



IICA Strategy for

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

2014-2018



A. INTRODUCTION

The IICA country strategy (ICS) for Trinidad and Tobago outlines a comprehensive plan of action for addressing the needs or demands of the many stakeholders along the agrifood sector. The strategies are constructed within the general framework of the IICA's Medium Term Plan (MTP) 2014-2018. In essence, the ICS reflects the Institute's Inter-thematic and Multi-level work which the IICA Office in Trinidad and Tobago will be undertaking during the period 2014-2018. Operationally, the ICS defines areas that IICA will be concentrating its efforts and capabilities in addressing the demands and needs of stakeholders in the sector.

Four (4) instruments of Technical Corporation will be used for implementing the national technical corporation programme for addressing the needs and demands of Trinidad and Tobago in the areas of agriculture and food and nutrition security. These instruments include four (4) Flagship Projects; projects financed with External Resources; Rapid Response Actions and the Technical Cooperation Fund.

B. METHODOLOGY

The demands and needs to be addressed by the Office, were determined through a process of wide ranging consultations with officials of the Ministry of Food Production, other key line Ministries, State Agencies as well as with representatives of producer organizations, community based organizations, the private sector and civil society organizations (Annex 1).

During these consultations, stakeholders identified priority areas for possible intervention. The Annual Accountability Seminar was used as an important forum for obtaining feedback on the work of the Institute in Trinidad and Tobago and to ascertain strategic areas of focus for future programming.

In addition, specific meetings, focus group sessions and consultations held to assist in defining the actions at the national level under the 2 EU-funded Projects – the Agriculture Policy Programme and the Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Project were also extremely useful in articulating national priorities in a number of important areas. The Office also prepared and presented a document to the Ministry of Food Production which summarized the new approaches to be adopted by the Institute in engaging with its clients and in the delivery of its technical corporation programmes through the various instruments for Technical Corporation.

The office was also guided in its selection of projects by the Food Production Action Plan of the Ministry of Food Production 2012-2015 which outlines specific areas of focus of the Ministry. The Public Sector Investment Programme of the Ministry of Food Production was another key source of information from which the needs of the sector were identified.

The above-mentioned seminars, meetings, consultations and focus group discussions were instrumental in facilitating the identification of needs and demands which could be accommodated within the framework of the IICA Medium Term Plan 2014-2018 and resource capability of the Office.

C. IICA COUNTRY STRATEGY

(i) ANALYSIS OF THE STATE OF THE SECTOR

Notwithstanding the relatively low contribution of the sector to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and employment, the agricultural sector continues to be an important strategic sector and has been identified as one of the pillars which will drive diversification of the economy of Trinidad and Tobago. The Agricultural sector contributed approximately 0.7 % of the country's gross domestic product in 2012 and accounted for an estimated 3.2 % of the total work force. The sector was expected to grow by 5.1 % in 2013 (Review of the Economy, 2013). This sub-sector was projected to contract by 4.9 % in 2012, following a negligible decline of 1.0 % in 2011. The export agriculture sector was also expected to contract by 19.6 % in 2012.

Over the years, the traditional sub-sectors of importance such as sugar, rice, cocoa, citrus and dairy have all experienced significant decline which has led to the sector being somewhat dominated by the more non-traditional crop activities – vegetables, roots and tubers, fruits - as well as selected areas of livestock activity such as the poultry and pork sub-sectors. This structural change in the type of agricultural activity has been accompanied by declines in agricultural exports which has been largely based on traditional commodities.

The Food Crisis of 2008 has, however, resulted in increased emphasis being placed on enhancing food security and in particular on reducing the heavy dependence on food imports which currently stand at approximately TT\$ 4 billion annually. Programmes targeted at increasing local production of selected commodities to substitute for imports have therefore assumed greater prominence over the past 5 years. Some emphasis has also been placed on resuscitating the more traditional cocoa, rice and citrus industries with particular focus on increasing competitiveness and value added processing. Efforts have been made to address access to land and improve land tenure arrangements as well as to improve access to financing and labour by producers in the agricultural sector. The agricultural incentive regime has been reviewed and enhanced in an effort to encourage production of targeted commodities as articulated in the National Food Production Plan 2012 – 2015¹.

