

Caribbean Farmers Network



ANNUAL REPORT

"The Future of Caribbean Agriculture lies in the Unity of the Farmers"



2013

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Senator Norman Grant,
President
Jamaica Agricultural Society (JAS), Jamaica



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

The state of agriculture within Jamaica and the region remains very critical. There has been a lot of emphasis at the regional level for food and nutrition security because in the region, we have a very high food import bill. CARICOM has drafted the Regional Food and Nutrition Security Policy (which is good) but this policy on paper will do the region no good if it is not implemented.

In Jamaica, the Government of Jamaica is fully supportive of the Jamaica Agricultural Society's (who holds the chairmanship of CaFAN) Eat Jamaica campaign as we encourage our population to eat local through our "Eat What We Grow, Grow What We Eat campaign".

Furthermore, it is important for each country to highlight Agriculture in the light that will allow our population to want to buy local. The annual Denbigh Agricultural and Industrial Show by JAS in collaboration with the Government of Jamaica is one positive area in which agriculture is in the limelight. Denbigh has now become a premier agricultural exhibition in the English Speaking Caribbean with an audience of over 60,000 patrons each year.

In addition, CaFAN will continue to lobby our policy makers to ensure that agriculture is given significant attention and that the policies on paper that are favourable for our small farmers are implemented in a way that promote sustainable growth in the agriculture sector.

*"...policy
on paper
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not imple-
mented".*



**Mr. Jethro T. Greene,
Chief Coordinator**

Eastern Caribbean Trading Agriculture and Development Organisation (ECTAD), St. Vincent and the Grenadines

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF COORDINATOR

"...the leadership role of youth is not for tomorrow but now"

2013 has been a year of new emerging opportunities for us in the agriculture sector. It seems as if finally, all sectors of our society are beginning to recognize its importance. With the economic decline of the non-agriculture sectors in which most countries are dependent for their economic growth, agriculture must now fully become a pillar for food and nutrition security like it did in Europe after the Second World War and must pilot economic growth and recovery. Therefore, we in the agriculture sector must take leadership and pilot this whole process through.

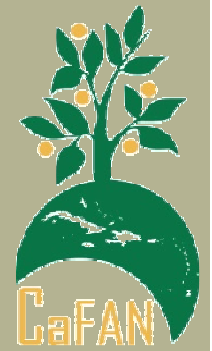
CaFAN recognizes this importance of leadership and for the year has put significant focus on the youths as part of our succession planning strategy. CaFAN believes that the leadership role of youth is not for tomorrow but now.

For the year 2013, many of our programmes have been focusing on the youths through which we piloted one of the key pillars of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) - Youth and Rural Modernization pillar. We recognize the importance role Governments play in creating the necessary infrastructure for rural modernization and we encourage our youths to lobby their respective governments to help create the enabling environment.

In addition, CaFAN continues to focus on our small farmers as entrepreneurs and would continue to find the means and mechanism to help promote them as successful business persons in a sustained way so that their children can take over the family business.

We encourage our members and partners to get on board with us, as we work towards regional food and nutrition security.

CARIBBEAN FARMERS NETWORK HISTORY



The Caribbean Farmers Network (CaFAN) was formed in 2004 as a regional network of farmers' organizations/groups and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the Caribbean. CaFAN had its genesis in 2002 at a Caribbean Agriculture Research & Development Institute (CARDI)/Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA) workshop on Public Awareness for farmers and NGOs in the Caribbean. The deliberations of the meeting gave rise to the request for technical assistance to improve access to relevant information and increase the capacity of farmers to manage information. A declaration of a Caribbean farmers' network under which the principal beneficiaries would seek and share information, gave impetus to the contemplation of plans to establish this mechanism.

Under the guidance of CARDI and with funding from CTA, some networking and a limited range of information services were initiated. Following the completion of a 2004 survey of farmers' organizations in the Caribbean region, recommendations were made to assign an Interim Committee, to prepare CaFAN to be an appropriate representative and facilitatory body for farmers' groups within the region.

Over the period 2004 to 2006, the Interim Committee coordinated by CARDI and comprised of Agricultural Society of Trinidad & Tobago (ASTT), Barbados Agricultural Society (BAS), Jamaica Agricultural Society (JAS), and Eastern Caribbean Trading and Agriculture Development Organization (ECTAD) hosted several regional meetings, brain storming sessions, seminars and working group meetings funded by CTA, all with a view of identifying CaFAN's best role and function. The programme also

included the preparation of a Strategic Plan as a major output to guide the actions of CaFAN for the period of 2008-2010.

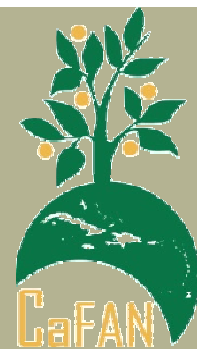
In 2008, CAFAN was registered as a non-profit organization under the Companies Act of St. Vincent & the Grenadines, where the Secretariat is located. ECTAD, a farmers' organization in St. Vincent & the Grenadines performs CaFAN's secretariat functions when it became the Secretariat in 2006.

VISION

CAFAN seeks to become the major player in the agricultural development of the Caribbean region by facilitating the development of capacity among national and regional farmers organizations and providing a network for advocacy and lobbying through which farmers can positively influence policy and decision-making processes that affect the agricultural sector and farmers' wellbeing. Thus, CAFAN will promote regional cooperation and understanding among farmers' organizations, agricultural leaders, and the farming community, thereby repositioning the Caribbean economies in the global business environment.



