

Country Program Framework

Government of Saint Lucia

And

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United
Nations

2012-2015

JOINT STATEMENT

The Government of Saint Lucia (GOSL), represented by the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Forestry and Fisheries and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, FAO/UN represented by its Representative for Saint Lucia, are pleased to jointly present the Country Program Framework (CPF) 2012-2015.

The FAO/GOSL/CPF is a result of extensive consultations held with a wide range of stakeholders within the country as well as with relevant technical units in the FAO-Sub regional Office in Barbados.

The document is jointly owned by the Government of Saint Lucia and Food and Agriculture Organization and indicates the broad commitment of FAO/UN, subject to the availability of funding, to assist the Government of Saint Lucia in its efforts to implement the Agriculture Policy and Five Year Strategic Management and Action Plan (2010-2014). In this respect the CPF will contribute to the expected results of four of the seven strategic objectives of the Policy. Specifically the assistance from FAO/UN will serve to improve national capacities under three broad priority areas: climate change and sustainability of agriculture and natural resources, food and nutrition security and enhanced technical and institutional capacities. These priority areas have been selected as the best fit to accommodate alignment with the four strategic objectives of the Saint Lucia Agriculture Policy and the strategic objectives and organizational results of the FAO Sub-regional Office in Barbados.

The FAO/GOSL/CPF takes into consideration the obligations and commitments of Saint Lucia as a protocol member of the OECS Economic Union and embraces the Outcomes of United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF 2012 2016) for Barbados and the OECS, the OECS Treaty on Agriculture, the OECS Agriculture Policy and Strategic Plan (2003) and the St. George's Declaration on Environmental Sustainability in the OECS Sub-region. This approach assures FAO support in assisting Saint Lucia to fulfill its role among protocol members, in the development priorities for OECS agriculture including the sub-regional programs that address cross border dimensions of agriculture.

By endorsing the CPF the Government of Saint Lucia is committed to provide collaboration, to the extent possible with regard to available capacity and resources, to facilitate the achievements of the objectives of the CPF.

As appropriate the FAO/GOSL/CPF 2012-2015 will be pursued in partnerships of the Government of Saint Lucia and members of the donor community with interest in agriculture and related areas in order to broaden the array of resources available for implementation of the activities and for enhanced coordination and aid effectiveness.

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ACRONYMS

ACP	African Caribbean and Pacific
CAHFSA	CARICOM Agriculture Health and Food Safety Agency
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CARDI	Caribbean Agriculture Research and Development Institute
CARISEC	CARICOM Secretariat
CBD	Convention on Biodiversity
CCRF	Code of Conduct for Responsible Fishing

CCCCC	Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre
CDEMA	Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency
CEHI	Caribbean Environment Health Institute
CFL	Consolidated Foods Limited
CFNI	Caribbean Food and Nutrition Institute
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
CIMH	Caribbean Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology
COTED	Council for Trade and Economic Development
CPA	Country Poverty Assessment
CPF	Country Program Framework
CSME	CARICOM Single Market and Economy
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FAOR	FAO Representative
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	Global Environmental Fund
GOSL	Government of Saint Lucia
GOSL/FAO/CPF	Government of Saint Lucia and Food and Agriculture Organization Country Program Framework
MALFF/FAO/CPF	Ministry of Agriculture, Lands Forestry and Fisheries and Food and Agriculture Organization Country Program Framework
IDA	International Development Agency

IICA	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture
IPPC	International Plant Protection Commission
LAC	Latin America and Caribbean
MALFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Forestry and Fisheries
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MDS	Millennium Development Summit
MOHW	Ministry of Health, Wellness, Family Affairs, National Mobilization and Gender Relations
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NEC	National Economic Council
NEMA	National Emergency Management Agency
NCDs	Non- communicable diseases
NMPTF	National Medium Term Priority Framework
OECS	Organization of Eastern Caribbean States
OXFAM	Oxford Committee for Famine relief
SGD	St George’s Declaration on Sustainable Development in the OECS Sub- region
SFA2006	Special Framework Assistance 2006
SLC	Sub-regional Office for the Caribbean
SRC	Sub-Regional Coordinator
Taiwan	Republic of China –Taiwan in Saint Lucia
TCP	Technical Cooperation Program
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

UN/ECLAC	United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and Caribbean
UNDAF	United Nations development Assistance Framework
UNEP	United Nations Environmental Program
UNICEF	United Nations Children’s Fund
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UK	United Kingdom
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
UWI	University of the West Indies
WINFRESH	WINFRESH Group (formerly WIBDECO)
WTO	World Trade Organization

Country Programme Framework

Government of Saint Lucia and Food and Agriculture Organization.

1. Introduction

1.1 Background: The Government of Saint Lucia (GOSL) became a signatory to membership in the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO/UN) in 1979. In line with FAO's goals and objectives, the GOSL has focused on a partnership to improve sustainable development of agriculture for food and nutrition security, conserve and manage the natural resources that impact food and agriculture productivity, and to sustain livelihoods and job creation in rural communities. An important element of this partnership is the capacity of FAO to facilitate and strengthen the integration of Saint Lucia's development priorities for agriculture into the international agricultural community thereby providing additional resources for national agriculture programs.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Forestry and Fisheries (MALFF) is the GOSL focal point for access to the resources of FAO. In this respect the MALFF has established cooperative programs with FAO in a range of projects and activities to affect policy formulation and implementation in the areas of crops, livestock, fisheries and forestry through the application of resources available from the Technical Cooperation Program (TCP). This program is most appropriate for developing countries because of its capacity to provide a broad range of technical assistance and competences in agriculture and food security and to add value to readiness strategies at country level to facilitate partnerships with other international development partners, donors and conventions, of interest to Saint Lucia's development priorities in agriculture.

