and the Rural Milieu made up of the key stakeholders in agriculture was established as an important avenue for promoting consensus on the requirements for the development of an agriculture that is competitive and equitable and can hold its own in a liberalized environment; it is also the avenue by which mandates from the Summit of the Americas will be reviewed and procedures for implementation agreed upon.



Enhancing Competitiveness in the Poultry Sector

Trinidad and Tobago continued to benefit from the agriculture-related activities of the IICA-supported Caribbean Regional Negotiating Machinery (CRNM), especially as it pertains to the research on and development of possible negotiating options. The country benefited significantly from several regional IICA trade policy initiatives, including studies on the impact of the CET and trade liberalization on regional agriculture (in collaboration with FAO). The CA continued to sensitize the public at large on trade issues. In this context, it hosted five forums in the series entitled "Repositioning Agriculture and Rural Life: Realities, Expectations and Opportunities." A pork industry study, which followed the successful poultry industry study of 2000, was largely completed. It examines the competitiveness of local industry vis-à-vis import substitution.

The CA participated in the review of the 2001-2005 Sector Policy Plan of the Ministry of Food Production and Marine Resources (MFPMR). Support for the development of agro-tourism continued with emphasis on Tobago. A representative from the Tobago House of Assembly, who is now implementing a community based agro-tourism project, was sponsored on a study tour to the Second National Seminar on Agro-Tourism in St. Lucia.

### SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Actions to increase public awareness regarding the critical issues of genetically modified organisms (GMOs), intellectual property rights (IPRs), technical barriers to trade, traditional knowledge in agriculture and the rural milieu, and maximum residual levels, initiated in 1999,

continued with much appreciation from clients. The CA is also participating in the development of model legislation and standards to treat these important emerging issues as relates to agriculture and trade, and is represented on a Trinidad and Tobago Cabinet-appointed committee on GMOs. National efforts to promote organic agriculture received support from the CA, which co-hosted with FAO/CTA/CDE a regional conference entitled "Supporting the Diversification of Exports in the Caribbean/Latin American Region through the Development of Organic Horticulture." Experts from IICA's Costa Rica and Barbados offices participated, and the CA helped finance the participation of two technicians from the Ministries of Agriculture and Education in the event. Further, an *In A Nutshell* booklet on organic agriculture was published. IICA also provided funding to the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI) to upgrade national capacities to help stakeholders convert from traditional to organic production systems.

National research capabilities were enhanced through efforts to facilitate researchers' access to the latest innovations in key areas. In this connection, the CA collaborated with the Ministry of Agriculture and other national, regional and international agencies in the following: the 37th meeting of the Caribbean Food Crops Society (CFCS) on "Science, Technology and Education"; international and regional presentations; and a national workshop on research project management/national agricultural field research management. The latter targeted farmers, researchers and extension workers of the MFPMR, and aimed to upgrade their knowledge and skills, and foster closer collaboration for resolving problems associated with the achievement of sustained agricultural growth and development.

A national workshop entitled "Making Money from Citrus - Improving the Productivity of Citrus Orchards" was held in collaboration with the Co-operative Citrus Growers Association (CCGA). Participants from the public and private sectors were exposed to the latest technologies for citrus propagation and production. IICA also made it possible for a technician from Caroni (1975) Ltd to undertake a study tour of the citrus industry in Belize, where he gained valuable insights into that well-organised competitive industry. Also, in collaboration with the MFPMR, a training workshop was conducted on citrus propagation for private and government nurserymen and technicians. The CA is also represented on the national Citrus Task Force.

In response to a request from the MFPMR to assist in identifying and developing strategies to assure the economic sustainability of the pineapple industry in Trinidad and Tobago, the CA made a rapid assessment of the local industry with the assistance of a French expert. An in-depth analysis of the industry was also launched in 2001. To date, surveys of pineapple farmers, marketers, processors, researchers and all other actors involved in the chain have been completed.