Based on the aforementioned programmes and a somewhat improved environment for engaging in agriculture, the sector in Trinidad and Tobago is well poised for take-off. The period 2008 – present has therefore provided an opportunity for Government and stakeholders to reposition sector towards a growth path. A profile of the crop and livestock sub-sectors follows.

(a) Profile of the crop sub-sector:

Cocoa: Approximately 600,000 kg are currently harvested annually. Local cocoa is regarded as a fine/ flavor cocoa. Approximately 95 % of local production is exported to Europe, Japan and the US. Production has progressively declined over the years.

¹ Ministry of Food Production. 2014. National Food Production Action Plan 2012-2015. Ministry of Food Production, Land and Marine Affairs. Trinidad and Tobago.

Vegetables: Principally cultivated are: Tomatoes; sweet peppers; cucumbers; cabbage; hot peppers; lettuce; patchoi; melongene; bodi beans; pumpkin and watermelons. Most of these vegetables are produced, in sufficient quantities, for the domestic market, with relatively smaller quantities exported. Major production comes from small farmers with 3-5 hectares of land. Some vegetables, mainly hot peppers, enter the export market through North America and Canada.

Root crops: Principally cultivated are: Cassava; sweet potatoes; dasheen and to a lesser extent eddoes; tannia and yams. These crops are mainly produced for the local market. Production mostly takes place on small holdings 3-5 hectares.

Rice production: The State has recently taken initiatives to revise the rice sub-sector with the establishment of a rice development committee and commitment to support all aspects of production, including agronomy, improved seed material, technology and extension services. Four thousand hectares of rice are to be established in the short term.

Tree crops: These crops include: bananas and plantains. They are produced in relatively smaller quantities compared to quantities imported.

Fruits: A wide variety of fruits are produced but very few large commercial orchards exist, save mangoes, citrus, coconuts, pineapple and papaya. Production of citrus has progressively declined over the years: an estimated 71,450 kg of grapefruit and 146,904 kg of oranges were produced in 2012.

(b) Profile of the Livestock, Poultry and Aquaculture Sub-Sectors

The principal types of livestock reared include cattle, pigs, sheep, goats and poultry (broilers and layers). Rabbit production is done on a small scale.

The dairy subsector: Production is concentrated in three areas where farm size range from 8-12 hectares. The output of milk has declined from an estimated 10 million kg, 10 years ago to approximately 4 million kg annually at present. Most of the milk is purchased by Nestle Trinidad Ltd for processing into value added products.

The beef sub-sector: There are no large scale commercial beef operations. Beef sold on the market essentially is a by-product of the dairy industry. The majority of the beef (90-95 %) consumed comes from imported sources.

The pork sub-sector: Most of the fresh pork is produced by three large integrated farms. Those farms also produce a range of value-added products. Approximately 1.5 million kg of pork are produced annually. Pork is also imported, but mainly for processing.

The small ruminant sub-sector: Sheep and goat rearing is largely carried out by small farmers, however, there are a few large scale commercial operations with modern infrastructure and technology. It is always difficult to have accurate data on this sub-sector as a result of its back-yard subsistence nature. Output of goat meat, however, for 2012 was estimated at 20,909 kg and mutton production in that year was estimated at 129,860 kg. Approximately 90 % of mutton and goat meat consumed comes from imported sources.

The poultry industry: Poultry meat is produced in an integrated system which is controlled by three poultry companies which provide contracts to farmers to grow out broiler. The integrated companies provide the inputs for production and guarantee the

farmers a market for their broilers at the end of the grow-out period. Current production is estimated at 17.3 million kg. With the reduction of tariff levels more poultry meat is imported into the country.

The Table Egg subsector: The local table egg industry supplies all the eggs consumed locally (for non-industry usage). Powdered or egg in processed form, however, is imported by food industries.

The Aquaculture industry: Tilapia is the major type of fish reared in the fresh water environment. The industry is in its infant stage with attempts being made, through the Ministry of Food Production and its association to expand its structure and output.