The National Medium Term Priority Framework (NMTPF 2005-2009) was the most recent framework document for FAO/GOSL cooperation and was prepared in response to the objectives of the National Agriculture Policy (2004-2009). The focus of that framework document was to (i) improve the environment for markets to improve rural livelihoods (ii) improve capacities for food and nutrition security (iii) increase sustainable livestock production (iv) improve sustainable management of the natural resource base for fisheries, crops and livestock and (v) promote public/private sector investment in agriculture. In response to global challenges to national food security and the increasing impact of climate change especially hurricanes, very special attention was given to strengthening capacities at community levels for enhanced food and nutrition security including adaptations to mitigate the impact of natural disaster.

Based on the ¹documentation available, some areas where Saint Lucia reported gains over the period of the 2004-2009 NMPTF would have benefitted from the FAO technical assistance and facilitating processes. These include progress towards integrating food security and nutrition considerations in national health and education planning, strengthened capacity for policy analysis and strategic planning through the conduct of the 2007 agriculture census, sustained production and trade through capacity building for better management of invasive species of crops and livestock, protection of the natural resource base through adaptation and mitigation of risks from natural disasters, in particular hurricanes, the application of participatory approaches to water resources management and capacity building in value chain development to satisfy the domestic market, promote investments and broaden rural income generating base.

1.2 A New Agriculture Policy Framework 2010-2014: The 2012-2015 FAO Country Program Framework (formerly (NMPTF) is prepared in response to a new National Agricultural Policy 2010-2014 and Five Year Strategic Management and Action Plan. The vision reflected in the policy and strategic plan is for the further development and strengthening of products and services to address existing gaps in respect of the sector's contribution to rural prosperity, food and nutrition security, natural resource conservation and gender equity. This vision for ²agriculture fits well with national strategic objectives to focus on measures to stimulate economic activity and protect jobs while ensuring actions for medium to long term growth, strengthen the environment for empowerment of households and poverty reduction, economic diversification and strengthened sectoral linkages, environmental sustainability and strengthened public private sector partnerships.

Within months of publishing the 2010-2015 agriculture policy, Saint Lucia suffered major damages resulting from the 2010 passage of Hurricane Tomas. Agriculture was severely affected with loss of lives and livelihoods in farming and forested areas. There were massive land movements, devastating floods and loss of infrastructure across all sectors. Extended drought conditions for more than six months had created extremely high potential for surface erosion and mass movements in the slopes in the event of even

¹ See Bibliography (2008 Agriculture Review, FAO Terminal Reports, MOU between MALFF and Ministry of Health and Wellness, and 2008 Annual Regional Agriculture Review- OECS).

² Prime Minister's Budget Speech 2010-2011

a³ normal to heavy rainfall period. Impact on the sector was widespread with damages to farmland, physical infrastructure, crops, livestock, fisheries and forestry.

1.3 The objectives of the CPF 2012- 2015: are expected to create changes in three discreet areas as follows:

Firstly, improve the capacity of the Department of Forestry and the Water Resources Management Agency to manage the natural resources for forests including the freshwater resources and the Department of Fisheries to manage the marine fish resources for higher levels of productivity and income. In respect of each institution and collectively these actions will adhere to the principles for sustainable development in order to reduce losses in biodiversity and erosion of the ecosystems for longer term development priorities and with a special watch on threats to food and nutrition security.

Comment [JP1]: Communication for Development and Adaptation strategies possibly

Secondly, support systems for enhanced food and nutrition security and increased production in food sector in general, through farm family production and commercialization of agri-enterprises facilitated within the framework of discreet actions in technology transfer and adaptation guided by priorities for food import substitution and food import replacement in crops, and livestock.

Comment [JP2]: Research and Extension implications perhaps

Thirdly, strengthen technical and institutional capacities for policy analyses and formulation, planning, and monitoring in support of the objectives of the 2010-2014 agricultural policy and the FAO/GOSL Country Program Framework. This will be manifested in adequate knowledge in the Planning Unit to conduct analyses to inform policy and project identification and management, make recommendations and communicate same on the state of agriculture, to all stakeholders including the leadership of the MALFF, international partners and relevant national institutions.

1.4 The consultative process: The decisions on the CPF 2012-2015 benefited from (a) several national consultations conducted by MALFF during 2009-2010 (b) the outcomes of the in- country UNDAF 2012- 2016 consultations and (c) the several multi-sectoral processes required to assess and make recommendations for the sector following the 2010 passage of Hurricane Tomas. A number of meetings were also held between the FAO consultant and the leadership and other members of staff of the MALFF, culminating with a MALFF/FAO national consultation with stakeholders and representatives from relevant OECS and CARICOM organizations.

³ Preliminary Draft- Macro-economic and social and environmental Assessment of the damage and losses caused by Hurricane Tomas- UN/ECLAC /OECS 2010

2. Situational Analysis.

2.1 International and regional context: Saint Lucia is a member of the ACP grouping, the CARICOM regional economic grouping as well as a signatory to the OECS Economic Union Treaty. The latter is an advanced political and economic grouping with a single currency. In this context Saint Lucia is among the countries accorded trade privileges and market access for bananas in UK markets, which is its primary export market. In this manner Saint Lucia is experiencing all the challenges and opportunities created by the impact of trade liberalization on bananas, while at the same time enjoying all the privileges and opportunities of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME) and the single economic space in the OECS region.

