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THE ROLE OF

THE INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES (IICA)

The Role of the IICA in Caribbean Agricultural Development

The IICA is a specialized agency of the OAS for the agricultural sector. It was founded by the American Governments in 1942 to promote the economic and social development of the respective countries through teaching, training of personnel, research, consultation and communications, as related to the field of agriculture.

The Regional Office for the Antilles Zone coordinates and supervises activities in Barbados, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Dominican Republic, and Trinidad and Tobago. The Head Office is in San José, Costa Rica.

The Areas of Interest and Activity

To assist the American States to stimulate and promote rural development as a means of attaining the general development and well being of the rural sector and to support this effort to:-

- (a) Increase agricultural production and productivity in line with increases in population and purchasing power, especially those products that may offer competition on world markets and those that tend to improve the food diet of the population.
- (b) Increase employment opportunities in the rural sector in proportion to the growth rate of the active rural population.
- (c) Increase the participation of the rural population in development activities, reducing its non-participation to levels that allow for a continuous significant transformation towards equal opportunities for all active members of the rural community.

List of Activities in which Involved at Present and Future Activities Planned

- (a) Information and documentation on Rural Development
- (b) Education for Rural Development
- (c) Research and transfer of Agricultural Technology
- (d) Regional Rural Development
- (e) Agricultural Production, Productivity and Marketing
- (f) Structural Changes and "Campesino" Organization
- (q) Formulation and Administration of Agricultural Policy.

Source of Funding

The Simon Bolivar Fund.