CARIBBEAN FARMERS NETWORK BACKGROUND



OBJECTIVES

1. To enhance the ability of Caribbean farmers' organizations to deliver services to members and to increase intra and extra regional trade and farmers share of the value chain;
2. Capacity building of farmers' organisations and clusters throughout the Caribbean and mobilization of financial and other resources;
3. To increase communication and exchange of ideas, experiences, resources, information and technology, between and among farmers associations in the Caribbean;
4. To raise awareness, improve advocacy and networking to collectively influence decisions on strategic issues affecting regional agriculture;
5. To promote the sectorial linkages of agriculture to health/nutrition, tourism and value addition/agro-processing using value chain tools and business models; and
6. To promote rural modernization, greater youth and women involvement in agriculture and agriculture through education.

The Caribbean Farmers Network (CaFAN) presently represents over 500,000 small farmers spread across fifteen Caribbean countries; Antigua & Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts/ Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad & Tobago.



CaFAN member farmers organisations are directly involved in production and marketing for the domestic, regional and extra regional markets. They are also involved in farmers training, promotion of nutritional Caribbean foods, market access, agro-processing and value addition, testing of agronomic practices and organic farming.

CaFAN is mandated to speak on behalf of its membership and to develop programmes and projects aimed at improving livelihoods. CaFAN also focuses on market led sustainable mechanisms and structures, working in collaboration with all stakeholders in the agriculture sector to the strategic advantage of its farmers.

MISSION

"To enhance Caribbean food and nutrition security, foreign exchange earnings and foreign savings, by repositioning agriculture through the capacity building of farmers and the institutional strengthening of farmers' organisations"

GOALS

-  To improve the quality of life for small farm families throughout the Caribbean region; and
-  To gain economic empowerment and sociopolitical independence in the agriculture sector.

"The Future of Caribbean Agriculture lies in the Unity of the Farmers"

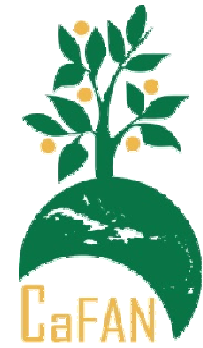


THE YEAR UNDER REVIEW

2013



CAFAN STRATEGIC FOCUS, PARTNERS AND PROJECTS



STRATEGIC FOCUS

CaFAN strategic priorities for the period 2012-2014 is based on the context in which CaFAN operates and its experience in developing and expanding its network. The strategic plan builds upon the upgraded business model developed under the European Union ACP Agricultural Commodities Programme (EUAAACP) through which it received funded from 2008-2011 from the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

The strategic plan therefore has five priority areas, namely:

- Capacity Building of Farmers Organizations;
- Policy Advocacy;
- Value Chain Promotion and Development;
- Rural Modernization, Youth and Women;
- Agriculture and Nutrition

For the year 2013, CaFAN played significant focus on Policy Advocacy, Rural Modernization, Youth and Women and Capacity Building of Farmers Organisation.

2013 PARTNERS

CaFAN main partners through which its activities for the year was implemented were the:

1. Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA_ACP_EU)
2. CHF through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) funded "Promotion of Regional Opportunities for Produce through Enterprises and Linkages" (PROPEL) project
3. COLEACP/PIP, Europe-Africa-Caribbean-Pacific Liaison Committee

2013 PROJECTS

Four projects were signed which include three funded by CTA and one by CHF/PROPEL. They were:

1. CTA: Promoting Youth and Rural Modernization Policies in the Caribbean;
2. CTA: Joint Impact Study of CTA Support to ACP Partner Organisations and Networks;
3. CTA: ARDYIS project Phase 2 – Innovation and entrepreneurship;
4. CHF/PROPEL: Conduct three production analysis and buyer grower meetings in three countries;

ABOUT CAFAN

2013 PARTNERS



TECHNICAL CENTRE FOR AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL COOPERATION (CTA_ACP_EU)

CTA is an ACP-EU institution working in the field of information for development. It operates under the ACP-EU Cotonou Agreement with headquarters in The Netherlands. At the core of all its activities are its partnerships with ACP national and regional bodies. It also works with a wide network of ACP-EU public and private sector bodies, as well as international organisations around the world. Through its partners, CTA is working with these stakeholders to achieve the goal shared by the whole development community – poverty alleviation and sustainable development.

WWW.CTA.INT

COLEACP/PIP, EUROPE-AFRICA-CARIBBEAN-PACIFIC LIAISON COMMITTEE

COLEACP/PIP is an inter-professional organisation devoted to the ACP-EU horticultural trade. The global objective of COLEACP-PIP is to promote the horticultural trade of ACP countries and to strengthen the competitiveness of ACP horticultural export companies and, in particular, small and medium-scale growers. The specific objective is to ensure compliance of their exports with the demands of EU markets in terms of the official controls (food safety and traceability regulations), and commercial requirements (private voluntary standards).

WWW.COLEACP.ORG/EN

CHF/ PROMOTION OF REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRODUCE THROUGH ENTERPRISES AND LINKAGES

The PROPEL project is a market-led development project undertaken in the Caribbean Region by the Canadian NGO CHF. This 5-year, \$20 million project was recently approved by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), with a matching contribution of \$1million from CHF. PROPEL will support about 28,000 smallholder Caribbean farmers to increase their capacity to supply high quality agricultural products to buyers primarily within the Caribbean region, thereby increasing the incomes of smallholder farming households, fostering economic growth and building a more integrated regional economy.

The PROPEL project's two main objectives are to:

1. Increase engagement of male and female smallholder farmers and young people in the Caribbean in high-value fresh produce market activities.
2. Increase coordination and alignment of farmers and buyers in high-value fresh produce markets of the Caribbean.