(ii) INTERNATIONAL VISION AND HEMISPHERIC TRENDS IN AGRICULTURE

The development of the agricultural sector in Trinidad and Tobago has been influenced by a number of significant global, hemispheric and regional developments and trends in the food and agriculture sector. As an active member of important global, hemispheric and regional bodies, Trinidad and Tobago has adopted policies and programmes which are in conformity with its obligations in various fora. Trinidad and Tobago has embraced trade liberalization and has therefore remained very open from a trade perspective. In such an environment, achieving international competitiveness is paramount if domestically produced agrifood items are to compete on domestic, regional and international markets. The adoption of new and improved technologies which increase productivity and reduce the high costs of production in countries such as Trinidad and Tobago are of paramount importance. In this connection, building competitive and sustainable value chains around strategic products is a fundamental pillar of the agricultural development process.

An integral dimension of participating effectively in global, hemispheric and regional markets is the capacity to adopt modern sanitary and phytosanitary systems and practices which ensure that agrifood products can meet standards established by trading partners and buyers. In addition, changing consumer patterns and emerging trends in consumption have become major drivers impacting not only on product quality but also on the production, marketing and trading systems used in responding to consumer demands.

Trinidad and Tobago has also sought to engage at the multilateral, hemispheric and regional levels to foster increased trade and economic relations with many countries in the hemisphere and beyond. While significant emphasis has been placed on attracting investment in areas such as oil and gas and financial services, the agricultural sector has also been identified as an important area for increased foreign direct investment.

Trinidad and Tobago has therefore adopted an open and outward looking approach to economic development based on a liberalized trading regime and the adoption of an aggressive export development focus based on the exploitation of high quality and unique products including agrifood products such as fine flavoured cocoa. The development of the agricultural sector must therefore be viewed within this broad economic development thrust which is based on full and effective participation in global, hemispheric and regional fora and trading arrangements.

The major challenges as they relate to the MTP include:

- Increasing agricultural productivity and competitiveness

- Coping with increased incidence of pest and disease to satisfy the needs of a more demanding consumer
- Improving post-harvest management
- Increasing the levels of public and private investment in the sector
- Developing production models that increase production but with less impact on the environment
- Coping with the phenomenon of climate change and its impact on agriculture
- The tendencies of young persons to pursue non-agricultural jobs
- Developing and implementing consistent policies for agriculture
- To increase the participation of farmers in agricultural chains
- Increasing the use of appropriate technology and innovations in agriculture.

iii. CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN AGRICULTURE IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

(a) Challenges

The output and performance of the agricultural sector varies from year to year and is generally constrained by several factors, particularly by:

- ***A shortage of labour:*** most farmers have indicated that they cannot obtain hired labour, even when they offer wages that are competitive with other sectors. The shortage has been compounded within recent times by the availability of employment opportunities, within communities, under government's social programmes.
- ***Lack of water for irrigation:*** many farmers do not have access to irrigation water. Production is, therefore, limited in many areas to the six months of the wet season: June to December.
- ***Lack of adequate drainage:*** a cause of widespread flooding and extensive damage to crop and livestock in the flatter areas of the country where most production take place.
- ***High level of larceny of crop and livestock:*** this is a major disincentive to continued production and investments in the sector
- ***Slow pace of technology and innovation transfer to the farming sector:*** Most operations on farms are carried out by use of traditional methods. For example, many farmers have started greenhouse/ undercover operations but have discovered that the Ministry of Food Production does not have resource personnel to provide guidance and support, to the extent that many of these operations have failed.
- ***Issues related to regularization of land tenancy:*** significant numbers of farmers are cultivating lands owned by the state without proper title. Such farmers, therefore, do not make the requisite investments on the farm for sustainable production and do not have access to subsidies as offered by the state.
- ***Slow entry by young people into the sector:*** very often they experience difficulty in obtaining land and required capital to get into production.

- **Competition from imported products:** Imported agricultural products are becoming more prevalent on the local market
- **Inadequate facilities and resources for testing and monitoring:** conditions under which food is produced and stored so that safer food is produced for consumption
- **Difficulty in sourcing quality planting material and other genetic material:** good vigour and high yielding germplasm material required.

