



Session n°19:

Transforming Agrifood Systems: Opportunities for entrepreneurs in the Caribbean and Latin America











1. AgriConnect – a WBG initiative to transform smallholder farming, create jobs, and strengthen global food security



R&D >>> Input producers & distributors >>> Farmers >>> Traders >>> Food processors >>> Distributors >>> Retailers

Enabling Environment | Policy/Regulations | Infra | AgTech | Education/Training

AgriConnect Strategic Framework Transforming smallholder farming, creating jobs, and strengthening global food security

Strengthening foundations

Transformative investments:

- Rural infrastructure (irrigation, roads, energy)
- Digital/Ag tech solutions
- Skilling farmers, agricultural research, and extension

Strengthened value-chains:

- Cooperatives/business development for ag SMEs
- Better inputs (seeds,fertilizers, machinery)

Revamping policies

Government commitment:

- Policy alignment (agriculture & food policies, standards, trade facilitation, land tenure)
- Repurposing of agricultural subsidies to reduce environmental impact, foster healthier diets, and create jobs

Capital mobilization

Finance solutions:

- Derisking instruments (digital finance, guarantees, ag insurance)
- ► Climate finance (outcome bonds, paving the way for carbon finance)
- Partnerships with private sponsors and philanthropies

Preserving natural capital & ensuring inclusion: As guiding principles for all investments







TRANSFORMING AGRIFOOD SYSTEMS

Opportunities for entrepreneurs in the Caribbean and Latin America through Jamaica's Second Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI II)



The REDI II is being implemented to promote rural economic development and income generation. REDI II seeks to enhance access to markets and climateresilient approaches for targeted beneficiaries.



Creating Economic Opportunities in Agriculture and Tourism



ST. MARY MULTIPURPOSE COOPERATIVE- COLD STORAGE FACILITY

THE SITUATION

- 50% in Post-Harvest loss
- Insufficient cold storage space.
- Affect farmers' income stability.
- Frequent power outages compromised the produce quality.
- Risk certification for export.
- Loss of revenue.
- High energy cost.

THE DRIVERS

- National strategic priorities to improve cold chain supply.
- Increased market access
- Improved sustainable livelihood for small farmers

OUTCOMES OF ST. MARY MULTIPURPOSE COLD STORAGE FACILITY

Contributions Outcomes **Expected outcomes** Outcomes 100% to these outcomes WB: Outcome 5: Increased storage capacity Outcome (i): Increase through the support. **Outcome 1: Reduction in Post-harvest** Funding market access & supply • Coop. meets req. of 6 months supply Loss for contract markets **Export Plantains** • Reduced from 50% to 5% (40%) **REDI II: Matching grant** Establish contracts with More competitive Produce stored for up to 2 weeks Rehabilitate cold storage Store 4000 lbs every two weeks- to markets-hotels etc. Improved quality sorting area & lobby contract market Online markets support, we would still be **Outcome 2: Increased Market Access** Install grid-tied Solar living from hand to mouth System More purveyors • Sold retail to community members & **Outcome 6: Improved payment timeline** Provided equipment surrounding areas • Farmers are paid in a timely manner Contract markets- supermarket, food processor (Grace) and hospitals **Problems Addressed** Buy from farmers in the community and other parishes- members and non-✓ 50 % post-harvest loss (target 40% reduced members of the Coop. ✓ Loss of markets **Change Agents** License to export ✓ Lack of proper storage ✓ Loss of revenue to the facility Outcome 3: Increased sales & income ✓ Loss of income for farmers Sold 15000 lbs of melons at one time-up The executive team ✓ Threatened its IAMPRO status from 5000 lbs (200% increase) due to **Extension Officers** Regular power outages- affect quality of quality; 50% reduction energy cost (30%) Community members produce 140 beneficiaries Outcome 4: Increased & consistent Sustainability supply- meet demand Buy at a higher price Farmers supplied more produce from members to **PDO** Supplied 1000 or 2000 lbs at one time encourage other farmers (increase from 200 lbs) 400-900% to join Enhance access to Farming as a business

markets and climate-

resilient approaches

Maintenance plan

Regular meetings

Business Plan

Community support

Partnership agreements

increase

produce

Collaboration with RADA &

community members to facilitate

linkage with farmers to supply



INCOME GENERATION SMALL GRANTS FOR WOMEN AND YOUTH













- Negative impact of COVID-19 pandemic disproportionately affected rural women and youth.
- Loss of crops due to spoilage
- Business hours reduced.
- Increased cost of agriculture inputs.
- Reduction in number and consistency of purveyors/buyers
- Cut back on consumers spending.

THE DRIVERS

- Disproportionate impact on women and youth.
- Loss of Livelihood & markets
- Affect food security
- Lack access to resources

THE OUTCOMES

Building Climate Resilience

- Improved water conservation through rainwater harvesting.
- Increased water storage capacity- water more reliably available for livestock, especially during dry periods.
- 4,400 beneficiaries- 67% women and 21% youth

Market Access

- Tapped into new markets and market segments which serve as buffer to fluctuations
- Producers tapped niche markets such as parties, weddings, and other events, helping maximize sales during peak periods.
- Increase in customers and met increased demand.
- Market linkages with tourism sector.
- Met demands of differentiated markets and satisfy customers' weight preferences.
- Before support- Avg. weight of 6-week-old chickens 4-7 pounds. After support- Avg. weight 4.5-9 pounds.
- Before support- 50-100 live chickens. After support- 100% increase in production with 100-1000 live chickens.

LOOKING AHEAD

Invest in agriculture to empower farmers, boost local economies, and drive sustainable development:

- Agro-processing and cold chain facilities
- Protected agriculture (greenhouse farming)
- Climate-smart agriculture practices (drip irrigation, equipment, training, etc.)







This event was organised by the Fit For Market Plus programme, implemented by COLEAD within the framework of Development cooperation between the Organisation of African,

Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS), and the European Union (EU).

This publication has been produced with the financial support of the EU and the OACPS.

Its contents are the sole responsibility of COLEAD and can under no circumstances be regarded as reflecting the position of the EU or the OACPS.

Thank you







