# Linking Agriculture And Nutrition to Improve Health in CARICOM Populations

Isabella Francis-Granderson, PhD., RD

Faculty of Food and Agriculture, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago October 14 - 16, 2015







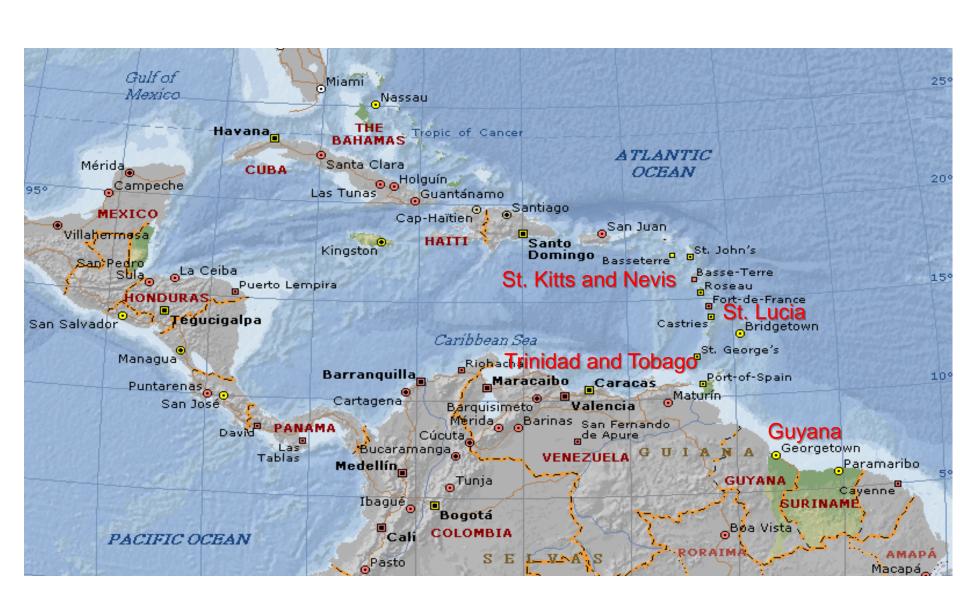




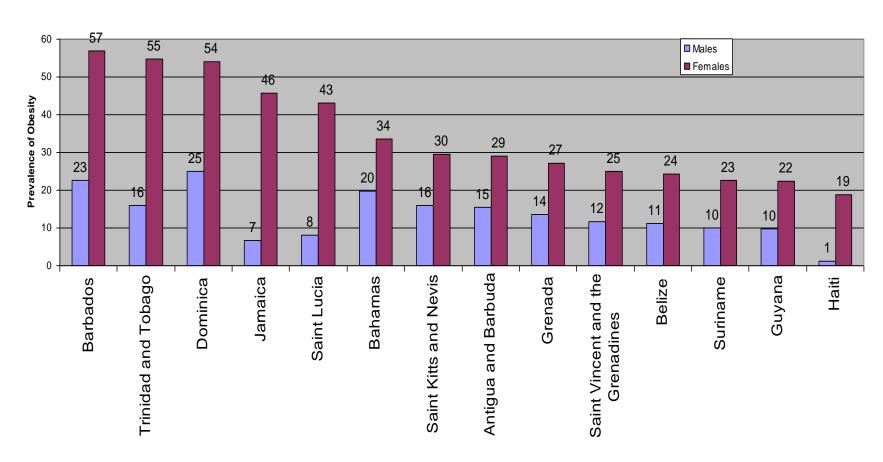


International Development Research Centre Centre de recherches pour le développement international

# 15 CARICOM (Caribbean Community) Countries



# Prevalence of Overweight and Obesity in the Caribbean in > 30 years old



Source: J. R. Deep Ford 2013; FAO

## **Project Goals**

- Improve <u>nutrition & health outcomes</u> of CARICOM populations through availability of foods that would increase intake of vegetables & fruits, decrease caloric intake, and increase micronutrient intake;
- Develop food production systems based on <u>agricultural diversification</u>, <u>water</u> <u>conservation</u> & efficient use of land;
- Build and test a Farm to Fork Model for CARICOM food and nutrition security;
- Expand and build <u>human and institutional capacity</u> to solve problems of food and nutrition insecurity in CARICOM;
- Understand constraints to, and accelerate the rate of <u>technology adoption</u> by small farmers;
- Adapt international standards of <u>food safety and quality</u> for a healthy, market-oriented food supply chain;