WWW.CHF.CA

ABOUT CAFAN

2013 PROJECTS



PROJECT 1: PROMOTING YOUTH AND RURAL MODERNIZATION POLICIES IN THE CARIBBEAN

In October 2012, the Caribbean Farmers Network (CaFAN) entered into a project contract with the CTA. The project funds amounted to Euros 188,420 which was used to carry out several activities aimed at addressing the following problems:

1. Limited awareness by young people of ongoing agricultural policy issues and processes;
2. Weak capabilities of youth organizations and groups for policy advocacy and value chain management, market development and business development capabilities;
3. Low participation by youth in policy debates and processes re agribusiness and value chain;
4. Poor policy enabling environment to encourage youths in agriculture and rural development; and
5. Low opportunities for participation in national and policy development processes by youth.

Specifically, project activities focused on contributing to the design and effective implementation of Community Agricultural Policy (CAP) Youth and Rural Modernization (YRM) pillar in which CaFAN played a key role in ensuring that this pillar was included in CAP.



The Activities carried out included

1. Policy Forum on Youth and Rural Modernization;
2. Multi-Stakeholders National Consultations on the development of CAP Youth and Rural Modernization Pillar;
3. Study Visit on youth initiatives, lessons and best practices in policies regarding agricultural production and marketing of agriculture produce;
4. Regional workshop on policies for improved business efficiency for the youth;
5. Engagement with policy makers and key stakeholders in agricultural and related policies.
 - a. Produce Newsletter on Youth and Modernization Policies;
 - b. Produce Policy Briefs
 - c. Attend and contribute to relevant CARICOM Secretariat and COTED Session

ABOUT CAFAN

2013 PROJECTS



PROJECT 2: JOINT IMPACT STUDY OF CTA SUPPORT TO ACP PARTNER ORGANISATIONS AND NETWORKS

CaFAN signed Project N°: 3-1-31-302-2 contract with CTA to carry out an Impact Study into CTA supported ACP partners. CTA formally adopted the practice of working through development partners in its (first) 1997-200 Mid-Term Plan (MTP). The MTP made the case for CTA's intervention in support of creating effective 'partnerships within ACP national agricultural systems (NAS) as well as between national, regional and international sources of expertise'.

In the Preparatory phase of the impact study, an expert consultation took place in Wageningen during October 29-30 2012. This meeting was attended by one of CaFAN's project officer, Dr Cleve Scott who also acted as consultant during the impact study assessment. CaFAN's assessment was done during May 2013.

Findings from the assessment were presented in June 2013 in Zimbabwe and will help CTA and its partner organisations and networks to benefit from the in-depth study and understanding of their past and current collaboration. The findings will also feed into the ongoing formulation of CTA's partnerships strategy. Partners can also draw on the findings to revise their own capacity development efforts and approaches to partnerships.

The **Impact study** focused in particular on the second aspect of CTA's mandate. CTA recognized that past evaluations geared themselves on the basis of CTA activities and focused essentially on the aspect of improving access to information and knowledge. However, in order to strengthen future partnerships and learn from past ones, it was essential to have

an accurate outlook as to the capacities that exist within ACP constituencies as well as those that are yet to be set up. The overall objective was to contribute to *learning for development impact* within CTA and its ACP partner organisations and networks. For CTA: The impact pathways of CTA-supported partnership projects will be clarified and better understood. For the organisations/networks involved: The change they bring about and how they bring about the change will be better understood.

This study addressed four interrelated elements, which together constitute the building blocks of the impact pathways:

- Deliverables generated as direct result of CTA's partnership with the organisation or network;
- Changes in the capabilities of the partner organisations/ networks that were linked to the deliverables.
- Effects (outcomes/ impact) on the partner's direct and indirect beneficiaries that were attributed to either the deliverables or the changes in the partner's core capabilities.
- Dynamics of the relationships between the main actors, including CTA and the partners, along the impact pathways.



Dr Cleve Scott

CaFAN signed its first partnership agreement with CTA in 2006

ABOUT CAFAN

2013 PROJECTS



PROJECT 3: ARDYIS PROJECT PHASE 2 – INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

A contract signed between CTA and CaFAN (1-1-14-304-2) in June 2013 was focused on the organization of the YoBloCo Awards and on the blog and social media training that will precede it selected regions.

The first edition of the Youth in Agriculture Blog Competition (YoBloCo Awards) <http://ardyis.cta.int/yobloco> was very successful with about 3,000 people from ACP and non ACP regions contributing to the public evaluation of the blogs. A second edition organized by CaFAN took place in July 2013 with a Blog Training and Exchange Workshop. The competition was launched in October 2013, with a launch event during the Caribbean Week of Agriculture 2013 in Guyana.

CAFAN is a member of the Advisory Committee of the ARDYIS project

PROJECT 4: CHF/ PROPEL

In April 2013, the CaFAN secretariat signed a contract with CHF to undertake some preparatory work for the CIDA funded Promotion of Regional Opportunities for Produce through Enterprises and Linkages" (PROPEL) project work packages to be undertaken in Year 2. These elements including contributing to the development of a Strategy for Production Planning in Jamaica, St. Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines through: a) design and planning of interventions, b) production analysis focusing principally on cost of production for targeted crops in selected countries, c) facilitation of grower- buyer meetings, and d) development of production plans.

The results from these initiatives will provide useful information which will help to identify competitive crops, potential markets and promising VCs to be supported by PROPEL during Year 2. It was part of this work package that

CaFAN staged two Buyer Grower Forums in Jamaica and St. Lucia on May 27th and June 10, 2013 respectively.