As a member of the CARICOM regional grouping Saint Lucia also shares in the benefits of FAO /Caribbean sub-regional programs, and as an OECS Member state the FAO/OECS collaborative programs including under the Barbados and OECS UNDAF 2012-2016. By extension of the latter Saint Lucia also shares in the obligations and commitments of OECS protocol members in the Economic Union. Of relevance to the CPF are the OECS Agriculture Policy and Strategic Plan endorsed by the OECS Authority and the St. George's Declaration on the Principles for Sustainable Development (SGD) in the OECS sub region.

Saint Lucia is also a signatory and active participant to a number of international conventions and agreements that impact agriculture and food production. These include the World Trade Organization (WTO), the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the goals of 2000 MDS, in particular MDG 1 (reduction of poverty and food insecurity and MDG 8 (sustainable development of the environment), the Kyoto Protocol in respect of Global Climate Change, the commitments to the World Food Summits, and the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC). FAO has over the years actively facilitated the country's participation in the benefits to agriculture provided from these international bodies.

2.2 National context: Saint Lucia is the largest in population of the OECS member states. The Population Census 2010, records a 5% increase since 2001 to reach an estimated 157,000. Over this period the standard of living within households improved steadily, with many more households, across the island having attained access to the basic amenities required to alleviate situations of poverty.

2.2.1. Economic and social: As is the situation of most of the countries in the OECS sub region, Saint Lucia has a high debt to GDP ratio reaching ⁴79.1% in 2010.

⁴ IMF World Economic Outlook 2010

Since 2005 the economy has been growing steadily through tourism and manufacturing with tourism surpassing agriculture in GDP contribution and with the hospitality sector now providing more jobs than agriculture. (Annex 2). Foreign exchange earnings are now mainly from tourism with the provision of services having increased from 20% in 1995 to 35% of GDP in 2008. In this respect the economy has transitioned from an agriculture based economy of the 1990's, to a services economy.

The issue of gravest significance to the economy since the middle of the 1990's has been the decline in the agricultural sector and of the banana industry in particular. The main causes for decline are external in the form of challenges brought about with trade liberalization as well as the negative impact of the frequent passage of hurricanes. The most recent response to market challenges for bananas has been the reconfiguration of the private banana marketing companies to form the National Fair Trade Organization (NFTO) and the completion of requirements to satisfy marketing under the Fair trade labeling. This resulted in increases of 26.5% in banana exports in 2008 over 2007. A slight decline in 2009 was caused from an extended drought. The impact of the 2010 hurricane on production is expected to temporarily reverse these gains. The occurrence of these two weather- related but opposing phenomena over the same 12 month period is not unfamiliar and highlights one of the major challenges the banana industry experiences.

While attempts have been made to diversify the agricultural sector and reverse the declines in contribution to the economy, exports of non-banana agriculture remain well below levels to bridge the gap created in foreign exchange earnings, losses in job creation and employment. Furthermore total agricultural production has not been sufficient to arrest outflows of foreign exchange required to cover increasingly higher annual costs of food imports to satisfy national food security (Annex 2).

In respect of social welfare issues and notwithstanding the improvements in standards of living recorded in the population census 2010, the Saint Lucia Country Poverty Assessment (CPA 2005-2006) recorded poverty increased from 25.1% in 1995 to 28.8% in 2005. The CPA also identified another 40.3% of the population who were deemed vulnerable to poverty.

Poverty is characterized as being primarily rural, largely experienced in women-headed households and with over 50% of the income poor under the age of 20 years. The main issues identified among the rural poor, described mainly as agricultural producers, were the traditional problems with weak access to credit in general, specifically for fishers who would wish to purchase boats and lack of ownership to land by crop and livestock farmers. The real significance of the assumed close relationship between poverty and

agriculture livelihoods is that according to the CPA 2006 only ⁵22% of the 69% of population considered rural are actively engaged in agriculture, suggesting that the large majority of rural poor might in fact not be sufficiently engaged in agriculture for livelihood, to consider themselves as among producers. With rural population now down to ⁶60.3% the absolute numbers of active producers may even be lower. The challenge therefore is how to engage more of rural based population in sustainable economic activities linked to rural resources primarily land and marine resources.

Appropriately, the nine point strategic response of the Government announced for the 2010-2011 Budget Presentation contains three strategic priorities to address rural poverty (i) empowerment of households through rural economic diversification (ii) focus on linkages with agriculture and (iii) environmental sustainability.

2.2.2. Agriculture: The agriculture sector continues to be important to the economy in Saint Lucia and is high on list of priorities for the administration and management of land in the country. Still the challenges to the sector are many and the impact is felt in many of the important development priorities in the country (food and nutrition security, ecosystem stability, water resources management, sustainable livelihoods and terrestrial and marine tourism services).

Some of the challenges not mentioned so far include increasingly high cost of agri-inputs, and the incidence of economic invasive pests and diseases. Then too there are internal factors such as the openness and small size of the domestic market, weak application of information and production technology including irrigation technology, and low private sector investment. There are also issues with land tenure that affect ownership and are thought to dampen an enterprise approach to the development of agricultural lands. Collectively and singly these combine to hamper the expected gains from private sector partnerships that are in balance with public sector investment in agriculture. The result is low agriculture and food production and productivity, a high and increasing food importation bill to satisfy food and nutrition security and poverty that is largely rural.

2.2.2.1. The crop subsector: The crop subsector is the major contributor to agriculture by virtue of the dominance of the banana industry and the wide range of crops grown by all farmers. Banana dominates agricultural land use representing an estimated 45% of land area. Coconut as the second most important crop in terms of land use has been surpassed in value of output by cocoa, due to poor post harvest handling. Other

⁵ Calculated as just over 23,000 of the 108,000 rural based on Population Census 2010 data.