(b) Opportunities for Agriculture in Trinidad and Tobago

Notwithstanding the above-mentioned challenges, there are tremendous opportunities for the repositioning and sustained growth and development of the agrifood sector in Trinidad and Tobago. Global developments in recent years have impacted significantly on how the agricultural sector is perceived. The potential for the development of the agricultural sector is being driven by the following factors:-

- An annual food import bill amounting to in excess of TT\$4 billion which represents a significant opportunity for import substitution based on increased domestic production;
- Growing public recognition of the importance of achieving an adequate level of national food security and increasing commitment of consumers to support buy local campaigns;
- The availability of superior quality products such as fine/ flavoured cocoa which provide an opportunity for the marketing of these products internationally;
- The presence of specialized national, regional and international institutions with technical, human and financial resources to drive and support the development of the agrifood sector;
- The relatively low cost of energy which provides scope for the development of value-added processing operations based on local primary production and regional supplies;
- The thrust by Government to achieve economic diversification with the agricultural sector being identified as a sector for special attention;
- The scope for linking agriculture with industry, with tourism, with the environment, with the health sector, with rural development and other sectors of the economy;
- The high level of commitment and dedication to the agrifood sector demonstrated by farmers, fisher-folk and other stakeholders in the sector;
- The pivotal role played by agriculture in areas other than food production such as natural resource management including watershed management, pursuit of a low carbon development strategy and in conserving our biodiversity.

iv. Needs and Request for Technical Cooperation

Table 1 provides a detailed listing of needs and or requests identified through consultations with stakeholders and review of official documents (National Food Production Plan 2012 – 2015, Public Sector Investment Programme of the Ministry of Food Production, 2014-2015 Economic Proposals for the Agricultural sector). This

detailed listing is analyzed in relation to the various contributions and strategic objectives set out in the MTP.

Table 1: Needs and requests for Technical Corporation and their contribution to the MTP and strategic objectives, source

Topics	Institutional Needs and Requests	Contribution to the MTP	Relationship to Strategic Objectives
AGRICULTURAL CHAINS	Preparation of sector studies and policies	A	To improve agriculture's contribution to food security
	Analysis of the feasibility of agricultural production	B	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Development of investment profiles	D	To improve agriculture's contribution to food security
	Improvement of the efficiency and management and sustainability of producer groups	D	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Improving the financial management of agricultural enterprises	D	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Development of appropriate incentive programmes for the sector	D	To improve agriculture's contribution to food security
	Training for staff of the MFP to be able to develop sustainable farmer groups	A	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Use of participatory extension methods to communicate ecological crop management	A	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Conduct Market research	D	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector

	Improvement in the efficiency and profitability of livestock production	H	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Development of sustainable coconut based enterprises	H	To strengthen agriculture's contribution to the development of territories and the well-being of the rural population
	Training of coconut producers in new techniques of production	H	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Collect data on the productivity and profitability of coconut production	A	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Research the shelf life of bottled coconut water	B	To improve agriculture's contribution to food security
	Promote value added cocoa products	B	To improve agriculture's contribution to food security
	Develop agro-tourism at La Gloria and Mora Valley for the preservation and conservation of the environment	B	To strengthen agriculture's contribution to the development of territories and the well-being of the rural population
	Develop the meat, milk and genetic potential of the Buffalypso	I	To strengthen agriculture's contribution to the development of territories and the well-being of the rural population
	Increase the production and productivity of the apiculture industry	H	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Improve technology in bee	A	To strengthen

	abatement		agriculture's contribution to the development of territories and the well-being of the rural population
	Establish a training centre for Livestock farmers	H	To strengthen agriculture's contribution to the development of territories and the well-being of the rural population
	Improvement in the productivity and quality of small ruminant breeding stock	H	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Train small ruminant producers in sustainable production systems	H	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Develop capacities in embryo technologies for small ruminants	H	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Use of bio-technologies to preserve the genetic stock of small ruminants	A	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Promote value added small ruminant products	D	To strengthen agriculture's contribution to the development of territories and the well-being of the rural population
	Encourage the formation and operation of sustainable producer groups	H	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Promote ecological crop management	H	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Train Ministry staff in development of sustainable	H	To strengthen agriculture's

	producer groups		contribution to the development of territories and the well-being of the rural population
	NAMDEVCO to add value to locally grown crops	B	To strengthen agriculture's contribution to the development of territories and the well-being of the rural population
	Commercialization value-added products	H	To improve agriculture's contribution to food security
	Conduct market research	A	To strengthen agriculture's contribution to the development of territories and the well-being of the rural population
	Development of investment profiles	B	To strengthen agriculture's contribution to the development of territories and the well-being of the rural population
	Preparation of business plans and project proposals	D	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Determining the profitability of primary agricultural production	D	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Determining the profitability of agro-processing operations	D	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Greenhouse technology and construction	D	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of

