

Communi-**clik**

Breaking News from Florida's International Volunteer Agency



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- **FAVACA TEAM WINS USAID FARMER-TO-FARMER CONTRACT.**
- **FAVACA LINKS WITH AMERICAS BUSINESS FORUM (ABF).**
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- **ENTERPRISE FLORIDA, FTAA MISSIONS TARGET DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, ST. KITTS & NEVIS, TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.**
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- **CLAA MIAMI CONFERENCE TOUTED.**

FAVACA TEAM WINS USAID FARMER-TO-FARMER CONTRACT. A five-year \$1,7 million contract for work in Haiti, Guyana and Jamaica will promote open and competitive economies, improve agricultural productivity, manage natural resources and expand access to economic opportunities for the poor. Lead contractor and veteran collaborator Partners of the Americas (POA) and long-time Tallahassee partner Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU) with University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff, and Alcorn State University, comprise the winning team. FAVACA is no stranger to Farmer-to-Farmer, having provided scores of consultants from 1987 - 1996 under a \$1.2 million sub-contract with Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance (now ACDI/VOCA).

FAVACA LINKS WITH AMERICAS BUSINESS FORUM (ABF). The ABF Symposium, one of the events held during the Free Trade Area of the Americas Ministerial in Miami November 20-21, will serve as a dialogue to maximize synergies and social and economic linkages between the Caribbean and the State of Florida and strengthen the discourse between our communities. FAVACA is one of a handful of private and public institutions organizing this *Symposium on Florida-*

Caribbean Collaborative Development Strategies. According to Governor Jeb Bush, “Hosting the FTAA Ministerial and the Americas Business Forum provides a unique opportunity for Florida to build upon Miami’s position as the undisputed trade capital of the Western Hemisphere, and an ideal place for conducting global business.”

FTAA MIAMI VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT. Miami-Dade residents interested in volunteering logistic support for the Miami FTAA Ministerial November 20-21, 2003 should contact Dave Schmeling at favaca@favaca.org.

ENTERPRISE FLORIDA, FTAA MISSIONS TARGET DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, ST. KITTS & NEVIS. Securing for Miami the Secretariat of the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) in 2005 is a top priority for Florida’s leaders. FAVACA President Julieta Valls has been a delegate in a number of prominent Florida missions fielded by FTAA and Enterprise Florida, the state’s public-private economic development organization, to achieve that goal. The delegations seek to remind neighboring nations that FAVACA’s twenty-one year track record of technical assistance demonstrates the state’s enduring commitment to the region and argues strongly for Florida as the Secretariat site. Since its founding in 1982 FAVACA has provided training and technical assistance to Dominican Republic, Trinidad and Tobago and St. Kitts and Nevis valued at \$2.1 million dollars.

Valls’ missions include: **Dominican Republic** Sept. 15 – 18, with Governor Jeb Bush, Secretary of State Glenda Hood, and 220 Florida business leaders; **Trinidad & Tobago** September 29-30, with Florida FTAA Chairman, Ambassador Chuck Cobb and Executive Director and COO Jorge Arrizurieta; **St. Kitts & Nevis** October 6 to 10 with Mr. Arrizurieta and officials of the Miami International Airport and the St. Kitts/Nevis Florida Association. Florida FTAA sponsored the participation of President Valls in the Trinidad and Tobago and St. Kitts and Nevis missions.

SOUTHCOM, FAVACA COLLABORATE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT. Under a one-year, \$350,000 technical assistance cooperative agreement with the U.S. Southern Command Humanitarian Assistance Program, FAVACA will provide 50 professional exchanges to Central American and Caribbean communities. The goal of the project is to build capacity in emergency management, healthcare, sustainable economic growth, education, and management of natural resources.

CLAA MIAMI CONFERENCE TOUTED. FAVACA is an official collaborating organization for the Caribbean Latin American Action (CLAA) 27th Annual Miami Conference *“Strengthening the Third Border ®”* December 8-10, 2003. Along with Governor Jeb Bush, presenters include Department of Homeland Security Undersecretary for Border and Transportation Security Asa Hutchinson; U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Roger Noriega; Deputy U.S. Trade Representative

Peter Allgeier; U.S. Undersecretary of Commerce Grant Aldonas, and USAID Administrator Andrew Natsios. The event will tackle key challenges faced by small economies of the Caribbean Basin including worsening poverty and increased global competition.

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Promoting social and economic development in the Caribbean
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