⁶ Population and Housing Census 2010

important agriculture crops are fruits, vegetables, root_crops, citrus and breadfruits. Since 2002 the focus has been heavily on agriculture diversification to encourage production for local consumption and self-sufficiency in selected crops (lettuce, tomato, sweet pepper, cabbage, cucumber, dasheen, sweet potato, yam and plantain). While production is below desired levels these crops have emerged as best performers in the data provided by the 2008 Saint Lucia Annual Agriculture Review (Annex 2). According to the same publication, tomato, cabbage and sweet pepper are also the three vegetables for which declines in importation have been recorded in the five years leading up to 2008. Carrot makes up the full list of vegetables for which the data show significant declines in importations over that same period.

2.2.2.2. Marine fisheries and aquaculture subsector: The marine fisheries subsector may be said to be most organized with steady improvements in performance attributed to a documented plan of action to guide management and the deployment of Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs). However marine fishing comprises less than 1% of total GDP.

The five year period up to 2008 recorded higher levels of capture of pelagic species. However based on studies carried out on the pelagic fish population by ⁷FAO, the respective EEZs of the Caribbean region are losing some of their fish populations to temperate regions as ecosystems change from the increased warming of waters around the Caribbean Sea. In this respect fish landings data in some species recorded declines in 2008. The species include Wahoo, snapper, lobster and conch. Against this background the sector has plans for an assessment of the marine resources sites and selected fish stock assessments, starting first with a lobster stock assessment. Notwithstanding there was some satisfaction when Saint Lucia closed the deficit between importations and local landings for marine fish in 2008 (Annex 2).

Aquaculture is emerging as an important subsector with the establishment of a Hatchery Facility in the North of the Island, but there is still much work to be accomplished in order to establish an industry (promotions, processing and packaging, quality assurance and incentives for private sector partnerships).

2.2.2.3. The livestock subsector: The livestock subsector is not well developed in Saint Lucia and is primarily poultry and to a lesser extent pork and small ruminants. The relative dominance of poultry and pork reflects the refinement in 2003 of

⁷ Scientific Basis for Ecosystem-Based Management in the Lesser Antilles including Interaction with Marine Mammals and other Top Predators. GCP/RLA/140/JPN

the national agriculture policy to support the OECS Agriculture Policy and Strategic Plan (2003) to pursue self-sufficiency in eggs, pork and poultry. Saint Lucia is at this time self-sufficient in eggs and there are plans to increase production and promote consumption of eggs. Both poultry and pork receive some administrative protection in the domestic market; poultry in terms of some 20% of the market with plans to move this to 30% and pork in terms of 40% of the local market.

Both poultry and pork producers are challenged by the high cost of feeds and medicines. Goats are also important and there are plans to increase production by improving the breeds using artificial insemination. A major youth entrepreneur program is planned to encourage and train young people to provide services in goat production at the farm level. Meat importation is a major component of the annual food import bill accounting for some 30% with the major share going to poultry.

Comment [JP3]: Extension capacity building may be needed to support this goal

2.2.3 Food and nutrition security: Saint Lucia has made significant progress towards alleviation of under nutrition with less than 5% of the population considered undernourished in 2006 down from 7% in 2003 and bettered only by Belize and the Bahamas in the Caribbean region⁸. Nonetheless the food trade balance for Saint Lucia in the five years leading to 2008 shows that increasingly food importation is necessary to satisfy food and nutrition security. While an FAO study conducted on the impact of the rise in food prices and agri-input prices in 2006-2008 revealed threefold increase in some foods and agri-inputs, no assessments have been made since 2006. However a nutrition vulnerability study conducted jointly by FAO/CFNI (2007) is suggesting that food security in Saint Lucia might be better described in terms of consumption/utilization rather than availability and access. The major concerns are therefore the influence of life styles on the composition of the daily diet and the fact that the larger share is imported. The concern for consumption emerges from the increase in non-communicable diseases (NCDs) including among children.

Comment [JP4]: Impressive

In view of the significant levels of food importation to satisfy food and nutrition security it is important to be mindful that based on the declines in rural population as recorded in the 2010 Population Census, it is highly probable that there are declines in the absolute numbers of persons actively involved in food production.

⁸ FAO Terminal Statement Capacity Building for Development of FBDGs to promote healthy diets and life styles. TCP RLA 3002 (A).

The MALFF and the FAO are fully aware of the implications of the aforementioned for stability and improvement towards better nutrition. In response the MALFF/FAO/CPF embraces the 2010 National Agriculture Policy and Five Year Strategic Plan strategic objective to improve food security including the targeting of three of the six strategic actions highlighted for enhanced food and nutrition security (Annex 6).

2.2. 4. Forestry and water resources management: Forest and woodlands have declined to ⁹20% of acreages recorded in 1974. The significance of this rests in the fact that Saint Lucia is a relatively water scarce small island system with very fragile and interconnected ecosystems. Furthermore these ecosystems are all tied to the sustainable welfare of the peoples as the main productive activities are in agriculture and tourism and are strongly linked to ecosystems services. In 2003 the Government prepared a draft land policy with the objective of securing sustainable use of lands and in the case of forestry to protect biodiversity and the ground water system. It is imperative that the Draft Land Policy be finalized as pressures on captured water for development are increasingly a concern. Furthermore with productive activities shifting from agriculture to services, the space for agriculture to function as the custodian of the natural resources is narrowing. Already there are disruptions in household water from time to time and in 2010 national guidelines for rainwater harvesting for household and farm use were announced following the passage of hurricane Tomas.

A major constraint in the management of the forests is the absence of a current medium term forest management plan. This has created challenges for the Department of Forestry and the Water Resources Management Agency to adopt a strategic approach to conservation strategies relative to sustainable management and protection of biodiversity and management of ground water resources for longer term development. In the meantime these two institutions continue to work closely with the Biodiversity Unit to manage programs for sustainable forests and watersheds.

