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## Session n°15:

# How trade infrastructure can boost Caribbean entrepreneurship: Challenges and opportunities



*Caribbean Agrifood Business Series* ...



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# How Trade Infrastructure Can Boost Caribbean Entrepreneurship. Challenges and Opportunities





# About CAPA

The USAID funded Caribbean Agricultural Productivity improvement Activity (CAPA), implemented by Improving Economies for Stronger Communities (IESC), is focused on enhancing food security by increasing productivity, building the capacity of buyers and input suppliers, improving farm-level extension systems, working with financial institutions to strengthen relationships with farmers and building capacity to use climate data.

- **Objective 1:** Increase smallholder market-led production of fruits and vegetables.
- **Objective 2:** Improve domestic and regional market linkages for smallholder farmers.
- **Objective 3:** Strengthen public/private sector extension systems to transfer best practices to smallholder farmers.
- **Objective 4:** Improve data collection and utilization on the impact of climate change and weather patterns on agriculture production.



# Context

- Intra-Regional Trade in CARICOM is one of the longest-standing regional integration initiatives.
- Intra-regional trade accounts for only 16.6% of all food imports.

## Impact

- High food costs contribute to poverty and food insecurity
- Diversion of resources from national development (entrepreneurs)

# Challenges

## High Transportation and Logistics Cost

- Transport cost
- Lack of aggregation

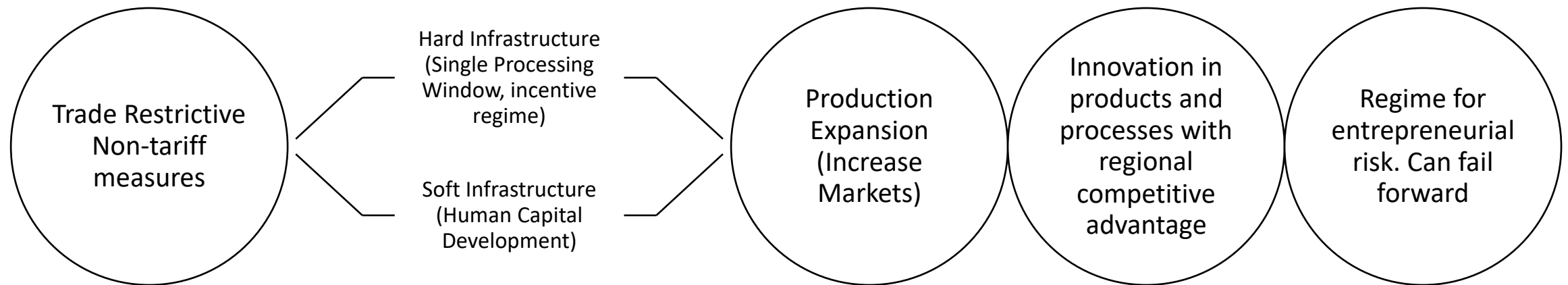
## Cumbersome Border Procedures

- Weak trade facilitation leads to long delays

## Trade Restrictive Non-Tariff Measures

- Standards and technical requirements act as a protectionist barrier to regional trade.

# Opportunities





# KEY MESSAGES

## Feeds the Caribbean

- It's the foundation of our food supply, ensuring everyone has access to fruits, vegetables, grains, and animal products.

## Employment

- It offers jobs in production, processing, technology, research, and other support services.

## Drives Innovation

- Technologies like drones, precision farming, and biotechnology make agriculture more efficient and eco-friendly.





# THANK YOU



# Thank you