#### **AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY**

Taking into account the WTO Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, IICA continued to work closely with the MFPMR to promote implementation of said measures and food safety awareness in Trinidad and Tobago. Key personnel from the MFPMR benefited from national and regional seminars and workshops on the following topics: sanitary and phytosanitary measures; good agricultural practices; identification of pests of forestry products and food safety measures. In addition, the MFPMR was assisted in preparing a

draft national emergency plan for exotic plant pests and diseases. An animal pest and disease emergency preparedness plan was also adapted for Trinidad and Tobago, following which a validation workshop was conducted by MFPMR, IICA and PAHO/WHO.

The CA facilitated dialogue between dairy farmers and the Ministry of Agriculture regarding the program to address the outbreak of brucellosis. The National Veterinary Laboratory resumed testing for brucellosis in 2001 following IICA's assistance in rectifying problems encountered during testing. Training in the use of CORRAL, a data management program for plant and animal health surveillance, was also used to assist in the brucellosis control strategy.

The Tobago House of Assembly's understanding of "WTO/SPS and Food Safety – Realities for Trinidad and Tobago" was complemented by an IICA presentation. The CA conducted a review of the Consumer Affairs Division's project "Pesticide Residues in Vegetable Crops in Trinidad." As a result, the survey protocol for data collection was revised so that it would better inform policies for consumer protection against harmful pesticides. The CA provided options to the MFPMR for modernizing the agricultural health and food safety services in Trinidad and Tobago, and the CA attended an SPS consultation at the MFPMR to discuss Trinidad and Tobago's position on the FTAA. Key nationals participated in the CERES Executive Leadership Series on Food Safety, held in Niagara Falls, Canada, which contributed to improving national understanding of laws, regulations and ethics in the area of food safety. A MSc student in agricultural diversification, from the University of the West Indies working with the CA, initiated development of Good Agricultural Practice Protocols for two crops (pumpkins and hot peppers) of export significance. A cost/benefit analysis on these improved techniques will also be done.

### **SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

The CA continued to focus on strengthening the Network of Rural Women Producers. As a result, the Network took the initiative in a number of programs, including disbursements of loans from the Revolving Credit Fund and participation in exhibitions as part of market promotions. It also initiated the commemoration of World Rural Women's Day with an Awards Ceremony/Seminar that will become an annual national event.

The Ministry of Agriculture was assisted in implementing its Agriculture Sector Plan through the successful establishment of a working group to develop action plans and strategies in areas of youth in agriculture, gender and co-operatives. This intervention also enhanced the Ministry's commitment to the Women in Agriculture Program. The publication entitled *A Gender Sensitive Agricultural Extension Methodology* was disseminated. The Pt. Coco Agricultural Association Co-operative received technical cooperation services to support the development of a multi-purpose processing facility.

Support continued to be provided to the dairy sector through the National Dairy Committee. The CA initiated action among dairy farmers for establishing a milk-processing facility, developing two demonstration farms and providing training on the use of mulberry, a leguminous forage, and on small-scale milk pasteurization.

## **TRAINING AND EDUCATION**

In keeping with the government's emphasis on distance learning, IICA opened its Agricultural Distance Learning Centre in Trinidad and Tobago in March 2001. Work is underway to link it with existing government and university facilities in order to improve nation-wide coverage. National capacity was developed through two training workshops on the preparation of multi-media courseware. The courses promoted included Farm Management for Owners, Managers and Technicians (3 separate courses); Organic Farming for Entrepreneurs; An Introduction to E-Commerce; Health and Occupational Safety; and Interactive Information and Extension Agricultural Training.

In 2001, IICA signed an agreement with the University of the West Indies to support postgraduate research students. The aim is to contribute to building national and regional research capacities and to strengthen efforts to resolve constraints on the agricultural sector. In addition to this formal arrangement, IICA also provides student internships on an annual basis; in 2001, it hosted three summer interns.

## **INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION**

Trinidad and Tobago, through national libraries with agricultural and rural development sections (including the MFPMR, UWI, CARDI, and NALIS) participates actively in and benefits from the Agricultural Information and Documentation System for the Americas (SIDALC). In addition, the CA now has an updated active Webpage.

