

23 FEBRUARY 2023

Session n°8:

Successes from Caribbean women-led businesses/SMEs in the agrifood sector



Caribbean Agrifood Business Series ...



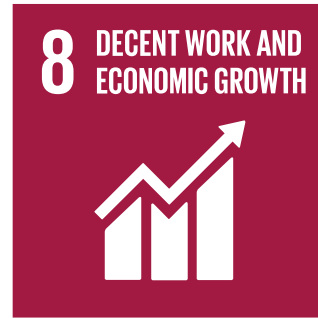


ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT FOR GENDER EQUALITY IN THE CARIBBEAN

TONNI ANN BRODBER
Representative, UN Women Multi-Country Office, Caribbean
February 23, 2023



THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)



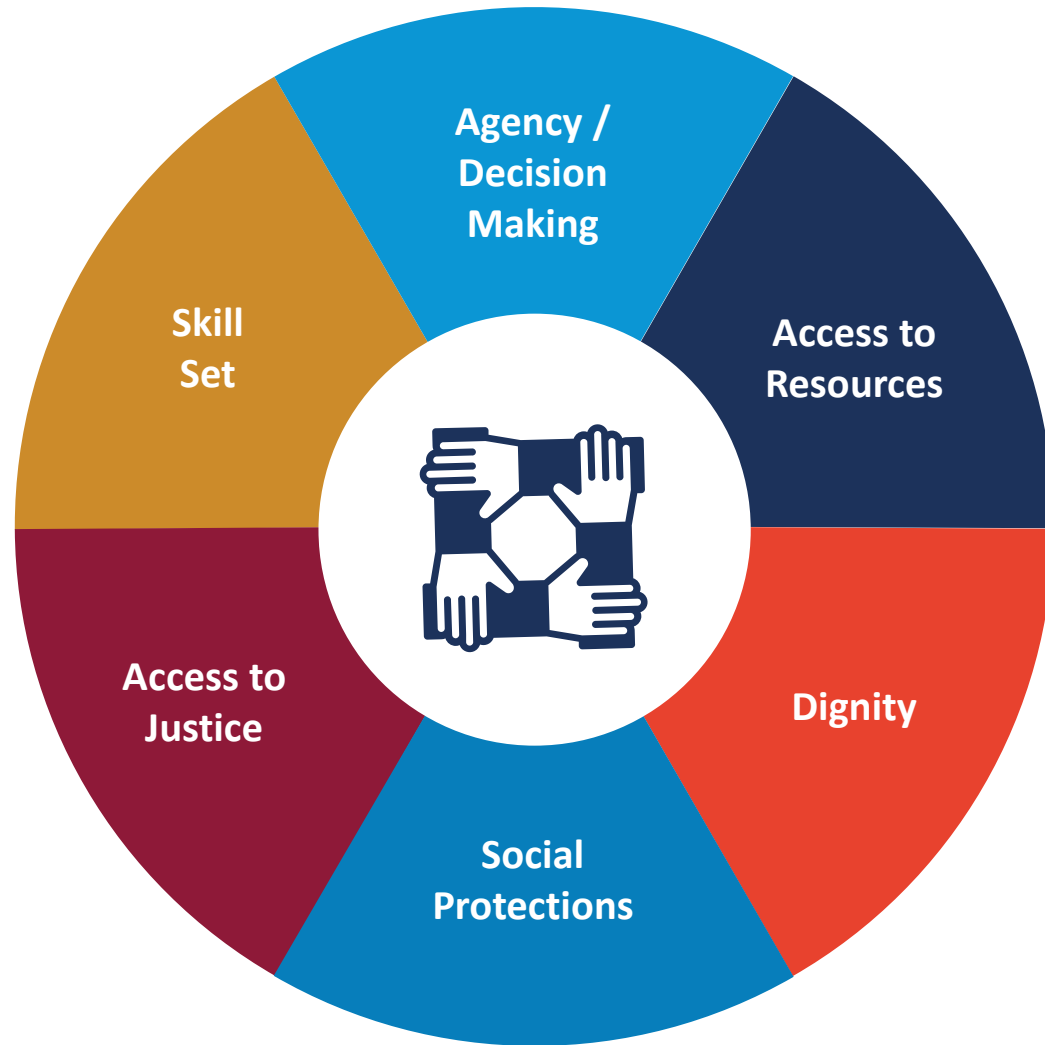
WHERE WE WORK



- **Staff Members** – 40
- **Staff presence** – Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago and Grenada
- **Operation Locations** – Across 22 countries and territories
- **United Nations Country Team (UNCTs)** – 6



