



Achievements 2022

The Bahamas



- The Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) supported the Commonwealth of The Bahamas with financial and logistical resources to enable officials to represent The Bahamas at critical international meetings, including:
 - the meeting in Italy of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, a joint UN body that codifies and harmonizes international food safety standards;
 - the Africa-Americas Ministerial Summit in Costa Rica, where ministerial officials from over 40 Latin American, Caribbean and African countries strengthened bi-regional cooperation to help address global food security and productivity challenges;
 - the regional workshop “Strengthening the Foundation for a Climate Responsive Agricultural Sector in the Caribbean” in Saint Lucia, which raised awareness of and promoted the use of innovative tools to help inform climate action in the agriculture sector of The Bahamas; and
 - the regional workshop “Agriculture Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Improvement Action Plans in Trinidad and Tobago”, aimed at prioritizing funding for an evidence-based, inter-sectoral strategy to transform The Bahamas’ agriculture into a “low-emission” sector.
- IICA continues to encourage nationals and tourists to support local agriculture and producers through the “Buy Fresh, Buy Local, Buy Bahamian” campaign. The goal of the program is to increase domestic self-sustainability, heighten public awareness of domestic agriculture, boost the country’s economic development and expand opportunities for farmers. A second billboard of the “Buy Local” campaign, featuring local farmers with local produce, was posted at R.M. Baily Park, a high-traffic area, which has allowed for reaching thousands of viewers each week.
- The IICA in The Bahamas continues to provide logistical and technical support to The Bahamas Network of Rural Women Producers (BAHNROP), as well as host their monthly meetings.
- The Institute supported a National Validation Workshop to assess the readiness of The Bahamas to carry out climate change programming at the national level. Two GHG training sessions were also organized together with the Ministry of Agriculture and delivered to extension officers and farmers. Additionally, an initial national stakeholder inventory of climate activities was developed.
- The Institute successfully developed and delivered the GEF Inception Report to the Government of



The Bahamas. It included an agricultural work plan to address management effectiveness in protected areas, namely:

- inadequate integration of protected areas into broader landscape planning; and
 - threats to protected areas, including invasive alien species, habitat degradation, and pollution from agricultural farms that border the protected areas.
- A Bahamian farmer who promotes resilient agriculture and efforts to increase local food production and consumption to reduce the dependence on food imports in the Caribbean, was recognized as a “Leader of Rurality”¹ of the Americas by IICA.
 - IICA was selected to participate in events aimed at increasing investment into The Bahamas and establishing partnerships with local entrepreneurs and small businesses, such as:
 - Diplomatic Week 2022, where the Institute delivered a presentation on effective

multilateralism in the 21st century to resident diplomats and senior officials.

- A series of demonstrations of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) for senior government officials, aimed at highlighting the ways in which UAVs can assist in natural disaster recovery and agricultural development. One of the world’s largest publicly traded UAV companies and a private UAV company with experience in inter-island delivery traveled to New Providence for two days of demonstrations and high-level meetings with government officials and private sector representatives.
- Alongside various partners, including The Bahamas Agriculture and Marine Science Institute and the Ministry of Agriculture, Marine Resources and Family Island Affairs, IICA proudly sponsored a float in the 2022 Junkanoo Parade to celebrate The Bahamas’ 50th Anniversary of Independence.

1. The “Soul of Rurality” award is an initiative by the agency specialized in agricultural and rural development to pay tribute to men and women who are leaving their mark and making a difference in the rural communities of the Americas, a key region for food and nutritional security and the environmental sustainability of the planet.