In Saint Lucia the non-timber forest resources also play an important part in livelihood strategies. Charcoal for cooking and latanier for brooms and brushes are the two most important non-timber resources but there are fears of supply constraints for both. The forest also provides a favorable micro climate for growing anthurium an important income earning activity for rural women.

⁹ Census of Agriculture 2007

2.2.5 Policies and Programs: The policies of relevance to the FAO/GOSL/CPF are the National Agricultural Policy (2010-2014), the Land Policy (2003) which is still a green paper and the OECS Agriculture Policy and Strategic Action Plan (2003). All three policies are comprehensive with specific goals and strategic actions to improve the contribution of agriculture in the development process and over the long term. In this manner they provide an enabling environment for the CPF to add-value to strategic actions at national level as well as enhance Saint Lucia's ability to adhere to the commitment and obligations of the OECS Treaty on Agriculture. The Treaty commits protocol members to the transformation of agriculture sector through modernization of the sector, setting of benchmarks for national strategies and proposed joint strategic frameworks, adoption of national policies that complement regional initiatives and provide reliable mechanism for public/private sector partnerships and investments for competitive agriculture sector.

2.2.5.1. National Agriculture Policy 2010-2014: The National Agriculture Policy was designed with full considerations for the limiting factors relative to agriculture. The Policy has as its goal to promote economic development, generate employment and enhance viability of rural communities. This goal aligns well the mandate of the National Economic Council (NEC) and the national goals as envisioned in the Prime Ministers Budget Presentation 2010-2011.

Seven broad policy objectives are to be achieved over the implementation period and are as follows: (a) increase efficiency and competitiveness of the sector (b) promotion, adaptation and adoption of improved appropriate technology (c) expand agriculture and market base (d), rationalize the use of land (e), enhance food security (f), generate employment in rural communities and (g) to protect and conserve sustainable use of natural resource base.

Comment [JP5]: R & E

Comment [JP6]: C4D implications

These policy objectives for 2010-2014 are not significantly different from those under the 2004-2009 agriculture policy and essentially seek to build on gains over that period through a strong focus on commercialization and agri entrepreneurship through increased stakeholder participation and improved facilitation by the Ministry of Agriculture. In light of the focus on commercialization new strategic actions emerged in areas relative to better access to credit, farm labour productivity, risk mitigation, youth entrepreneurship and gender equity.

Consideration is also being given to measures to reform the extension system and to increase collaboration with regional and international research institutions. The intention will be to facilitate access to technologies to improve production systems and value-added through product differentiation. Strategic niche groups will be selected for commercialization and a special basket of crops, livestock and fish for household food and nutrition security

Comment [JP7]: Clear statement here

2.2.5.2 National Land Policy Green Paper (2003): This Policy is intended to mitigate the negative impacts of development on land and other natural resources, preserve ecosystems and promote good land use options including in coastal zones and watersheds. The paper proposes a policy framework that incorporates seven functions of the land embracing social, economic, ecological and cultural considerations. Land for food and nutrition security, land as a critical asset to poverty reduction and land to sustain biological diversity, environmental quality and bio-physical processes are among the seven functions listed. The green paper also addresses governance and management issues in particular, efficiencies in land management and administration.

There are extensive details on the sustainable development of land for crops, livestock, and aquaculture. Specifically the policy seeks to (i) protect and enhance productive capacity of agricultural lands by securing land tenure for agricultural production, (ii) improve farming techniques to minimize land degradation (iii), prevent absorption of agricultural lands by other forms of development and (iv) meet the demands for coastal space to develop fisheries infrastructure and the development of aquaculture (near shore areas for mariculture, flat lands and freshwater for aquaculture).

Comment [JP8]: Role to play

Declines in agricultural lands and forested areas observed in the data of the Agriculture Census 2007 are clear indicators of the growing pressure for land for reasons other than food production and conservation of freshwater resources. Of even greater concern are the poor land use practices in food production.

According to a ¹⁰review conducted on behalf of CARISEC in 2005, 45% of agriculture land was in bananas and another 42% for coconut production leaving a mere 13% for food production from crops and livestock. In light of this finding the land policy needs to be finalized and adopted, facilitated by the relevant legislation and institutions for enforcement. Some of the areas to be addressed and which fall within the role of agriculture include the sustainable use of forests, land zoning/banks for food production, the land use practices for agriculture, as well as land tenure and land administration issues that impact investments and development in food production systems.

2.2.5.3 OECS Agriculture Policy and Strategic Management and Action Plan (2003): Since 2003 Saint Lucia has sought to refine its agricultural policies to ensure coherence with the OECS Agricultural Policy endorsed by the OECS Authority and subsequent revisions of the Action Plan. The OECS policy objectives are intended to affect agriculture outputs at the sub-regional level in the following ways (i) increased sector

¹⁰ Review of Agriculture Policies- Case Study of Saint Lucia- UWI Trinidad and Tobago - 2005

contribution to GDP (ii) increased production and improved marketing (iii); reduced food imports (iv), higher value-added in fisheries and (v) improved marketing infrastructure.

The principles governing the implementation of the OECS agricultural policy are well aligned with the ¹¹SGD. Together they assure commitment to the conservation of biological diversity and protection of areas of ecological significance with special consideration to those processes of sustainable development that impact the productivity of the natural resource base for agriculture and water resources. In this manner the three policies of reference are reinforcing and create a sound framework for the pursuit of sustainable development strategies in the National Agriculture Policy of Saint Lucia. FAO as an equal partner in the FAO/MALFF/CPF assumes an enhanced opportunity to contribute to and influence the sub- regional initiatives to transform OECS agriculture as envisioned in the OECS Treaty on Agriculture.