		the agricultural sector
	Post-harvest technology and development of value added products	D To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Development of technological packages for aquaculture and research on feeds	A To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Development of value-added livestock products	H To improve agriculture's contribution to food security
	Linking research efforts to commercial prospects	J To improve agriculture's contribution to food security
	Promotion of new and sustained high value-added industries	H To improve agriculture's contribution to food security
	Design of policies, incentives and strategic plans for the development of selected commodities (cassava, sweet potatoes; small ruminants)	A To improve agriculture's contribution to food security
	Training in the use of methodologies and tools for Institutions to provide better services to stakeholders	D To strengthen agriculture's contribution to the development of territories and the well-being of the rural population
	Assistance to NAMDEVCO to develop tools and programmes to maximize benefits associated with market and financial risks	B To strengthen agriculture's contribution to the development of territories and the well-being of the rural population
	Design programmes for supporting initiatives, contained in the Ministry of Food Production Action	H To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector

	Plan, to improve output of selected commodities		
	Application of methodologies and tools to reduce losses in food	J	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Review of NAMIS	A	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Development of innovative programmes to link producers to market	H	To strengthen agriculture's contribution to the development of territories and the well-being of the rural population
	Review of policies and programmes related to agricultural research and extension functions	A	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
FAMILY FARMING	Development of value-added products, using raw materials from the local livestock and crop sectors	B	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Improvements to the management of producer organizations	D	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Development of the agro-tourism subsector, especially, large cocoa estates	D	To strengthen agriculture's contribution to the development of territories and the well-being of the rural population
	Encourage producer groups to explore the possibility which may exist in their value chain	H	To strengthen agriculture's contribution to the development of territories and the well-being of the rural population
	Improvement in the quality of life of rural people	E	To strengthen agriculture's contribution to the

			development of territories and the well-being of the rural population
	Sensitization of stakeholders on the use of local biodiversity (Cataloguing native spp.)	I	To strengthen agriculture's contribution to the development of territories and the well-being of the rural population
	Promote economically viable models of family agricultural production	E	To strengthen agriculture's contribution to the development of territories and the well-being of the rural population
	Training for rural based women in project design and management and resource mobilization	D	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Training of rural women in mobilizing services from public and private institutions	E	To strengthen agriculture's contribution to the development of territories and the well-being of the rural population
	Technical assistance for rural women and youth for developing cooperatives for production; processing and marketing	E	To strengthen agriculture's contribution to the development of territories and the well-being of the rural population
	Management , harvesting and storage of water	F	To improve agriculture's capacity to mitigate and adapt to climate change and make better use of natural resources

AHFS	Training in Good Agricultural Practices with the aim of National GAP Certification	C	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Establishment of a mandatory citrus quality tree programme	H	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Production of high quality , food safe cocoa beans	C	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Update existing apiculture legislation	A	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Training in GAP for beekeeping industry	C	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Facilitate trade in honey	A	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Collate and map a pollen Index for T&T	B	To strengthen agriculture's contribution to the development of territories and the well-being of the rural population
	Training in GAP and IPM in vegetable production	A & C	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Improvements in the regulatory frameworks for plant and animal health and food safety regulation and for better institutional coordination of health and food safety mechanisms	C	To improve agriculture's contribution to food security
	Participation in WTO SPS and CODEX Committees	C	To improve the productivity and

			competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Training for agro-entrepreneurs on safe, sustainable processing of agricultural products	A	To strengthen agriculture's contribution to the development of territories and the well-being of the rural population
RESILIENCE	Promotion of best agricultural practices that are consistent with acceptable environmental standards	H	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Preparation of a comprehensive disaster management policy framework and disaster risk management plan	G	To improve agriculture's capacity to mitigate and adapt to climate change and make better use of natural resources
	Development of programmes for adaptation to climate change	G	To improve agriculture's capacity to mitigate and adapt to climate change and make better use of natural resources
	Development of policies to support resilience programmes in agriculture	E	To improve agriculture's capacity to mitigate and adapt to climate change and make better use of natural resources
	Training of regulatory personnel and the private sector in risk analysis, quarantine procedures; GAP's; GMP's and HACCP	C	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector
	Development of capacity for anticipating; preparing for; and responding to SPS risks	C	To improve agriculture's capacity to mitigate and adapt to climate change and make better use of natural

