the money had come from a foreign bank.

Loans are also needed in the Bahamas to pay for special skills. **The Industrial Training Center** provides such training for young people who want to become welders, mechanics, carpenters or dressmakers, or to acquire special skills. Training centers like these have been set up in The Bahamas using loans from the **World Bank**. This a special bank based in Washington DC, which lends money for development. A country is given 20 years by the World Bank to repay a loan.

Increasing our food supplies

Even though the population of The Bahamas is growing steadily, we must be able to feed everyone. Bahamian farmers and fisherman cannot produce enough to feed us and our visitors, so most of our foods have to be imported from other countries. To increase our local food supply, we need money to develop farmland, crops and livestock, and to train people to have special skills and knowledge.

The government successfully applied to the ***Food and Agriculture Organization*** (FAO), which is an agency of the United Nations, for help with training and development of facilities. New facilities were added to the agricultural station at Gladstone Road Agricultural Complex. Bahamians train here to teach local farmers how to produce more from their land. Experiments are being carried out to find more ways of increasing the production and improving the preservation and distribution of food.

Developing our skills

Other countries help us by lending money. They also help us to develop our skills in other ways:

- Once a bank has lent money for a project, it may send people with special skills-**specialists-** to help supervise the project. While they are here, these specialists pass on their skills to Bahamians.
- Bahamians may be offered special awards or **scholarship,** to learn new skills in other countries.
- The World Bank awards loans that allow Bahamian teachers to be trained in special skills.
- Doctors and nurses come from other countries to work in our hospitals and to train Bahamians to take over their job when they return to their own country.
- A special apprenticeship scheme has been set up by the government for grade 12 students. They are attached to various governments programs so that they can learn a trade.

LIVEWORKSHEETS