## ACRONYMS

ACP	African, Caribbean and Pacific
ADLC	Agricultural Distance Learning Centre
ADLTC	Agri-Distance Learning Training Centre
APSA	Animal Production and Health Agent
APT	Associate Professional Trainee
BAA	Bahamas Agribusiness Association
BADMC	Barbados Agricultural Development and Marketing Corporation
BAS	Barbados Agricultural Society
BBSFA	Black Bay Small Farmers Association
BSE	Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy
C/LAA	Caribbean/Latin American Action
CA	Cooperation Agency
CABA	Caribbean AgriBusiness Association
CACHE	Caribbean Council of Higher Education in Agriculture
CADLC	Caribbean Agro-Entrepreneurs Distance Learning Centre
CAHFSA	Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency
CaRC	Caribbean Regional Centre
CARDI	Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CBO	community based organisation
CDB	Caribbean Development Bank
CEDAF	Centre of Development of Agriculture and Forestry
CET	Common External Tariff
CFCS	Caribbean Food Crops Society
CFF	Carambola Fruit Fly
CFIA	Caribbean Fruit Industry Association
CIDI	Inter-American Council for Integral Development
CNIRD	Caribbean Network of Integrated Rural Development
CNRWP	Caribbean Network of Rural Women Producers
CORRAL	Plant and Animal Disease Surveillance Information System
CPA	Caribbean Poultry Association
CPACC	Caribbean Planning for Adaptation to Global Climate Change
CPEC	Caribbean Regional Human Resource Development programme for Economic Competitiveness
CPPC	Caribbean Plant Protection Commission
CRA	Caribbean Rice Association
CRIDNET	Caribbean Rice Industry Development Network
CRNM	Caribbean Regional Negotiating Machinery
CSF	classical swine fever
CUDO	Clozier United Development Organization
CWA	Caribbean Week of Agriculture
DNCW	Dominica National Council for Women

ECSS	Eastern Caribbean States Secretariat
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FAVA/CA	Florida Association of Voluntary Agencies for Caribbean Action
FMD	Foot and Mouth Disease
FTAA	Free Trade Area of the Americas
GAB	Grenada Association of Beekeepers
GAIN	Guyana Agricultural Information Network
GAP	Good Agricultural Practices
GARDC	Gilbert Agricultural Rehabilitation and Development Centre
GBDS	Grenada Bureau of Standards
GMO	Genetically Modified Organism
GRENCODA	Grenada Community Development Agency
HACCP	Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
IICA	Trinidad and Tobago Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture
IPR	Intellectual Property Rights
JAD	Junta Agroempresarial Dominicana
JADIN	Jamaica Agricultural Documentation Information Network
JB I	Jamaica Bauxite Institute
KNA	Kalinago Nutrition Association
MARD	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
MAT	Male Annihilation Technique
MFCL	Ministry of Fisheries, Crops and Livestock
MFPMR	Ministry of Food Production and Marine Resources
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MoAF	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
NAHFSA	National Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency
NALIS	National Library and Information Service
NARI	National Agricultural Research Institute
NCST	Negotiation of Bio-prospecting Contracts
NGO	Non-Government Organisation
OAS	Organisation of American States
OECS	Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States
PROCICARIBE	Caribbean Research, Science and Technology Networking System
QAS	Question and Answer Service
RADA	Rural Agricultural Development Authority
RPPPU	Regional Projects, Planning and Programming Unit
RWN	Rural Women's Network
SIDALC	Agricultural Information and Documentation System for the Americas
SIRG	Summit Implementation Resource Group
SPS	Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
UWI	University of the West Indies
WTO	World Trade Organisation



**CA IN ANTIGUA & BARBUDA**

c/o OAS  
Cor. Fort Road and Luther George Place  
P.O. Box 1552, St. John's

**ANTIGUA**

Tel: 1 268 462 6119  
Fax: 1 268 462 6118  
E-mail: [iica@candw.ag](mailto:iica@candw.ag)

