

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 ...





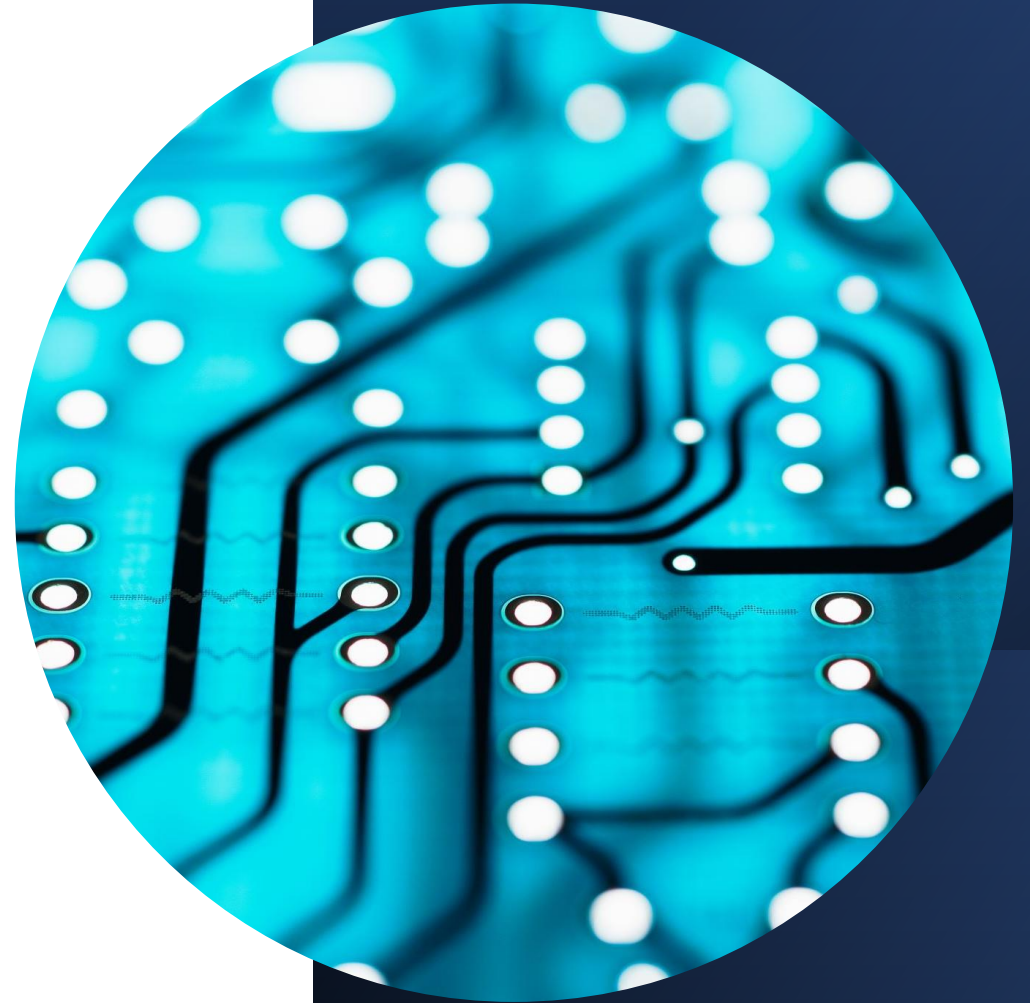
Caribbean Food Safety Information Portal

*Enhancing Food Safety Capacity of Micro and Small
Enterprises through the use of Information and
Communication Technology in Selected Caribbean Countries*

LAUNCH OF THE PILOT

TEAM:

Janet Lawrence, Lisa Harrynanan
Gabriella Alphonso, Rachel Renee



Background

- Having the right information, at the right time, in the right format, and through the right medium, influences and affects the livelihoods of many stakeholders involved in agriculture and related fields.
- Many times, in the Caribbean, Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) along the agri-food chain are unable to access the information they require due to the lack of availability or extensive effort required to source the information.



Background

- IICA a Technical Cooperation Action has addressed this limitation.
- Development of an electronic platform which serves as an **information database and capacity building portal** where MSEs can have access to current information and have learning opportunities on all aspects of the food safety management system.
- IICA's Agricultural Health, Food Safety and Quality Programme





Objective

To enhance the food safety capacity of Micro and Small Enterprises through the use of information and communication technology in selected Caribbean Countries

Specific Objectives:

- To improve the dissemination of food safety information required for market entry to MSEs
- To strengthen the capacity of MSEs to access information required for producing safe foods.