2.3. Main institutions impacting agriculture: The MALFF is the principal public sector institution responsible for policy development and implementation of Saint Lucia's agriculture. Core functions of MALFF include impact monitoring and assessment, advisory services and recommendations to the Government, coordination and collaboration with private sector and coordination and facilitation of the government's agreements, mandates and obligations with regional and international organizations and provision of disaster relief. The MALFF is also involved in many traditional roles such as farmer capacity building, subsector project development and implementation, provision of marketing information and access and transfer of production technologies.

The MALFF works in close collaboration with the Ministries of Physical Planning; Health and Wellness; Social Transformation; and Trade. In 1997, an Office of Private Sector Relations was established in the Ministry of Economic Planning with the objective of encouraging public private sector enterprise linked to crop diversification in the agriculture sector.

There are also close working relations with critical institutions such as the Saint Lucia Bureau of Standards, Pesticides Control Board, Farmers/ Producer Organizations, Saint Lucia Chamber of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce, Saint Lucia Agriculturist Association; Office of the Attorney General and the WINFRESH (formerly WIBDECO). These are all institutions with adequate capacities to carry out their respective functions.

¹¹ St George's Declaration of Principles for Environmental Sustainability for the OECS Sub-region.

2.4. Cooperation with FAO and other agencies: The Government of Saint Lucia is a signatory to many agreements at regional and international levels. The main donors and partners with interest in agriculture are the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), European Investment Bank (EIB), the European Union (EU) and the IDA. There is a heavy reliance on external sources of funds outside the tax system to undertake agricultural infrastructure such as farm, marketing and packaging facilities and infrastructure for the marine fisheries landing sites and for livestock processing. IICA, FAO, UNEP, Taiwan, USAID, CIDA are the main technical cooperation partners on agriculture.

The agriculture sector in Saint Lucia also benefits from resources and partnerships under the UNDAF process. In this regard the UNDAF 2012-2016 for Barbados and the OECS, will deliver development cooperation assistance through six priority outcomes including food and nutrition security using a joint approach. The details of the partnerships between the outcomes for food and nutrition security are provided in Annex 4.

Specific to FAO and within the 2004-2009 FAO/GOSL framework technical assistance was provided primarily under both phases of the Regional Food Security Project in partnership with the Italian Government and the CARICOM Secretariat, the TCP and TCP Facility including the Special Facility to alleviate the situation caused from high food prices and the GOSL/FAO/EUSFA2006.

Under the projects executed, Saint Lucia actively promoted production, marketing and consumption of locally produced foods with good results in increased purchases of locally produced fruits and vegetables. In addition farmers and farmers' organization can be more enterprising using knowledge gained in value chain analysis and in fostering production marketing linkages using farmer field approach. Capacities in risk management are improved to adequately mitigate impact of hurricanes at the community level on crops, livestock and forestry. Plant protection and quarantine technical officers are better prepared to manage the fruit fly an important economic pest in the sub-region with major implications for production and trade. Still in the area of risk management, Saint Lucia has access to the COTED endorsed Plan of Action for Prevention of Praedial Larceny in CARICOM member states, prepared with technical support from FAO.

Following the successful undertaking of the 2007 agriculture census the sector was enabled to access substantive data to inform the preparation of the 2010-2014 agricultural policy and strategic management plan. The outputs of TCP support to establish FBDGs and the SFA2006 partnerships for promotion of locally produced foods have provided the basis for strengthened intersectoral approach for a comprehensive strategy towards food security with a focus on consumption/utilization.

In addition to the outcomes of the direct assistance to Saint Lucia, neighboring OECS and CARICOM countries have benefitted from methodologies established in Saint Lucia. In this regard, the web-based water resources management infrastructure established in Saint Lucia was also introduced to Grenada, Trinidad and Tobago and Jamaica with good levels of acceptance and expertise developed in FAO methodology to undertake Agriculture Census has been shared with other member states in the OECS.

2.5. Challenges and Opportunities for Agriculture and Rural Development

2.5.1 Introduction: As is the case with the rest of the OECS and the Caribbean, the major challenges to development and sustained growth to agriculture are external economic, environmental, technological, and social. For Saint Lucia, persistent declines and more recent unevenness in agriculture growth observed in the last two decades are due primarily to changes in international trade. Second to this is the inadequate engagement of capacities and available resources to generate sustained growth in an agriculture diversification program. Briefly elaborated the challenges and opportunities could be described as follows:

Comment [JP9]: Capacity Building needed

2.5.1.1 External economic: All the agriculture subsectors and their producers and communities are challenged by the demands of external markets for consistency in quality and standards, product differentiation, and reliability in volumes. High cost of shipping to extra regional markets and the burdensome requirements of shipping arrangements faced by producers for a long time have now been made easier through the creation of ¹²WINFRESH in 2007. The WINFRESH Group also provides services to encourage activities to expand the production base by facilitating marketing of products up the value chain. Nonetheless the struggles of the banana industry to maintain product quality and differentiation in order to hold market shares are evident even after several years of experience among the producers.

In this situation it would appear that the best opportunities lie in building and strengthening local enterprises and farm level capacities to continue to pursue the requirements to satisfy food demand in the domestic market for national food security and the 25% share of the fresh produce food import bill required for the tourism sector. This approach should create adequate space to select at least one other export commodity and to develop competencies, capacities and systems for value-added and branded products and the associated standards and codes of practices for export markets in the medium to long term.

¹² Formerly, Windward Island Banana Export and Development Company.