			resources
	Development of capacity to develop national plans and programmes to prevent and respond to pests and diseases	A	To improve agriculture's capacity to mitigate and adapt to climate change and make better use of natural resources
INCLUSION	Training for producer groups in business management ; entrepreneurship; marketing processing	D	To improve the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector

V. ICS INSTRUMENTS OF ACTION

The institute will deliver its Technical Cooperation Programmes (TCP) using 4 main instruments:

1. Flagships (FS) Programme will be the backbone for TC in Trinidad and Tobago:

- (i) ***Competitiveness and sustainability of agricultural chains for food security and economic development*** - many of the TCP will fall in this category given that the aim of the MFP National Action Plan 2012-2015 places emphasis on increasing productivity and sustainability of the sector
- (ii) ***Integrated environmental resilience and risk management for agricultural production*** – this is also a very significant area for TCP, given the issues of vulnerability of the sector to pest and disease outbreaks, climate change etc.
- (iii) ***Inclusion in Agriculture and rural areas*** – in this area the institute will continue to build the capacities of women, rural communities and youths to become better entrepreneurs and to link them to markets.
- (iv) ***Productivity and sustainability of family farming for food security and the rural economy*** - This Flag ship project will focus on introducing new technologies and innovation into family farming and on strengthening the extension services

2. Externally Funded Projects: Trinidad and Tobago will benefit from 2 major EU funded projects over the period 2014-2017. These projects will be at the core of the T&T ICS and will include:

(a) The APP which has 3 components:

- (i) Regional Policy and Strategy – which focusses on supporting an enabling, efficient & coordinated regional policy environment for small producers/entrepreneurs (CARICOM as implementing partner)

- (ii) Technology, Research and Development – which focusses on building human capacity, improving stock of genetic material & transforming to ‘climate smart’ agriculture systems (CARDI is the implementing partner)
- (iii) Enterprise and Market Development which focusses on building capacities and enabling networking and effective engagement with markets of small producers/ entrepreneurs (IICA is the implementing partner)

(b) **10TH EDF SPS Project Support to the Caribbean Forum of ACP States in the Implementation of Commitments *Undertaken Under the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA): Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS)* – the project consists of 3 components:**

- (i) Legislation – develop model legislation, protocols, standards, measures and guidelines in the area of AHFS
- (ii) Coordination – develop effective national and regional coordination mechanisms in support of SPS
- (iii) Capacity Building – develop and strengthen the national and or regional regulatory and industry capacity to meet the SPS requirements of international trade.

3. **The Rapid Response Action** – designed to respond to specific request and opportunities that arise in a country or in a group of countries prompted by political, social, or economic changes, environmental emergencies or other emerging issues.

The RRA must meet the following conditions:

- Short term (6 months) action
- Funding up to 50,000 US for operating cost, however, the counterpart institution must provide funds if the request is greater than 10,000 US.
- Must also contribute to the IICA country strategy

4. **FonTC** – Mechanism that will be used to finance pre-investment initiatives to formulate projects aimed at securing external resources and to mobilize new financial resources complementary to the regular funds.

The ICS will respond to requests from the Member States, recognizing the heterogeneity of the hemisphere and the specificities of each region or country, and attempting to reflect the articulation and coordination of IICA’s work at the hemispheric, regional, multinational, and national levels, thereby strengthening the concept of “a Single IICA.” The ICS will adopt a renewed vision of the regional dimension that, although rooted in the current structures, should evolve towards multinational cooperation models and will promote greater articulation with the actors in the agricultural chains and the rural areas. The ICS will define the areas in which IICA should concentrate its efforts and capabilities by means of technical cooperation processes framed by the four proposed instruments of action. The topics will be selected jointly with the relevant actors in the country who

are involved in the agricultural sector, and will include the private sector, academia, etc. over a period of 4 years.

The ICS is the maximum expression of results-based management; these results are expressed in “deliverable products” that IICA must show at the end of the period.