Target Countries

Barbados, Dominica, Guyana, St. Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago

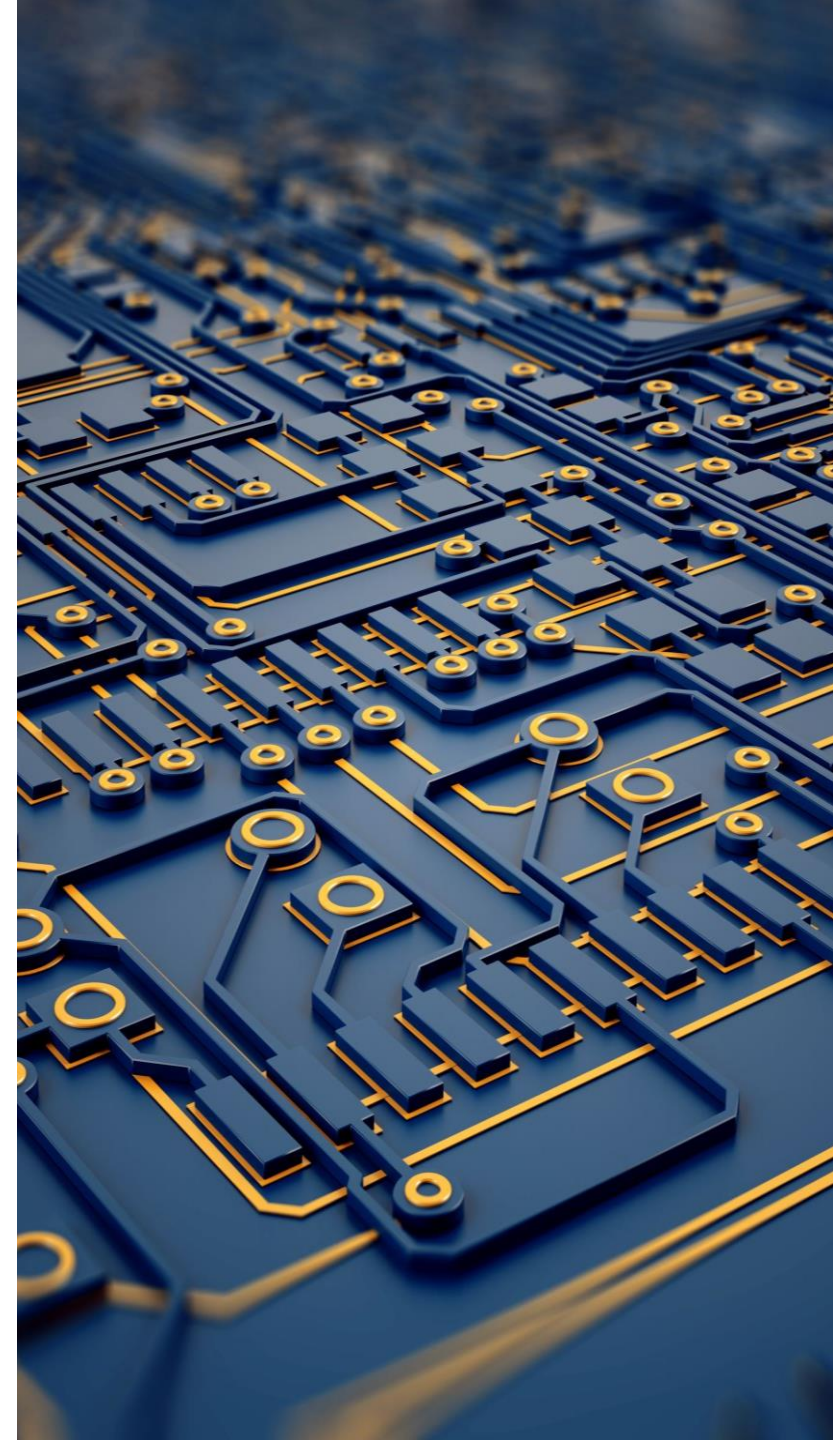


Expected Outcomes

- MSEs across the Caribbean having access to relevant food safety information.
- Improved compliance of MSEs with food safety standards required by local and regional markets.
- Increased knowledge sharing, networking and collaboration/linkages among select MSEs
- Promotion of the use of e-agriculture by MSEs