Part of CaFAN's 'approach' is to lobby buyers to buy more produce and to encourage growers to meet buyers' needs by way of hosting buyer grower meetings. These meetings act as a kind of market place where critical areas of success are highlighted by each side that lead to commitment by growers to meet needs/standards identified by the buyers and buyers committing to purchasing from growers under the conditions identified.

The objectives of these meetings were to strengthen relationships and understanding between buyers and producers; work towards agreement among producers, buyers and exporters based on produce and market availability; educate buyers/exporters on potential supply, and; brief farmers on quality and standards for the high value markets.

ABOUT CAFAN

WORKSHOPS & CONSULTATIONS

Several workshops were hosted during the year 2013 which included:

1. CTA: Multi-stakeholders National Consultations in Six Caribbean Countries;
2. CHF/PROPEL: Buyer Grower Forums
3. CTA: Regional workshop on policies for improved business efficiency for the youth;
4. CTA: Regional Blog Training and Exchange Workshop;
5. COLEACP/PIP – Training of trainers for extensionists

MULTI-STAKEHOLDERS NATIONAL CONSULTATIONS

A series of multi-stakeholders national consultations on the Community Agricultural Policy (CAP), Youth and Rural Modernization (YRM) were held as part of CaFAN's activities to raise awareness on the CAP YRM pillar and to gain input from multi-stakeholders which will feed into an overall action plan to present to the Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED) on Agriculture for the effective implementation of CAP YRM pillar.

The main objectives of the multi-stakeholders national consultations were to:

- Encourage discourse within the Region on youth and rural modernization policies so as to raise awareness and support from national stakeholders, policy makers and the general public; and
- Determine national priorities and engage key national stakeholder groups in the debates and processes regarding the development and implementation of CAP YRM pillar.

The countries where the consultations were held were Antigua/Barbuda (March 2013), Dominica (April 2013), Grenada (April 2013), Guyana (October 2013), Jamaica (May 2013) and St. Lucia (June 2013).

Some of the topics discussed during the consultations were: the state of rural communities; Agriculture as a vehicle engine for rural development; creating a more enabling environment for youth in Agriculture – policies required;

public private sector partnerships; and Empowering youth to articulate, develop and influence policy.



There were over 200 participants who attended the consultations and were drawn from youth organizations/groups and key stakeholders within the agricultural and rural communities, policy makers and technocrats in Ministries of agriculture and youth, and the general public. The media were also represented.

The Consultations were facilitated by Mrs. Pamella Thomas (Antigua), Dr. Nadia Anselm (Dominica), Mr. Roderick St. Clair (Grenada), Mr. Steve Mangal (Guyana), Mrs. Stacy Rose-Richards (Jamaica), and Mr. Kurt Harris (St. Lucia)

ABOUT CAFAN

WORKSHOPS & CONSULTATIONS

REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON POLICIES FOR IMPROVED BUSINESS EFFICIENCY FOR THE YOUTH



The workshop was funded by CTA and took place from June 19-21, 2013 in St. Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG). There were approximately 50 participants who contributed to the discussions and final recommendations coming from the workshop.

The two primary objectives of the workshop were: to improve participants understanding of the concept, factors and requirements for improved business efficiency in agricultural value chains; and to articulate a common policy position,

including concrete recommendations, for a more enabling environment for young people in agri-business.

The workshop featured authoritative presentations and debates on policy dimensions of agriculture business efficiency in various Caribbean countries with practical experiences and best practices with young people initiatives, including removing hindrances to youth participation in business presented as learning cases. From this perspective, the workshop served as a knowledge sharing exercise between youth-based organizations from 12 Caribbean countries.

Local and regional business analysts, entrepreneurs, consultants, financiers and business support houses outlined how to reduce costs and maximize business profitability, access finance for prospective businesses, and understand the regulatory framework for doing business along agricultural value chains.

BUYER GROWER FORUMS

Two Buyer Grower Forums were held in Jamaica and St. Lucia as part of the project funded by CHF/PROPEL. They took place May and June 2013 respectively and have 40 participants each drawn from growers, large buyers, service providers and financial institutions. Jamaica's Forum took place at the Pegasus Hotel and St. Lucia's Forum took place on Monday June 10th, 2013 at the Bay Gardens Hotel.

At the end of the meeting, priority crops were selected by both growers and buyers. While there were gaps between priority crops amongst farmers and buyers, one has to understand that the way in which farmers spread risk is to grow a wide variety of crops for a wide cross-section of buyers. These gaps were a reminder as well that some of the major crops buyers' current demand varies.



The Champion, Dunstan Demille, Purchasing Manager of the Consolidated Foods Limited facilitated both Forums

ABOUT CAFAN

WORKSHOPS & CONSULTATIONS

REGIONAL BLOG TRAINING AND EXCHANGE WORKSHOP

Young agriculturalists from across the Caribbean were taught to harness the power of social networking when CaFAN through funding from CTA organized a Web 2.0 Training and Exchange Workshop from July 27 to 31 at the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus.

Twenty-two young men and women between the ages of 18 and 35 years old, who were either actively involved in farming, or who applied information and communication (ICT) technology to the advancement of agriculture in the Caribbean, received training on 'blogging' during this workshop.