All the technical cooperation projects or activities that are carried out annually in the countries, regardless of the origin of the resources, should lead to the achievement of the objectives defined in the Strategy and respond to the 11 Contributions outlined in the MTP. Once a year, a progress report on the ICS should be given to the national authorities and other counterparts.

Table 2 provides the expected outcomes of the four instruments of technical cooperation as these relate to the needs and requests from all relevant stakeholders.

Table 2: Needs and Requests Aligned to Instruments of Technical Corporation and Expected Outcomes of the Instruments

Institutional Needs and Requests	Expected Outcome: <i>Flagship Project</i>	Expected Outcome : <i>Externally Funded Project (APP & SPS)</i>	Expected Outcome: <i>Rapid Response Action</i>	Expected Outcome: <i>Technical Cooperation Fund</i>
Preparation of sector studies and policies	R1.1 (Chains)			
Analysis of the feasibility of agricultural production	R 2.2 (Chains)			
Development of investment profiles	R2.2 (Chains)			
Development of value-added products, using raw materials from the local livestock and crop sectors	R3.4 (Chains) ER 2.2 (Family Farming)			
Improvement of the efficiency and management and sustainability of producer groups	R3.4 (Chains) ER 1.1 (Family Farming)			
Development of the agro-tourism subsector, especially,	R3.4(Chains) ER 1.1(Family Farming)			

large cocoa estates				
Improving the financial management of agricultural enterprises	R2.2(Chains) ER 1.1(Family Farming)	A3.3.1		
Training in good agricultural practices and farm certification	R3.2(Chains)	ER1 (SPS Project)		
Development of appropriate incentive programmes for the sector	R1.1(Chains)			
Training for staff of the Ministry to be able to develop sustainable farmer groups	R3.1(Chains)	A 3.1.4		
Use of participatory extension methods to communicate ecological crop management	R3.1(Chains)			
Promotion of best agricultural practices that are consistent with acceptable environmental standards	R2.1(Chains)	A 2.1.3 ER1 (SPS Project)		
Improvement in the quality of life of rural people	RE 2.1 (Inclusion)			
Conduct Market research	R2.3 (Chains)	A 3.2.1		
Establishment of a mandatory citrus quality tree programme		ER1 (SPS Project)		
Improvement in the efficiency and profitability of livestock production	R2.1 (Chains)			
Development of sustainable coconut based enterprises	R2.1 (Chains)			
Training of coconut producers in new techniques of	R3.1(Chains)			

production				
Collect data on the productivity and profitability of production	R2.3 (Chains)			
Research the shelf life of bottled coconut water	R3.2 (Chains)			
Promote value added cocoa products i.e. chocolate, truffles, liquors, cocoa powder	R3.4 (Chains)	ER 3 (SPS) A 3.2.1		
Production of high quality, food safe beans	R3.2 (Chains)	ER1 (SPS Project)		
Develop agro-tourism at La Gloria and Mora Valley for the preservation and conservation of the environment	R2.1 (Chains)			
Develop the meat, milk and genetic potential of the Buffalypso				
Update existing apiculture legislation	R1.1 (Chains)	ER1 (SPS Project)		
Increase the production and productivity of the apiculture industry	R3.1 (Chains)			
Improve technology in bee abatement				
Training in GAP for beekeeping industry	R3.2 (Chains)			
Facilitate trade in honey	R1.1 (Chains)	ER3 (SPS Project)	Request was already made	
Collate and map a pollen Index for T&T	R3.1 (Chains)			
Establish a training centre for Livestock farmers	R2.2 (Chains)			
Improvement in the productivity and quality	R3.1 (Chains)			

of small ruminant breeding stock				
Train small ruminant producers in sustainable production systems	R2.1 (Chains)			
Develop capacities in embryo technologies in small ruminants	R3.1 (Chains)			
Use of bio-technologies to preserve the genetic stock of small ruminants	R3.1 (Chains)			
Promote value added small ruminant products	R4.1 (Chains)	A 2.1.1.5		
Encourage the formation and operation of sustainable producer groups	R2.1 (Chains)	A 3.1.4		
Promote ecological crop management	R2.1 (Chains) ER 2.2 (Family Farming)	A2.1.3		
Encourage producer groups to explore the possibility which may exist in their value chain	R4.1 (Chains) ER 3.1 (Family Farming)	A 3.1.1		
Train Ministry staff in development of sustainable producer groups	R4.1 (Chains)	A 3.1.4		
NAMDEVCO to add value to locally grown crops	R3.4 (Chains)			
Training for agro-entrepreneurs on safe, sustainable processing of agricultural products	R3.2 (Chains)			
Commercialize value-added products	R4.1 (Chains)			
Conduct market research	R4.2 (Chains)	A 3.2.1		