2.5.1.2 Environmental factors: These are both external and internal factors. Emerging issues of climate change in particular variability in rainfall and intensity of hurricanes are challenging production systems in crops, livestock, fisheries and forestry in Saint Lucia. Based on FAO's competences a wide range of opportunities exist to address these areas within the CPF and create changes that impact ecosystems productivity and production systems in a sustainable way. The issue of reliable data for sustainability of agriculture has been a long term concern in the region. In this regard adequate data management systems will be a necessary component of the package of technical assistance in order to facilitate targeting of those actions which must be addressed with urgency. Among those already emerging are management of natural resources including freshwater productivity, with a focus on forestry and watershed planning for longer term sustainability of water for agriculture, and mitigation of the impact of poorly executed land-based activities, natural disasters and overfishing of some species on the marine fisheries.

2.5.1.3 Technological factors: Weak access to technology and the proper application when available, are presenting challenges across the agri-food systems (production- marketing-consumption system for agriculture). The entire sector faces the challenge of how to realize its institutional visioning and strategic objectives to achieve agricultural diversification and expansion into market products and services through technological applications. The target would be higher levels of production, productivity, and competitiveness in product differentiation.

To complete the package the CPF would need to explore the opportunities for establishing indicators/criteria to identify products with potential for growth and profitability in order to inform decisions on a technology transfer strategy and action plan. The data and information required would be those that inform on sets of commodities with the potential for contributing to different development priorities of the sector, including information on who and where are the producers with qualities such as a comparative advantage to use production and marketing information, engage good management practices, and with access to resources to use technology well.

In light of the above and bearing in mind that Saint Lucia is in good standing with its obligations to CARDI, further opportunities exist for FAO to partner the MALFF and CARDI and any other research institutions to conduct the necessary training, support the selection process and prepare the strategy and the plan of action.

Comment [JP10]: Role for R in this request/challenge

2.5.1.4 Social factors: The CPA 2006 indicates that most of the poor are rural and that they are poor because of lack of access (land, vocational education, low incomes, and credit). At the national level this would be the situation of close to 29% of the population while another 40% are considered vulnerable to poverty. In the past it had been largely assumed that rural people are largely farmers. However the CPA 2006 revealed that less than 22% of the 69.0% of the population classified as rural are actively involved in farming. The 2010 Population Census indicates a decline in rural population now down to 60.3 % suggesting that in absolute numbers the persons involved in agriculture may be even lower.

Another interpretation of the foregoing is that there is a high probability that while agriculture and food production is rural in nature many persons involved in managing medium to large acreages may also be actively involved in other non-agricultural activities and are being missed as they do not live in the rural areas. Furthermore that some of those who do live in rural areas do not consider themselves farmers because of the level of involvement in other income generating activities or the sheer low level of the farm output. This presents complexities in determining the competitiveness of lands allocated for agriculture vis a vis other economic activities. The social challenges are further complicated by the fact that data from the 2007 Census of Agriculture which indicate that of the 9,500 holdings, 44% of the area under agricultural lands is in the possession of just over 500 holdings with 56% representing 9,000 holdings.

The foregoing would suggest that the assumption that farmers are by definition rural households and resource poor by nature needs to be rationalized in terms of the connectivity of rural –urban relations in small countries. Furthermore that in order to raise the competitiveness of land under agriculture, land utilization and the services provided by the Ministry of Agriculture needs to be rationalized on the basis of the land owners' capacity and willingness to engage the combination of resources necessary to use land well. It might prove useful for the MALFF to determine a methodology for stratifying food producers into three groups not necessarily governed only by the size of the land holdings. There strata are foreseen (a) those who are resource poor/micro-producers and who require a special social transformation orientation service to alleviate household food and nutrition security and to transition into producers who can experience income growth (b) those small to large size producers who require service to achieve or enhance modernization and competitiveness to advance or enable an already enterprising approach to food production activities that contribute to the national production- consumption chain and (c) those holdings of medium and large size which are unutilized or underutilized for several reasons and which may require special type of negotiations, regulations and partnerships to bring these lands into optimum production..

Comment [JP11]: These are relevant R & E and/or AIS questions!!

In the context of social challenges and the role of the FAO/GOSL /CPF it will be necessarily to define more clearly the farm householders within that 22% of active

producers (crops, livestock fishers) who require the services at (a) above and to determine their treatment in collaboration with the Ministries with social development portfolios. In terms of those identified at (b) some of the known challenges where the CPF could be of relevance would include issues related to land tenure and administration, and issues related to commercialization, productivity of farm labour or farmer education, while in the case of (c) considerations would include land tenure issues, promotion of investment models and financing mechanisms and public/private partners ownership of agriculture enterprises.

2.6. Outlook for agriculture: Perspectives of a promising outlook for agriculture is based on the following premise:

2.6.1. Enabling environment: Institutionally the MALFF has built a number of strengths over recent years. These include a strengthened enabling policy environment with the dissemination of a new and comprehensive agriculture policy and strategic actions covering the entire production- utilization chain. The MALFF also has the information infrastructure in place for regular monitoring and update of the policy and action programs. Properly implemented the policy should result in sustainable use of the natural resource base for agriculture and food production, increased food and nutrition security and increased effectiveness and competitiveness of agriculture.

In respect of intersectoral relations the MALFF has established strong relations by way of MOU with the Ministry of Health and Wellness laying a good foundation for placing food and nutrition security closer to the center of social and economic issues. There are also strong working relations with Ministries of Physical Planning and Trade and Consumer Affairs.

2.6.2. Export agriculture: The creation of WINFRESH and the National Fair-trade Trade Organization provides good prospects for continued market access for bananas and new promises for market access for non-banana fresh and processed products. It also opens new possibilities for investment and promotion of the offer of brands in the export baskets to niche markets.