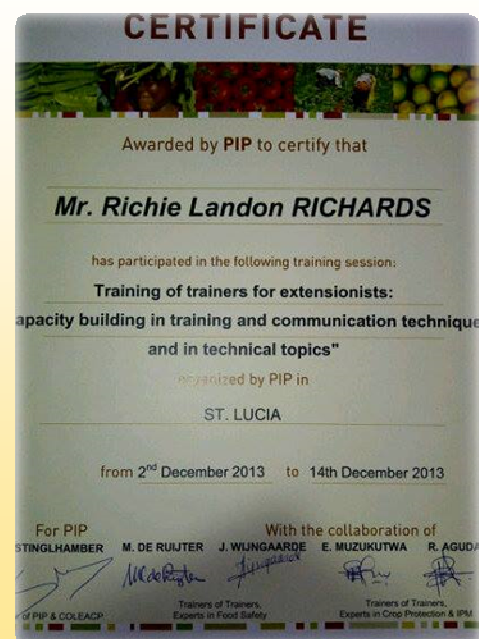
This innovative training exercise is a component of the CTA's Agriculture Rural Development and Youth in the Information Society (ARDYIS) project, which is expected to raise the awareness of youth on the issues of agricultural and rural development for African Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries as well as raise their capacity on ICT use for agricultural and rural development.

Topics covered in the four-and-a-half day workshop included blogging, online mapping, social networking, micro-blogging, and the use of ICTs in agriculture.

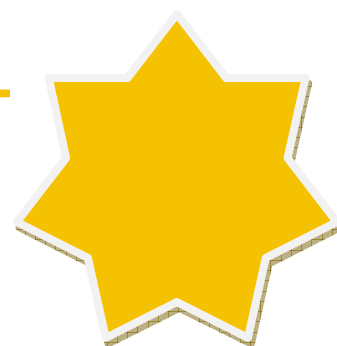


TRAINING OF TRAINERS FOR EXTENSIONISTS

The Training of Trainers for extensionists: Capacity building in training and communication techniques and in technical topics was conducted by COLEACP/PIP as part of a Memorandum of Understanding signed with CaFAN. The training took place at the Bay Gardens Hotel from December 2nd to 14th, 2013. At the end of the training, each participant was awarded with a certificate.



REGIONAL & INTERNATIONAL
PARTICIPATION
2013



CAFAN PARTICIPATION IN REGIONAL & INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

FRUIT LOGISTICA

Fruit Logistica is known as the World's Leading Trade Fair for the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Business. It is the leading international meeting place of the fresh produce trade with more than 2,500 companies from across the entire fresh produce value chain participating. Held in a single location, global players as well as small and medium-sized suppliers from around the world benefit from this grand event that takes place in February of every year in Berlin, Germany.

CaFAN had the opportunity of being represented at this event which was held from February 6-8, 2013 through its Marketing Advisor, Mr. John Fenech-Soler. Funding was made possible through the financial support of the CHF /CIDA project PROPEL.

The **main objectives** of the visit to Fruit Logistica were:

1. To share information with European buyers attending the Fruit Logistica Fair on fresh produce from the Caribbean that could be made available (or increased in volume) in the short to medium-term for European markets;
2. To promote purchase of fresh produce from the Caribbean and identify specific opportunities for purchase of Caribbean produce by European buyers in the next six (6) months, notably from members of CaFAN; and
3. To learn from COLEACP, and share information with CaFAN and PROPEL on their planned market study which is to analyze trends for fresh produce business in close collaboration with the main EU

REGIONAL DIALOGUE ON HUNGER, FOOD INSECURITY AND MALNUTRITION



Jethro Greene attended on behalf of CaFAN the Regional Dialogue on Hunger Eradication in the Caribbean: Governance Challenges, held from August 1 and 2 at the Jolly Beach Resort in Antigua.

The event was held by FAO in collaboration with the Government of Antigua and Barbuda and the CARICOM Secretariat. It brought together representatives from CARICOM Members States and had discussions on governance issues related to hunger, food insecurity

and malnutrition in the Caribbean region. It provided participants the opportunity to learn about approaches to address food security at the regional and national levels including the right to food and the role of different social and political stakeholders. The goal of the meeting was to define mechanisms for strengthening political commitment, governance and coordination for the eradication of hunger and malnutrition in the Caribbean region.



CAFAN PARTICIPATION IN REGIONAL & INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES (SIDS)

Chief Coordinator of CaFAN, Jethro Greene, attended on behalf of the Network the Interregional Preparatory Meeting of the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) held in Bridgetown, Barbados from August 26-28th, 2013.



The Conference comprised delegations from the Caribbean, Pacific and AIMS (Atlantic, Indian, Mediterranean and South China Sea) and sought to undertake a number of important tasks such as assessing the progress and gaps in implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy and seek renewed political commitment. It also identified new and emerging challenges and opportunities and methods to address them (e.g. partnerships), and it identified priorities for the sustainable development of SIDS in the post-2015 development agenda.

The outcomes of the three prior regional preparatory meetings (respectively for the Caribbean, Pacific, and AIMS regions) will provide the basis for the discussions in Bridgetown. Ultimately the outcome of the meeting agreed on SIDS priorities and positions to bring forward to the global preparatory process for the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States.

