



Significant achievements in 2017

Agriculture Opportunity for development in the Americas

Suriname

- The knowledge capacities of forty-two members of the Suriname Forum for Youth in Agriculture (SURAFY) were strengthened through training in food processing and value added, proposal writing and project management for improvement and expansion in services provided to youth in order to facilitate their inclusion and participation in agriculture. These interventions were facilitated by IICA's inclusion project.
- 22 Women Producers improved their knowledge capacity and skills in the use of Web. 2.0 tools for the online promotion and marketing of their products and services and networking among various clusters of the Suriname Network of Rural Women Producers (SUNRWP), and with other women organizations as part of initiatives facilitating greater inclusion and participation of excluded groups into mainstream marketing and distribution channels. The interventions are part of a series of sustained actions targeted at rural women, and particularly indigenous groups, under IICA's inclusion project.
- Seven agroprocessed products were launched (Cassava cereal –*Kwakagron*; Cassava Marinade Sauce-*Kadekra*; Acai pulp- *Cottica Podosiri*; Cassava Bread; Cassava and Wheat Flour Composite Bread; Handicraft), from the Suriname Network of Rural Women Producers (SUNRWP) members in the local market of Suriname, improved with new labels and packaging which complies with international standards that allow them access to local supermarkets and export markets. The launch was done through a major conference and mini national exhibition held for that purpose and hosted by SUNRWP. These actions, financed under IICA's inclusion project, have led to increased local orders and consumption of many these products. In the case of the Cassava cereal sold under the brand name *Kwakagron*, this has attracted a major order to supply the Surinamese ethnic market in Holland.
- Strengthening capacities and facilitation of six indigenous rural communities in the interior of Suriname in moving from shifting agricultural production systems to sedentary and sustainable agricultural production systems for improved food and nutrition security and greater inclusion into mainstream agriculture marketing and distributions networks in Suriname. These interventions were facilitated by IICA (with support from the inclusion project), in collaboration with the local NGO Ecosystems 2000.
- Access to potable water was provided to a population of six hundred and thirty-five residents from six rural villages located in the hinterland of Suriname through the installation of rainwater harvesting systems with funding support from the Australian Direct Aid Programme and counterpart funding from the IICA Inclusion project, and in collaboration with the Ministry of Regional Development. The object was to mitigate the negative impacts of mercury-contaminated water sources from gold mining activities and extended drought events brought about by climate change.
- IICA facilitated the introduction to and strengthening of local capacities in permaculture utilizing Perone Hive Technology for twenty-two Bee keepers and two Agricultural Extension Officers in Suriname for productivity enhancement and climate change adaptation, with funding support from the Australian Direct Aid Programme and counterpart funding from IICA's family farming project and in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries.
- The associative processes of ten agro-cooperatives representing five hundred and twenty members were strengthened for improved governance, management and operations, through increased knowledge capacities in leadership, organizational

governance, skills training management and operational procedures for agro-cooperatives and field visits. These series of activities were facilitated under IICA's family farming project and in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries.

- IICA strengthened the knowledge capacities of forty-seven rural farmers, agricultural technicians, and university students, through the establishment of demonstration plots and exercises on rehabilitation of soils degraded through gold mining activities, for conversion to agricultural use, as part of resilience building initiatives for Suriname. This action was financed under IICA's resilience project and with support from the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries.
- IICA established drip and sprinkler micro-irrigation and rain water harvesting demonstration systems for capacity building in agriculture smart technologies and innovation and facilitated training in climate smart water harvesting and irrigation technologies for adaptation to climate change for forty vegetable farmers in the major vegetable growing area of Weg

naar Zee. These interventions were made possible through project funding support from the European Union through the United Nations Development Programme-Global Climate Change Adaptation Plus programme, with IICA as the executing agency for the project, and working in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries.

- IICA, through its resilience project, facilitated the strengthening of knowledge capacities in the public sector agencies responsible for the environment, natural resource management and agriculture, through a series of virtual forums in climate change and climate change adaptation thematic areas. Those benefitting included representatives from the Center for Agricultural Research in Suriname (CELOS); the Ministry for Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries (LVV); Anton de Kom University of Suriname (AdekUS); Natural Disaster Emergency Agency (NCCR); United Nations Development Programme- Global Climate Change Adaptation Programme (UNDP-GCCA+); and the National Institute for Environmental Development in Suriname (NIMOS).



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