**CA IN BAHAMAS**

Centreville Professional Plaza  
8<sup>th</sup> Terrace and Collins Avenue, Suite 5  
P.O. Box 6205  
Nassau

**BAHAMAS**

Tel: 1 242 325 8800  
Fax: 1 242 325 8803  
E-mail: [iica@batelnet.bs](mailto:iica@batelnet.bs)

**CA IN BARBADOS**

Dalmeny, Pine Hill  
P.O. Box 705-C  
St. Michael, Bridgetown

**BARBADOS**

Tel: 1 246 427 4740/3  
Fax: 1 246 429 3509  
E-mail: [sprescod@iica.com.bb](mailto:sprescod@iica.com.bb)

**CA IN DOMINICA**

c/o Division of Agriculture  
Botanical Gardens  
Roseau

**DOMINICA**

Tel: 1 767 448 4502  
Fax: 1 767 448 5898  
E-mail: [iicadm@cwdom.dm](mailto:iicadm@cwdom.dm)

**CA IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

Esquina Fray Ciprano de Utrera  
Centro de los Heroes  
Apartado 711, Santo Domingo

**DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

Tel: 1 809 533 7522/2797; 532 9752  
Fax: 1 809 532 5312  
E-mail: [jmendez@iicard.org](mailto:jmendez@iicard.org)

**CA IN GRENADA**

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Campbell Building  
The Villa, P.O. Box 228  
St. George's

**GRENADA**

Tel: 1 473 440 5547  
Fax: 1 473 440 4186; 453 6314  
E-mail: [iicagda@caribsurf.com](mailto:iicagda@caribsurf.com)

**CA IN GUYANA**

Lot 18, Brickdam  
P.O. Box 10-1089  
Starbroek, Georgetown

**GUYANA**

Tel: 011 592 226 3413/226 8347/226 8835  
Fax: 011 592 225 8358

**CA IN HAITI**

Iere Impasse Lavaud No. 14  
B.P. 2020  
Port au Prince

**HAITI**

Tel: 011 509 245 3616/3634/2778  
Fax: 011 509 245 4034  
E-mail: [iica@acn2.net](mailto:iica@acn2.net); [ideal@acn2.et](mailto:ideal@acn2.et)

**CA IN JAMAICA**

Hope Gardens  
P.O. Box 349  
Kingston 6

**JAMAICA**

Tel: 1 876 927 0020 / 4780  
Fax: 1 876 702 4781  
E-mail: [iicajam@cwjamaica.com](mailto:iicajam@cwjamaica.com)

**CA IN ST. KITTS/NEVIS**

c/o Ministry of Agriculture  
P.O. Box 848, La Guerite  
Basseterre

**ST. KITTS**

Tel: 1 869 465 5104  
Fax: 1 869 465 8908  
E-mail: [iicastkn@caribsurf.com](mailto:iicastkn@caribsurf.com)

**CA IN ST. LUCIA/ECOS**

Block A, NIS Building  
Waterfront  
P.O. Box 1223, Castries

**ST. LUCIA**

Tel: 1 758 451 6760/1  
Fax: 1 758 451 6774  
E-mail: [iica@candw.lc](mailto:iica@candw.lc)

**CA IN ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES**

c/o OAS, Granby Street  
P.O. Box 654  
Kingstown

**ST. VINCENT**

Tel: 1 784 457 2698  
Fax: 1 784 457 2122  
E-mail: [iica@caribsurf.com](mailto:iica@caribsurf.com)

**CA IN SURINAME**

Cultuurtuinlaan  
Oude Directeurswoning Boven  
P.O. Box 1895, Paramaribo

**SURINAME**

Tel: 011 597 410 861/951 710  
Fax: 011 597 410 727  
E-mail: [iica@sr.net](mailto:iica@sr.net)

**CA IN TRINIDAD & TOBAGO**

P.O. Box 1318  
3 Herbert Street, Newtown  
Port of Spain

**TRINIDAD & TOBAGO**

Tel: 1 868 628 4403/4078/4079  
Fax: 1 868 628 4562