GLOBAL FORUM FOR RURAL ADVISORY SERVICES



Photo: © Frederik Oberthür/giz

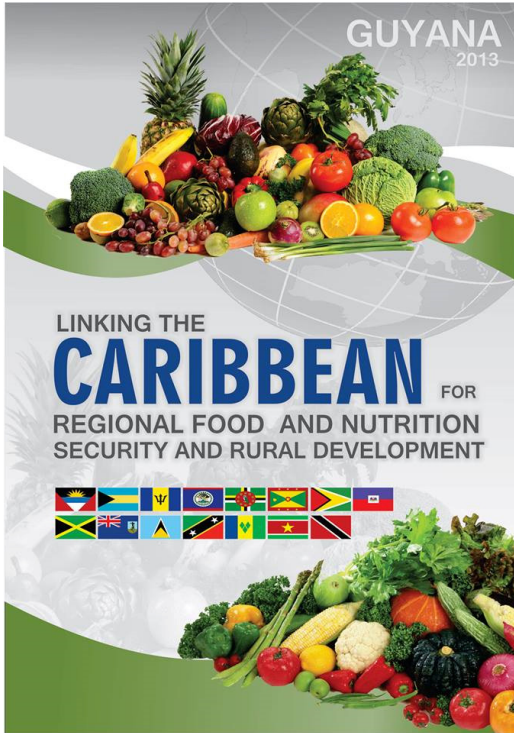
Jethro Greene represented CaFAN as a panelist at the 4th GFRAS Annual Meeting on the Role of Private Sector and Producer Organisations in Rural Advisory Services held from 24-26 September 2013, Berlin, Germany.

A background paper was prepared with technical support by the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), coordinated by Mr Robert Reid, Senior Technical Officer, Trinidad. The paper places the need for Rural Advisory/Extension Services with the context of the Caribbean environment and briefly articulates a paradigm shift in the provision agricultural extension/ advisory services drawing on related experiences in Latin America and the Caribbean as well as other developing countries. Focus is also placed on the role of Farmer Organizations in the delivery of extension/rural advisory services and the application of modern information technology (ICT).



CAFAN PARTICIPATION IN REGIONAL & INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

CARIBBEAN WEEK OF AGRICULTURE



CaFAN participated in the 12th Caribbean Week of Agriculture (CWA) 2013 held from October 4th to 12th 2013 in Guyana under the theme “Linking the Caribbean for Regional Food and Nutrition Security and Rural Development”. The events which took place during CWA were held at the Guyana International Conference Centre (GICC), Main Conference Centre, Liliendal.

Three meetings were organized by CaFAN which included a CaFAN Farmers Forum held on Monday 7th October, a Youth Consultation held on Tuesday 8th October, and the Launch of the CTA Blog Awards held on Tuesday 8th October.

In addition, CaFAN participated in several of the events of CWA including the Alliance and COTED (Council for Trade and Economic Development on Agriculture) meetings.

COTED and all the Governments of the region were invited to work with CaFAN and its members in ensuring that there are adequate access to resources, technical assistance and training in:

- Global GAP certification;
- Greater access to credit for inputs; this includes the development of sustainable models of crop insurance.
- Dismantling of non-tariff barriers to agricultural trade in the Caribbean region;
- Harmonization of regional standards for agriculture; etc



Jethro Greene, Chief Coordinator of CaFAN presenting at the CaFAN Youth Consultation and the Alliance Meeting

CAFAN PARTICIPATION IN REGIONAL & INTERNATIONAL EVENTS



MEETING OF CARIFORUM TO DISCUSS 11TH EDF RIP

The CARIFORUM Directorate of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat invited CaFAN to the Meeting of Stakeholders to discuss the 11th European Development Fund (EDF) Regional Indicative Programme (RIP) from 17-18 September 2013 in Guyana. The Meeting provided a forum for general discussions on the 11th EDF Regional Indicative Programme and brought together representatives of CARIFORUM States, Outermost Regions (ORs) and Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs), Civil Society Organisations and Regional Institutions. CaFAN was represented by Mr. Jethro Greene.

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF FAMILY FARMING

CaFAN was invited by the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to participate as a panelist in the Regional Dialogue on Family Farming: "Looking towards the International Year of Family Farming". The event was held from October 30-31 in Santiago, Chile. The event was jointly organized by the International Cooperative Alliance for the Americas (ICA—Americas), the World Farmers Organization (WFO), and the World Rural Forum (WRF) and was part of a process to facilitate the exchange of experiences and policies related to family farming.

The aim of the event was to allow discussion between the different stakeholders to improve understanding of the role of family farming in the

context of each region, including the identification of challenges, development and investment opportunities, and policy priorities to achieve food security and eradicate hunger and rural poverty.

CaFAN was represented by Chief Coordinator, Jethro Greene who presented on "Sustainable intensification of Production and Marketing as it relates to family farming within the Caribbean; a CaFAN position".

The presentation highlighted different approaches used within CaFAN such as the Cluster and Swap Labour or Labour sharing approach which highlights and demonstrate the positive relationship among farm families who work together to achieve the same objectives.

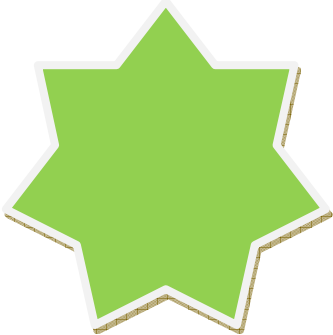


Vermont Swap Labour

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ICT FOR AGRICULTURE

Roderick St. Clair, one of CaFAN's Technical officers represented the Network at CTA's International Conference on ICT for Agriculture from 4-8 November 2013 in Kigali, Rwanda. The meeting was organized by CTA in partnership with the Rwandan Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources (MINAGRI) and various other international organizations.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS 2013



CAFAN HOSTED OVERSEAS INTERNS

Two interns joined the team at the CaFAN Secretariat, the ECTAD as part of a youth programme aimed at giving young University graduates experiences working in the field of development.

The two interns, Patrick Delle Palme and Christophe Carabin, arrived in the country during the first week in June 2013 for a six month and six weeks internship respectively.

