



CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT BANK  
**49TH ANNUAL  
MEETING**  
OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
JUNE 3-5, 2019 | NASSAU, BAHAMA

# AGRICULTURE: LET'S EMBRACE THE OPPORTUNITIES

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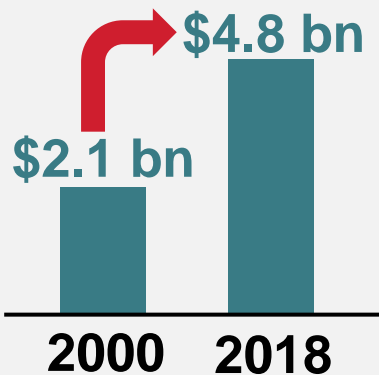
**LUTHER ST. VILLE**  
SENIOR OPERATIONS OFFICER  
(AGRICULTURE)

HYATT REGENCY TRINIDAD  
JUNE 5, 2019



# Context: Trends in BMC's Food Consumption

Food import bill more than **doubled**

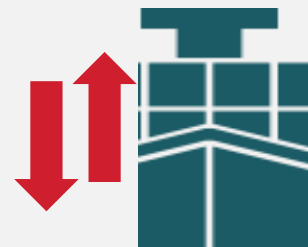


Across the Region, food imports are about



of all food consumed

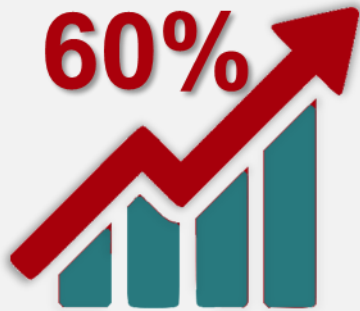
Increasing dependence on a limited number of partners



for large shares of food imports

# Context: What's Happening Globally?

Global demand for food  
expected to rise by **at  
least**



by 2050

Production is limited  
by many factors



e.g. climate change,  
fuel price increases

Vulnerability to supply  
and price swings



# OUTLINE

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Context ✓

2

State of Agriculture in the Caribbean

3

Transforming Agriculture:  
CDB's Proposal

# State of Agriculture – Contribution to GDP

4 BMCs are heavily dependent on agriculture



**12-17%**  
of GDP



**10-50%**  
of employment

In 10 BMCs contribution to agriculture is marginal



**<4%**  
of GDP

These BMCs tend to have a high dependence on food imports

# State of Agriculture – Export Trends

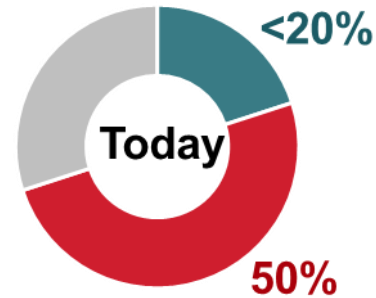
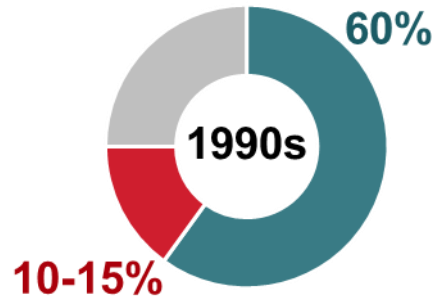
Agri-food Exports pivot away from Traditional Crops