## Farm to Fork: Impact pathway

#### **From Farm**

#### **Socio-Economic Studies**

- ➤ Consumer and Farmer Household Surveys
- Focus groups on innovation & technology adoption



#### Market access

- > Post-Harvest Loss Management
- Food Safety and Quality



#### **Water and Land Resources**

- > Drip Irrigation, Water and Soil Conservation
- Protected Agriculture
- > Open Field Crop Diversification
- Silage conservation for Small Ruminants

**Environmental Management** 

**Gender Consideration** 



Policy Changes for Sustained Food Security in CARICOM

...and beyond

#### **Community Nutrition and Health**

- ➤ Improving the quality of School Meals
- > Nutrition Education
- Consumer food choices



To Fork

**Farm to Fork Model** for CARICOM Food & Nutrition Security

## Household & Community

Food & Nutrition security

and Feeding Child Nutrition Health School

Social Science

- Collective action
- Innovation

Social from Small Farmers Science

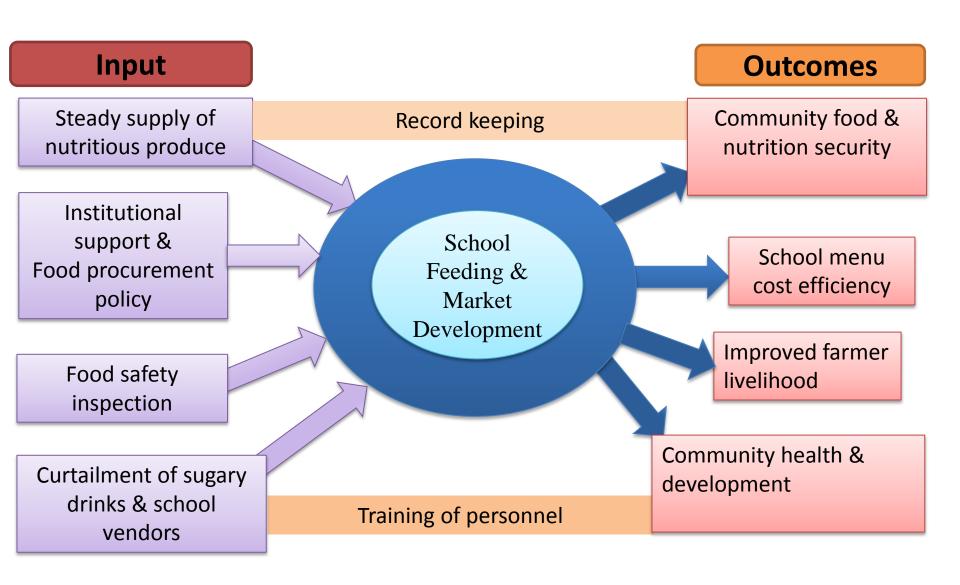
- Technology adoption
- Social capital
- **Policy**

Food Production **Technology for** Agricultural

Farm to Fork Model

**Produce Procurement** 

# CONCEPTUAL FRAME FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND FOOD & NUTRITION SECURITY





## Acknowledgments

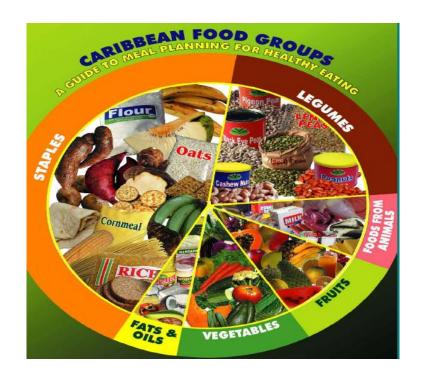
Funding for this project was provided by The Canadian International Food Security Research Fund (CIFSRF) a program of Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) undertaken with the financial support of the Government of Canada provided through Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada (DFATD).

We acknowledge the enormous support and contribution for the institutional partners and personnel in Guyana, St. Kitts-Nevis, St. Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago

Special appreciation is expressed to Dr. Leroy Phillip, PI and all other Project Team members and Project Partners for their contributions to the project (McGill U, UG, UWI).

Project websites: https://www.caricomfoodsecurity.com https://www.mcgill.ca/globalfoodsecurity/research-initiatives/caricom-project

# **THANK YOU**



**CARICOM Project websites:** 

https://www.caricomfoodsecurity.com www.mcgill.ca/globalfoodsecurity/research-initiatives/caricom-project