Patrick Delle Palme, a young Canadian arrived on the island as part of the COADY International Youth Internship Programme which is sponsored by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) through the COADY, St. Francis Xavier University. CaFAN and COADY have been working together since 2008 where Canadian interns have benefited from work experience at the CaFAN Secretariat.

ABOUT THE INTERNS

Patrick Delle Palme grew up in Ottawa, Ontario. He graduated with a double major in Development Studies & Political Science from St. Francis Xavier University. His expectation of the internship programme is to make the most of his time with CaFAN by learning about agriculture and the issues farmers face in the Caribbean. Patrick embraces the opportunity to apply his abilities and experience to the mandate of CaFAN; while building on his own skillset and gaining practical experience in the development field.



Christophe Carabin is from Guadeloupe and is a current student of Montpellier SupAgro (Engineering school, France), specializing in Tropical Agriculture/Agro-processing and Agro-business system. The main purpose of this internship with the CaFAN Secretariat is to allow for him to put into practice the knowledge he has acquired during his course at the Montpellier SupAgro Institute. Christophe's main expectation is to learn as much as possible about Agriculture in St. Vincent and to dialogue with various stakeholders in the food system (farmers, agro-food, large distribution).

MEMBERS KICK-START PROPEL

ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES

In April 2013, CHF signed a Sub-Project Agreement with the Eastern Caribbean Trading Agriculture and Development Organisation (ECTAD) located in St. Vincent and the Grenadines in collaboration CaFAN.

Since 2005, ECTAD has been marketing roots and tubers to buyers in the UK. This relationship between UK buyers and ECTAD has led to increased orders of roots and tubers. As such, the PROPEL Sub-Project Agreement with ECTAD seeks to increase the number of containers of roots and tubers

exported by ECTAD which will increase the purchase from farmers.

The Sub-Project Agreement will provide assistance to ECTAD to provide inputs such fertilizers to its members to ensure a more high quality is achieved for its export market while generating a surplus that will allow members to expand and sustain supplies for its overseas market. It will also provide a better standard of living for its farmers.

It is expected that the assistance will help increase volumes of exports to high-value markets in the UK over the long-term.



The main activities provided by the Agreement are to (1) Support for personnel including a marketing coordinator, project coordinator, and production clerk and six farmers' counterparts; and (2) Investments which includes the purchase of fertilizers, field crates, boxes, scales and wash tubs.

JAMAICA

On 7th March, 2013, Christiana Potato Growers Cooperative Association Ltd signed a Sub-Project Agreement with CHF in collaboration with CaFAN. This agreement represents an initial stage of support for CPGCA. The support to be provided by PROPEL was based on an Application for Assistance (AA) submitted by CPGCA to PROPEL in November, 2012. Through this support, PROPEL will assist with upgrading of CPGCA's post-harvest facility at Coleyville, Manchester, Jamaica. CPGCA has leased the facility and has already carried out some upgrading, including installation of anti-vector meshing to the main doors. The facility has since been approved for use by Jamaica

Promotions Corporation (JAMPRO) and the Plant Quarantine Division of Jamaica's Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. However, the facility still needs some additional equipment upgrading for effective startup.

This support is being provided now because CPGCA has been actively seeking out private sector buyers for its high value fresh produce. Price Mart supermarket currently purchases potatoes from CPGCA and Mega Mart has also indicated its interest in purchasing from the facility.

The expected results arising from these investments are as follows:

- *Long-term Result:* Enhanced capacity of producers to meet high-value market quality, quantity and safety needs
- *Short to Medium Term Results:* At least 500 farmers will be able to sell their produce through the Colleyville facility within six months of signing of this Agreement; and
- Produce being sold to two Jamaican supermarkets will be increased by 150%, from 4,000 pounds per week to 10,000 pounds per week.



CAFAN SIGNS M.O.U.

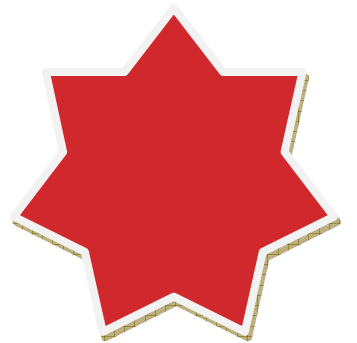
A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the St. Vincent Cocoa Company (SVCC), a company incorporated under the Companies Act Cap 143 of the Revised Edition of the Laws of St. Vincent and the Grenadines 2009 with its registered office at 225 Kingstown Park Rd., Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and the Caribbean Farmers Network (CaFAN), Leadership Africa USA and Alternative Marketing Access.

It was agreed that:

- SVCC, CaFAN and LA USA may work together to develop a mutually acceptable sensitizing and advertising program using media available in St Vincent and the Grenadines to encourage farmers, particularly women and youth, to grow cocoa and other high value crops;
- SVCC, CaFAN and LA USA may share farmer training information wherever it is expedient to do so including the Cocoa Agroforestral Model, Train the Trainer curriculum, costs of production, farmer lists;
- SVCC, CaFAN, LA USA, and AMA will actively encourage farmers to grow cocoa and other crops promoted under the EATIC project during mutually approved training activities; provide student/youth agriculture and leadership training and sales and marketing for participating farmers;
- Each party will cover their own costs to implement any information sharing programs unless otherwise agreed;
- LA USA with consultation will attempt to raise funds from local and international donors.

Leadership Africa USA is a non-governmental organisation incorporated in 2006 to tackle the broad consequences of alienation among African youth. Since 1992, Leadership Africa USA's organizers have been working with local partners in Africa to re-establish a culture of learning and promote access to quality education for a generation of African students.