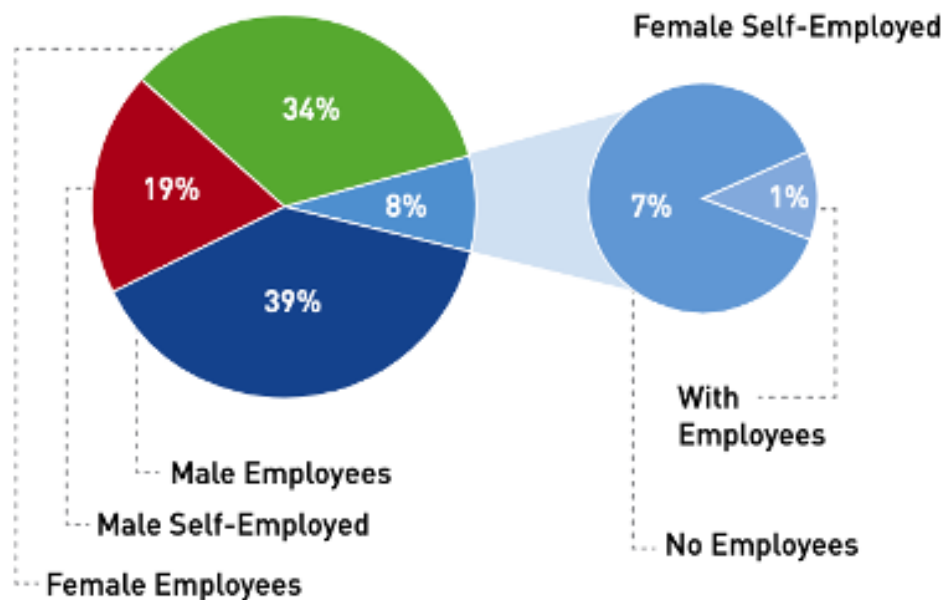
“ EMPOWERMENT CYCLE



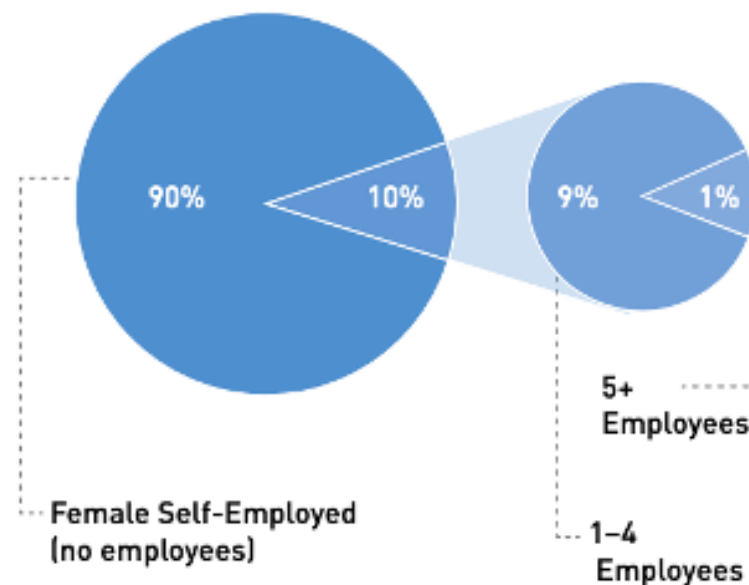


WOMEN IN SELF-EMPLOYMENT IN THE CARIBBEAN

The female self-employed comprise a very small share of total employment...