Traditional Crops



Agro-processing



# State of Agriculture - Challenges



**Low Productivity  
Growth**



**Weak Market  
Linkages**



**Natural Hazards and  
Climate Change**

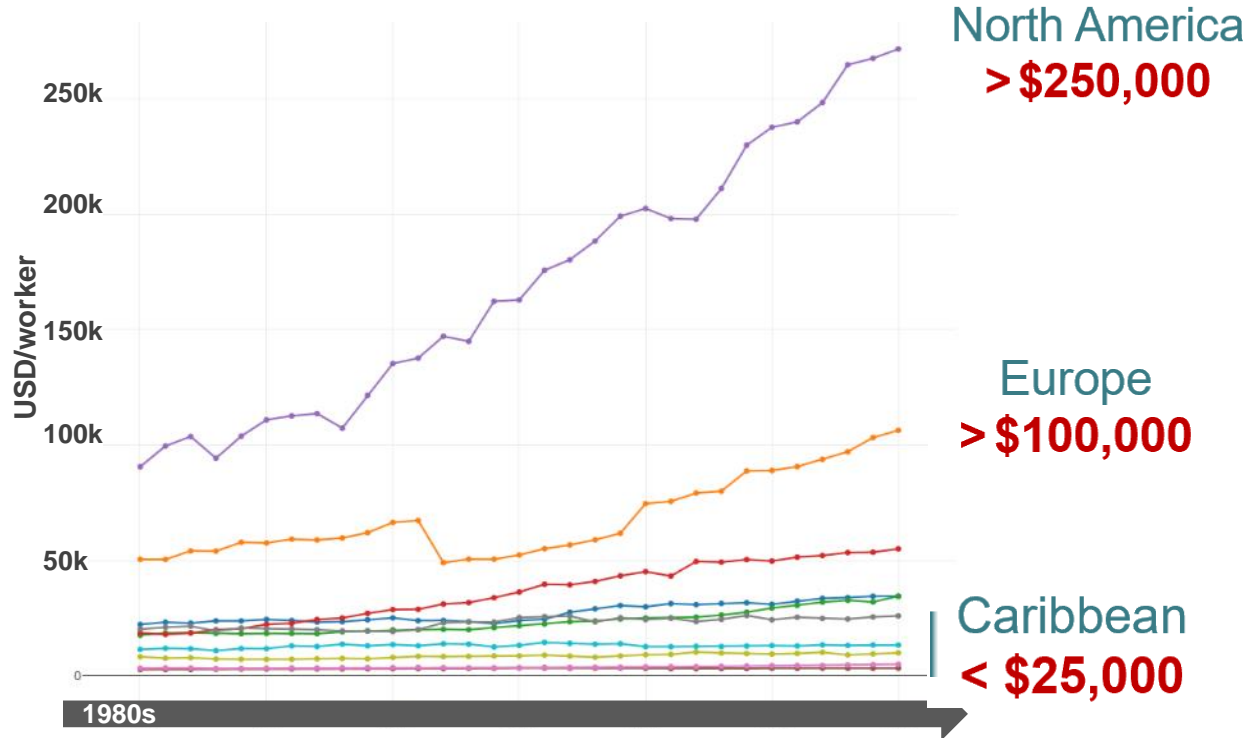


**Poverty and  
Inequality**



# Low Productivity Growth

## Agricultural Production Value Per Worker, by Region (USD)







# Weak Market Linkages

Markets demand high quality, safe, and nutritious foods on a timely basis.



Driving growth of  
stringent food safety  
standards



Supermarket  
Revolution

Outbreaks of food  
borne illnesses



U.S. Food and Drug Administration



To Whom It May Concern,

This is an official notification that the United States Food and Drug Administration (U.S.FDA) is planning to conduct an inspection at your food firm in the near future. In order to make sure you receive this notification, FDA is sending duplicates of this notice to all contact points available, including email, fax, and/or mail. In addition, we are also notifying your competent authority of this inspection notice. Our records indicate that your firm is a grower, harvester, processor, manufacturer, packer, repacker, and/or holder of foods under U.S.FDA jurisdiction and that these foods are offered for consumption in the U.S.

## US Food Safety Modernization Act

## GlobalGAP





# Natural Hazards and Climate Change

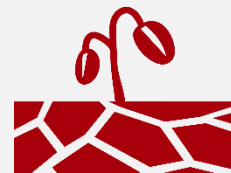
## Tropical Cyclones

Wind and excess rainfall cause **large economic damages** across many BMCs



## Droughts

Regionally, **40%** has **mild droughts** and **10%** has **severe droughts** annually





# Poverty and Inequality



**25%** of registered farmers are female

Gender-based inequalities in accessing land, labour, finance, technology, and market information



Rural households highly dependent on agriculture

Poor rural households are highly vulnerable to fluctuations in agricultural income, increasing their risk of poverty

**Low agricultural output disproportionately impacts rural communities**

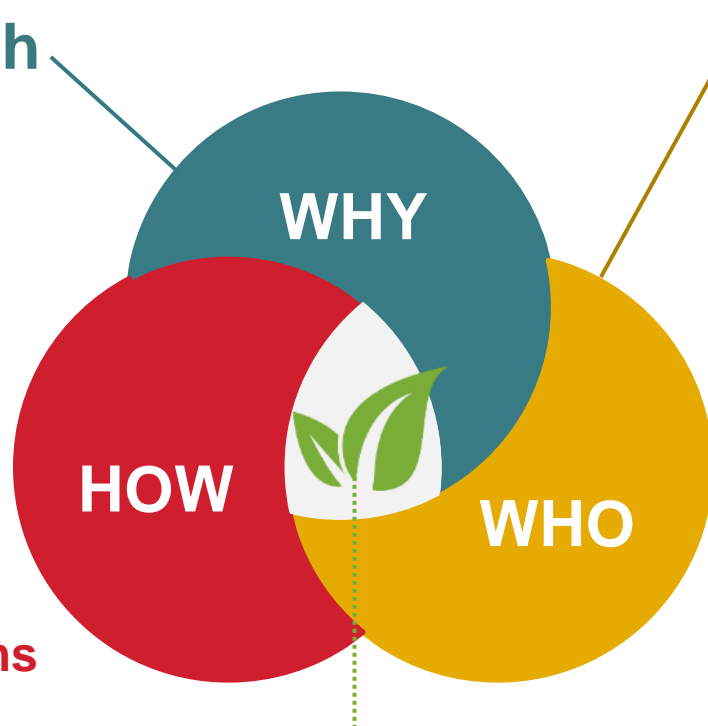
# Transforming Agriculture: Embracing Opportunities

## Economic Growth

Growth in agriculture is the most efficient way to **reduce poverty** in rural areas

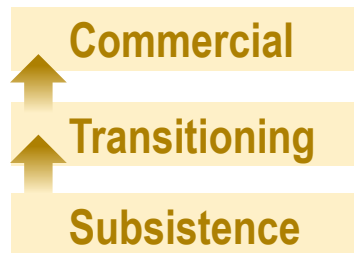
## Technology

Embracing modern **technology and systems**



## Productivity

**Agri-entrepreneurs** with potential to step-up



Transformation

# Transforming Agriculture: CDB's Proposal



**Strengthening value chains** – identifying and addressing key constraints in an integrated manner



**Promoting science and innovation** – developing modern agricultural practices, harnessing technology and digitization



**Supporting Climate Resilience** – building capacity in Climate Smart Agriculture



**Cross-cutting themes** – gender equality, food and nutrition security, and youth

# Transforming Agriculture: Theory of Change



To achieve a more competitive, inclusive, and sustainable agri-food system

Enabling environment for efficient agricultural value chains

Enabling infrastructure for agriculture value chains



Stakeholder and  
Institutional  
Capacity Building



Financial  
Services



Regional Public  
Goods and Multi-  
Country Systems



Production



Market Access

**Thank you!**

The image features two young green plants with two leaves each, growing out of a mound of dark, rich soil. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green with bokeh light effects, creating a natural and hopeful atmosphere.

**Let's embrace the opportunities**