THE TEAM 2013








THE TEAM

CaFAN is led by a team of technical volunteers who dedicate of their time and share their knowledge and experiences to the daily functioning of the Network.

CaFAN Secretariat Management Team

-  **Chief Coordinator:** Mr. Jethro T. Greene,
-  **Senior Project Officer:** Dr. Cleve Scott
-  **Administrative Officer:** Mrs. Nyasha Durrant-Oxley
-  **Finance Officer:** Mrs. Pethion Greene
-  **Marketing Coordinators:** Mr. James Clarke & Mr. Norville Abraham
-  **Production Coordinators:** Mrs. Vanessa Joseph & Mrs. Audrey Walters-Buttler
-  **Policy Officer:** Mrs. Stacy Rose-Ricards
-  **ICT Officer:** Mr. Roderick St. Clair
-  **Office Assistant:** Ms. Sustang Fergus

CaFAN Executive Committee

-  **Chairman:** **Senator Norman Grant,**
Jamaica Agricultural Society,
Jamaica
-  **Chief Coordinator:** **Mr. Jethro T. Greene,**
Eastern Caribbean Trading Agriculture and Development
Organisation,
St Vincent & Grenadines
-  **Director:** **Mr. James Paul,**
Barbados Agriculture Society,
Barbados
-  **Director:** **Mr. Evans Gooding,**
North East Farmers Organisation,
Grenada
-  **Director:** **Mrs. Pamela Thomas,**
Team Fresh Produce,
Antigua and Barbuda

ABOUT THE CAFAN SECRETARIAT

In 2006, the Eastern Caribbean Trading Agriculture and Development Organisation (ECTAD) became the CaFAN Secretariat, led by Chief Coordinator, Jethro Greene.

ECTAD is a non-profit, non-governmental farmer base rural development organisation launched and registered in 1995. Its Mission is to improve the quality of life for rural farm families throughout St. Vincent and the Grenadines and the Caribbean.

ECTAD approach is to build and strengthen local capacity at the village level so that farm families can become more independent and stronger together as a community; working together, producing together and marketing together, thereby keeping agriculture alive for generations to come while developing their rural communities.

Through training, ECTAD members have marketed over two million pounds of produce locally, regionally and internationally over the past five years without any funding from government or donor agencies.

Presently, ECTAD is marketing Dasheen, Sweet Potatoes and Plantain and Pumpkins to the UK.

LIST OF CAFAN MEMBERS & AFFILIATES



Antigua and Barbuda:

1. Team Fresh Cooperative Ltd
2. Gilbert Agricultural Rural Development Centre,

The Bahamas

3. Bahamas Farmers Groups

Barbados

4. Barbados Agriculture Society

Belize

5. Belize Farmers Groups

Dominica

6. Nature Island Pineapple Producers Association
7. Dominica Export Import Agency

Grenada

8. North East Farmers Organization
9. Marketing and National Importing Board

Guyana

10. Guyana Rice Producers Association
11. Kuru Kururu Farmers Groups
12. Guyana Agricultural Producers Association
13. CaFAN Farmers Youth Cluster

Haiti

14. Promotion for Development (PROMODEV)
15. Haitian Farmers Groups

Jamaica

16. Jamaica Agriculture Society
17. Christiana Potato Growers Cooperative Association Ltd
18. Kevoy Community Development Institute

Montserrat

19. Montserrat Farmers Organisation

St. Kitts and Nevis

20. St. Kitts Farmers' Cooperative Society
21. Nevis Growers Cooperative Society Ltd

St. Lucia

22. Belle Vue Farmers' Co-operative Ltd
23. CaFAN St. Lucia Farmers Groups

St. Vincent and the Grenadines

24. Eastern Caribbean Trading Agriculture and Development Organisation

Suriname

25. Foundation Women in Agriculture
26. CaFAN Suriname Farmers Groups

Trinidad and Tobago

27. Agricultural Society of Trinidad and Tobago
28. Mt. St. George Farmers Association
29. Tobago Agricultural Society

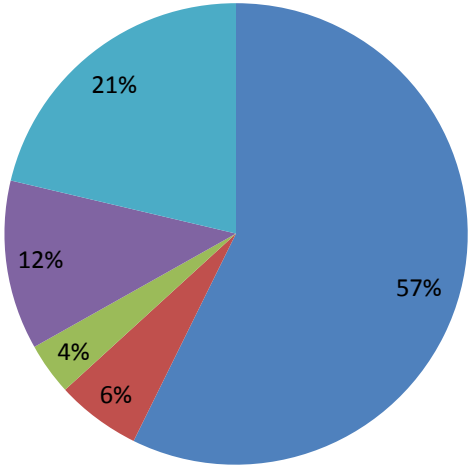
PARTNERS & COLLABORATORS

1. Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute
2. Caribbean Community (CARICOM)
3. Caribbean Development Bank
4. Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA)
5. CHF/ CIDA funded PROPEL
6. COADY International Institute,
7. COLEACP/PIP
8. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO-UN)
9. Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services
10. Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)
11. International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
12. Ministries of Agriculture
13. Organization of the Eastern Caribbean States (OECS)
14. Sol Carib
15. Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA EU-ACP)
16. University of the West Indies
17. World Farmers Organisations

FINANCIAL

DONOR FUNDED PROJECTS

■ CTA YOUTH ■ CHF/CIDA/PROPEL ■ CTA IMPACT ■ CTA ARDYIS ■ COLEACP/PIP



CONTRIBUTIONS

■ DONORS ■ CAFAN ■ ECTAD

