

9 DECEMBER 2021

Session n°4:

Ensuring food quality and safety in the Caribbean : the key role of SMEs and businesses



Caribbean Agrifood Business Series ...





CARIBBEAN AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY AGENCY

ENSURING FOOD QUALITY IN THE **CARIBBEAN**

THE KEY ROLE OF SMEs AND BUSINESSES



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CAHFSA

- CARICOM – Stands for Caribbean Community and Common Market and is defined as an organization made up of 15 Caribbean nations to promote economic integration among members.
- Officially established on August 1, 1973, through the signing to the Treaty of Chaguaramas
- In 2001, a revised treaty of Chaguaramas helped pave the way for the Caribbean Single Market and Economy (CSME)



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CAHFSA

- OBJECTIVES

- Establish an effective and efficient regime of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures in support of the community's agriculture policy
- Provide support regionally and nationally in the establishment, management and operation of their national agricultural health and food safety systems
- Execute on behalf of those countries such actions and activities that can be more efficiently and effectively executed through a regional mechanism.....



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CAHFSA – CORE FUNCTIONS

- Promotion of development and use of regional and international **SPS measures, standards and guidelines**
- Strengthening of legislative framework with respect to SPS measures
 - Area of deficiency – need for new and upgraded legislation and regulations
- Monitoring and Evaluation of national programmes in relation to animal health, plant health and food safety



Cont'd

- Harmonization of technical procedures in relation to such matters as:
 - Quarantine systems and their protocols
 - Surveillance
 - Laboratory analyses:
 - Another area of deficiency – countries where no SPS laboratories are functional or have minimal operations
 - Where present, lack qualified, trained staff, have high turnover rates in some cases
 - Problems in acquiring and maintaining accreditation.
 - Safe management and use of agrochemicals and other chemical inputs (antibiotics)



Cont'd

- Development of protocols for the conduct of regional and international risk assessments
 - In the process of planning the conduct of Regional Risk Analyses for Poultry products in five Poultry producing countries
 - Development of regional harmonized protocols for conducting Pests Risk Analyses (PRAs)
- Development and Maintenance of Regional and National databases
 - Import and export requirements for Animals and Animal Products, Plants and Plant Products; Disease Prevalence, Trade Issues in the Region; Animal and Plant Health Expertise; Regulated Pests



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Cont'd

- Provide Information
- Produce guidelines
- Prepare “tech packs” for Value Chains
- Assist with development of local SPS systems/bodies to meet obligations in a timely and efficient manner



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Thank you!!!!!!!!!!

Food safety

- <https://youtu.be/a7HHRTHc4zA>

Papaya Gold Belize

- <https://youtu.be/5Q85ADHOpJU>



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Thank you