...while the majority of self-employed females have less than five employees

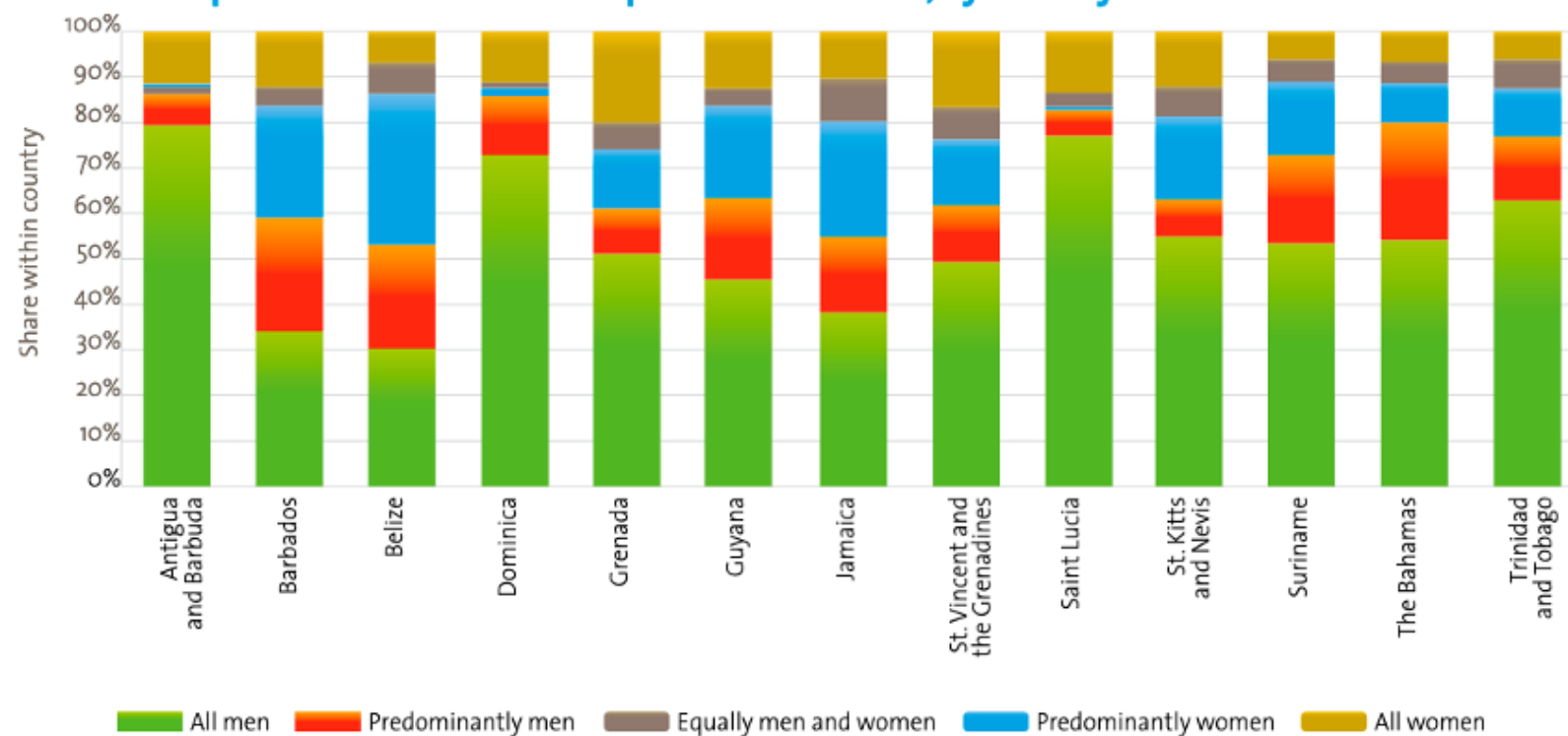




WOMEN IN SELF-EMPLOYMENT IN THE CARIBBEAN

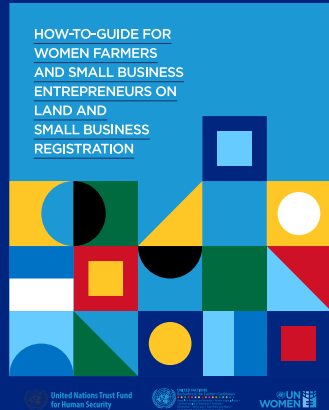
Men are more likely than women to own a business

