

Beginning the 21st Century

Promotion of Rural Development and Agribusiness

Strategic areas:

- Help in preparing for free trade and joining the global market
- Promote sustainability of hillside farming systems and watershed management
- Support agri-business micro entrepreneurs
- Facilitate cooperation and international exchange of technology between Jamaica, the Caribbean and Latin America

Projects:

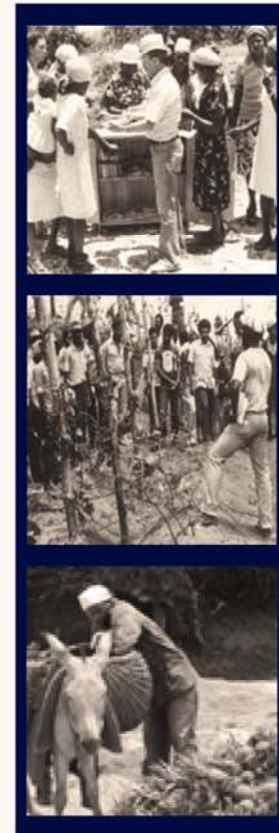
- Recovery of Mined-out Bauxite Soils for Goat Production in Mocho, Clarendon
- Walkerswood Agricultural Support Project
- Strengthen Competitive Advantage of Primary Producers, Focusing on Rural Women in Agriculture
- Farmer-to-Farmer Programme
- USAID Hurricane Relief Assistance for Agricultural Recovery in Jamaica
- OAS Agro Tourism - Strengthening Tourism through Linkages with Agriculture in the Caribbean
- Charles Town Bee Keeping Project
- CFNI-JSIF -Elim Agricultural Support Project



**Inter-American Institute for
Cooperation on Agriculture**

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A brief history of IICA in Jamaica





IICA Plants its Roots in Jamaica

1970's: The Beginning

In 1975, Jamaica became the first English-speaking Caribbean member state of the Inter-American Institute for Agricultural Sciences (IICA), joining Cuba, Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

The country programme for Jamaica was a mix of defined projects and a series of short term activities.

Projects:

- Simon Bolivar Fund Project "All Sides Pilot Hillside Agricultural Project"
- USAID "Pindars River/Two Meeting Project"

Several short term activities such as:

- Facilitation of the attendance of Jamaican personnel to scientific meetings
- Observation tours
- Provision of specialists to study and advise on agricultural problems

1980's: A Decade of Development

This period ushered in a new Director General, Medium Term Plan (MTP), and new arrangements for more active participation of member countries in influencing the work of the Institute.

Projects:

- Assistance to the Black River Upper Morass Development Company
- Upgrade Antillean countries' ability to provide animal health services (regional)
- Establish Information and Alert System including procedures for animal diseases (regional)
- Training in plant quarantine services (regional)
- Cropping Systems Project
- Small Enterprise Development Project
- Support for Planning and Management of Rural Development
- Support in Generation and Transfer of Technology
- Cassava Production and Development Project



1990's: Support Services for Research and Extension of Government Agencies

Projects:

- Generation and Transfer of Technology Project
- Rural Development and Farm Management Project
- Farm Management Training and Generation of Information
- Hillside Agriculture Sub-project
- Small Farmers Hillside Land Use
- Rio Grande Valley Dasheen Project
- Morant Yallahs Valley Watershed Project

The Office also assisted the public sector to improve its capability to deliver research, extension and rural development services.

Projects:

- Promote diversification and sustainability in domestic agriculture especially on hillsides
- Complement MINAG efforts and USAID, through workshops and technical assistance, to reorganize management of agricultural research and extension
- Improve RADA's operational capability through advancing operations and project design capabilities
- Support diversification and export of non-traditional agricultural crops such as papaya and mini-set yams