Development of investment profiles	R4.2 (Chains)			
Product development	R3.4 (Chains)			
Preparation of business plans and project proposals	R1.1 (Chains)			
Strengthening of groups	R2.1 (Chains) Re 2.1 (Inclusion) RE 2.2 (Family farming)	A 3.1.4		
Determining the profitability of primary agricultural production	R2.2 (Chains)			
Determining the profitability of agro-processing operations	R2.2 (Chains)			
Green house technology and construction		A 2.1.1		
Post-harvest technology and development of value-added products	R3.1 (Chains)	A3.1.4		
Farm certification	R3.2 (Chains)			
Development of technological packages for aquaculture and research on feeds	R3.1 (Chains)			
Development of value-added livestock products	R3.4 (Chains)			
Training in GAP and IPM in vegetable production	R3.2 (Chains)	ER1(SPS Project)		
Linking research efforts to commercial prospects	R4.4 (Chains)			
Preparation of a comprehensive disaster management policy framework and disaster risk management plan	R2.4 (Chains) Re 3.3 (Resilience)	A 2.1.7		
Reproductive biotechnologies to	R3.1 (Chains)			

improve the reproductive performance of dairy cattle				
Application of methodologies and tools to reduce losses in food	R3.1 (Chains)			
Review of NAMIS	R4.2 (Chains)	R 4.2 A3.2.2		
Development of innovative programmes to link producers to market	4.3 (Chains)	R 4.4 A 3.2.1		
Review of policies and programmes related to agricultural research and extension functions	R1.1 (Chains)			
Sensitization of stakeholders on the use of local biodiversity (Cataloguing native spp.)	ER 2.1 (Family Farming)			
Promote economically viable models of family agricultural production	R2.2 (Chains) ER 1.1 (inclusion) ER 2.2 (Family Farming)			
Training for rural based women in project design and management and resource mobilization	R3.1 (Chains) ER 2.2 (Inclusion)			
Training of rural women in mobilizing services from public and private institutions	ER 3.1 (Inclusion) ER 2.2 (Family Farming)			
Technical assistance for rural women and youth for developing cooperatives for production; processing and marketing	R4.3 (Chains) ER 2.2 (Family Farming)			
Development of programmes for	R2.4 (Chains) Re 3.3 (Resilience)	A 2.1.17		

adaptation to climate change				
Development of policies to support resilience programmes in agriculture	R2.4 (Chains) Re 3.3 (Resilience)			
Development of capacity for anticipating; preparing for; and responding to SPS risks	R3.2 (Chains) Re 3.3 (Resilience)	A 2.1.1.7		
Development of capacity to develop national plans and programmes to prevent and respond to pests and diseases	R1.1 (Chains)			

d. Follow-up, Monitoring and Evaluation of the ICS
To be inserted

e. Accountability
To be inserted

APPENDIX 1

LIST OF INSTITUTIONS CONSULTED

ADB	The Agricultural Development Bank
CARIRI	Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute
CSO	Central Statistical Office, Trinidad & Tobago
DAMME	Division of Agriculture, Marine Affairs, Marketing and the Environment, Tobago House of Assembly
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
MFP	Ministry of Food Production
MOLSMED	Ministry of Labour and Small and Micro Enterprise Development
MOH	Ministry of Health, Chemistry Food and Drug Division
MTIIC	Ministry of Trade, Industry, Investment and Communication
NAMDEVCO	National Agricultural Marketing and Development Corporation
NRWPTT	Network of Rural Women Producers Trinidad and Tobago
SFC	Sugarcane Feeds Centre
TTGSS	Trinidad and Tobago Goat and Sheep Society
UWI	The University of the West Indies
	Various Farmer groups