Gender composition of firm ownership in the Caribbean, by country



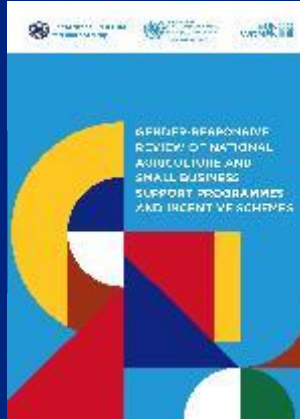
Source: PROTEqIN in Moore et al. (2017)

Women's businesses tend to have **no employees**, **use less technology** and be concentrated in the textile, food, retail, hotel and restaurants, and transport industries: **limited growth potential**



Outcome 1

Outcome 3



SURVEY



- Country
- Specific



PC



Tablet



APP

HELP DESK



Introductory video directing persons to the App:

- Local TV stations
- Looped in relevant offices



FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSIONS

AgriMSE Exchange

powered by



GROWING BIG BRANDS FROM SMALL BUSINESS

featuring

Colette Cyrus-Burnett
Entrepreneurship Development | Philanthropist
Food Security Strategist
CEO, Global Food Warrior

to also Launch the

IICA - UNWomen MoU

to strengthen gender-responsive services to women and youth in farming and agribusiness in the Caribbean

Monday, 27 June 2022
International MSMEs Day

10AM – 12PM
(Trinidad Time)

Collaborating & Networking to
enhance productivity and build
businesses



“ AGENCY & DECISION-MAKING

CENTRAL FARMERS GROUP
DOMINICA

"The trainings we did really help me to see some of the potentials in our co-operative and equipped me with better negotiating skills, it has also help some of our young people get registered and they are very excited about their own businesses, thanks for your dedication and efforts."



Women Led

Post Hurricane Maria women entrepreneurs informed UN Women of what support was most needed



ACCESS TO RESOURCES

WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURSHIP SUPPORT (WES) PROJECT

Ten women entrepreneurs in the agribusiness sector in Jamaica received stipends valued at \$100,000 Jamaica Dollars to scale their businesses under WES in September 2021.

The WES Project aimed to positioning **women entrepreneurs to maximize opportunities and growth for development.**

"We know economic empowerment is interrelated with reducing inequality, increasing security and safety."



Hon. Olivia Grange, Gender Minister (right) and Hon. Audley Shaw Minister of Industry, Investment and Commerce (left) Launch Phase Two of Women's Entrepreneurship Support Project.



ACCESS TO RESOURCES & AGENCY/ DECISION MAKING: WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT PRINCIPLES (WEPS) GUYANA

We have facilitated the conduct of 4 Gender Gap Analyses using the Gender Gap Analysis Tool in Guyana

Videos of WEPs Companies and their Domestic Violence and Paternity Leave Action Plans completed and to be launched in May





ACCESS TO RESOURCES: INNOVATIVE FINANCING



Showcase

- Innovative financing vehicles
- Digital platforms
- Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs) Tools/ Frameworks

Gender Lens Investing for Fund Managers Training: 19-21 July, 2022 (Kingston, Jamaica)

- **Participants:** 27+ attendees from: The Bahamas, Bermuda, Jamaica; Trinidad & Tobago

Close the Gaps

- Close the financing gaps that women and youth face across sectors (E.g. **Agriculture**, sustainable tourism, creative and cultural industries)

“ DIGNITY, SKILLSET & ACCESS TO RESOURCES

Connecting farmers from four groups – the Morne Prosper, Bellevue Chopin, North East Women Farmers’ group and Warner Farmers Producers Inc. – to new outlets and market opportunities.