The Portal

- The **Caribbean Food Safety Information Portal** electronic platform serves as a repository of up-to-date and easily accessible resources on food safety for micro and small agro-processors in the Region
- The information system will give users access to the websites of **216 resources**
- The information covers:
 - Food Safety culture
 - Basics of food safety
 - Food Safety along the supply chain
 - National food safety regulatory framework
 - Food safety testing - common tests as well as national and regional laboratories
 - COVID-19
 - Trade related information
- **Information Presented** - guidance documents, codes of practice, whitepapers, e-learning and training courses, recorded webinars, videos, podcasts





The Pilot

- The **Caribbean Food Safety Information Portal** will be piloted in the 7 target countries
- The Pilot will provide an opportunity to evaluate:
 - Usefulness of the content
 - Ease of navigation
 - Additional areas for which information is required by MSEs
 - Impact of having access to food safety information on the capacity of MSEs
- After Pilot is completed, the platform will be open to the Region.



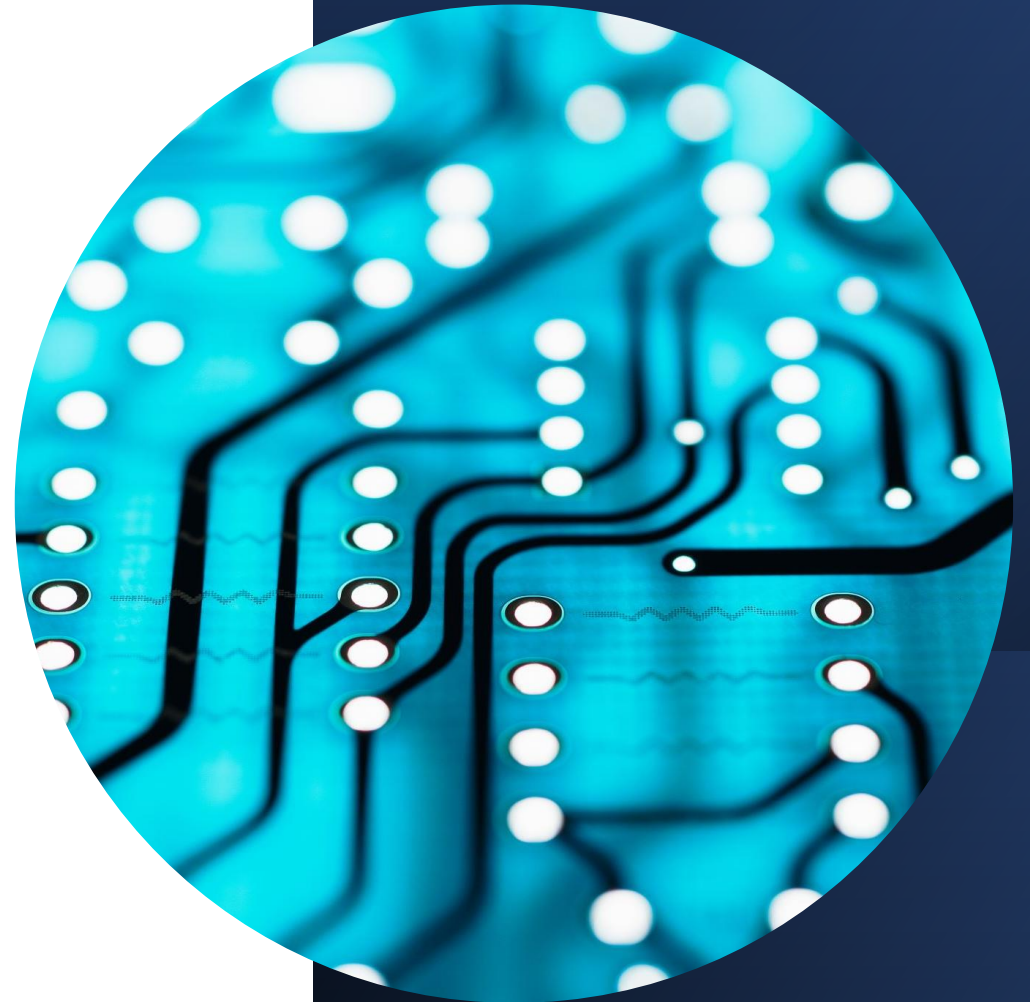
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Thank you