Women farmers advertised their produce and their contact information on the online platform, [AgriVertise](https://agrivertise.com).



Women farmers package and label vegetables for sale at a member’s home, as their factory construction was stalled due to COVID-19 restrictions on movement and work



Kimara Lugay of Lindo Mart Supermarket, Lennisha Leblanc of Morne Prosper Women Farmers Group, Vanessa Julien of Warner Farmers Producers Inc., and Priscilla Jean Jacques of Morne Prosper.

UN Women Photos/Dawn Francis

“ YEMANJA BOOTCAMP DECEMBER 2022 KINGSTON JAMAICA

- Networking
- Leadership
- Empowerment

"The program was AMAZING! Each session was meaningful, and every speaker delivered well. The information we received was so rich and the opportunity to network with other female entrepreneurs was great. I feel blessed to have been selected to attend. And for sure I will use the information to improve my business and those I connect with regularly"



UN TRUST FUND FOR HUMAN SECURITY:



United Nations Trust Fund
for Human Security



UNITED NATIONS
Barbados & the Eastern Caribbean
Regional Office
Antigua and Barbuda
Commonwealth of Dominica
Grenada
Saint Kitts and Nevis
Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Trinidad and Tobago



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



International
Labour
Organization

United Nations Trust Fund
for Human Security

UNITED NATIONS
BARBADOS & THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN
REGIONAL OFFICE

UN WOMEN

THE LINK OF GENDER EQUALITY,
WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT
& HUMAN SECURITY

UN Women, UNDP, FAO, ILO

2019-2022

Targets: 50% Women, 25% Youth

Antigua & Barbuda, Barbados,
Dominica, Grenada and Saint Lucia

Building resilience through the Human
Security Approach to address insecurities
posed to the Agriculture / Fisheries and
Agri-business sector by:

- **Climate Change**
- **Natural Disasters**
- **COVID-19 Pandemic**

Gender -responsive
and disaster risk
resilient
agricultural,
fisheries and small
business extension
services,
programmes and
techniques
available and
accessible to the
most marginalized.

Gender responsive
social protection,
insurance and
financial products
are available and
accessible to
marginalized and
impoverished
groups

Increased market
access readiness
and resilience for
smallholder
farmers and
agriculture related
small businesses

Community
resilience is
strengthened
through advocacy
and community
engagement with
farmers, fisherfolk
and young people
to engage in
agriculture and the
blue economy

Integration and
Mainstreaming of
the Human
Security Approach

Memorandum of Understanding
(MOU) & 2023 Partnership
Agreement with IICA





BUILD BACK EQUAL (BBE):



DONOR

- Global Affairs Canada



PARTNER

- UN Women Multi-Country Office (MCO) (Lead Agency) and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)



DURATION

- 4 years



BBE PROJECT COUNTRIES

- Dominica, Grenada, Saint Lucia & Saint Vincent and the Grenadines



KEY ACTIONS (Year 1)

- Regional and Country-based BBE Project Regional Launch (May 2022)

BUILD BACK EQUAL PROJECT: PRIORITY AREAS



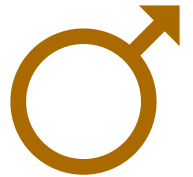
1. Law & Policy



2. Improve Women's Access to Finance



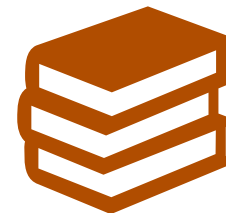
3. Improve Women's Business Skills



4. Increased access to Gender Responsive Social Protection



5. Shock Responsive Gender Based Violence (GBV) Referral Pathways & Social Protection Services



6. Capacity Building of Government Entities (GBV & Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHRs))



7. Increased ability of Government & Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) to provide GBV Services & SRHs



8. Ministries of Health Strengthen Family Planning (Free of Discrimination)



Thank You

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*This series of events is organised by IICA and COLEAD.
COLEAD operates within the framework of development cooperation
between the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS)
and the European Union (European Development Fund – EDF).*



Thank you