2.6.3. Domestic Agriculture: The indications of the five year data up to 2008 are that there are good prospects in the domestic market for selected fruits, vegetables and root crops. There is also good indication that there is now a reliable group of farmers who can maintain business arrangements with the major players in the domestic market. The relationships established so far can be innovatively engaged to enhance enterprise development. These include branding through simple product differentiation such as offering *fresh and or packaged* to hotels, restaurants and other upscale agri-food services. The quality of relationship between farmers and wholesalers such as CFL and the improved access to green house technology by many farmers would be a good platform

from which organization of farmers could pursue organic relationships with the major fresh food importers.

Comment [JP12]: AIS Support Services

2.6.4. Food security and nutrition: Strong inter institutional relations have been established between agriculture and the social sectors primarily health and wellness and education. However in terms of measures to reduce household food insecurity and nutrition, it will be necessary to effectively organize the over 37% farmers considered resource poor or micro-producers operating on holdings of less than one acre of land in order to raise their capacities to receive extension services including access to the domestic market. Failure to do this could undermine their household food security and reduce the capacity of the country to feed itself as with time these farmers will increasingly leave the farm in search of off- farm income activities. Such a change to primarily cash transactions to access food could further jeopardize the pursuit of healthy dietary practices and introduce new concerns about the high incidence of NCDs.

Comment [JP13]: Yes, a food security focused extension

In respect of the producers operating larger holdings these need to be facilitated to organize themselves in order to establish stronger business linkages with the domestic market, that can expand value chains and create new livelihoods that keep families in rural areas.

2.6.5. Risks and constraints that threaten outlook: The major risks that could undermine the outlook for agriculture and food security are from natural and manmade disasters, mainly in the form of hurricanes and praedial larceny. In both cases the MALFF has in place capacity building initiatives as well as a legal framework to prevent and reduce these risks. Other critical constraints that exist include land tenure issues and week access to water for irrigation when necessary. It is expected that land tenure issues will be addressed through the early finalization of the draft land policy and access to water for irrigation through the implementation of national guidelines for rainwater harvesting.

2.6.6. Impact of Hurricane Tomas: Hurricane Tomas had severe impact on the natural resource base of the sector. However the assessments conducted provided good recommendations for short and longer term recovery. In the case of the marine fisheries these have already been integrated in the strategic plans of the Department. It is expected that in a short time the same will happen for the crops, livestock and forestry sector.

3. Priorities of FAO Technical Assistance

3.1 Introduction: The priorities of the FAO Technical assistance for Saint Lucia were influenced by the situational analysis on the country's agriculture as well as a number of related and reinforcing strategic frameworks within the FAO Medium Term Plan.

3.1.1 Strategic Frameworks influencing the FAO/GOSL/CPF Priorities:

The point of departure for shaping the CPF was the FAO Strategic Framework (2012-2015). This framework identifies eleven strategic objectives and associated organizational results to achieve the global objectives of the Organization. There are also eight core functions of the Organization representing the tools to be employed in the achievement of the expected results. Globally these results contribute to the goals of the Organization as agreed to at the 2009 Conference of Ministers while at the same time, as necessary they contribute to the strategic objectives of respective FAO member states.

In the case of Saint Lucia, the Country Program Framework is aligned with the FAO Strategic Framework 2012-2015 as well as the Regional Results for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Sub-regional goals set by the Caribbean Ministers of Agriculture at the 2010 FAO Regional Conference for the Ministers of Agriculture in Latin America and the Caribbean. At that Conference, Caribbean Ministers of Agriculture committed to ¹³increasing food security, promoting agriculture sector growth and establishing sustainable systems for development. To achieve these goals, the priorities identified by Caribbean Ministers included addressing the policy environment; building human and institutional capacities; promoting business enterprises and organizations and using improved information and technology for increased production, productivity and competitiveness..

The FAO/GOSL/CPF is also aligned to the ¹⁴five strategic objectives and related Organizational Results selected by the Sub-Regional Office for the Caribbean (SLC) for the period 2012-2015. The FAO/GOSL/CPF also contributes to four of the Regional Results for LAC, relative to priorities in food and nutrition security, climate change and sustainability of agriculture and natural resources, support to family farming including training and technology transfer to small producers and enhanced institutional capacities, policy formulation and investment.

The CPF for Saint Lucia has adopted these strategic objectives and broad sub-regional and regional results as they are most appropriate to contribute to the National Agricultural Policy and Strategic Management Plan 2010-2014 and to the principles of the National Land Policy – Green Paper (2003).

3.1.2 Critical factors of the situational analysis on agriculture: Three critical areas emerged as being of urgent concern to the Government of Saint Lucia. These include (i) sustainability of the natural resource and agriculture including strategies to mitigate the

¹³ 31st FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN- Challenges and Outlook for the Caribbean Sub region.- held in Panama, 21010.

¹⁴ FAO Strategic Framework- Sub-Regional Office for the Caribbean

potential impact of climate variation (ii) food and nutrition security and (iii) adequacy of the human and institutional capacity to secure an agriculture environment that is efficient, effective and competitive.

Comment [JP14]: Yes indeed

3.1.2.1 Sustainability of agriculture and natural resources and the impact of climate variation: Saint Lucia as a member of the OECS is committed to its obligations under the St. Georges Declaration of Principles for Environmental Sustainability for the OECS Sub-region (SGD), which embraces conservation and protection of biological diversity. This commitment places two levels of responsibility on the agriculture sector. The first is its responsibility as the custodian of the natural resource base and the sustained productivity of the various ecological systems for production, health and welfare. The second is its mandate to conduct activities in agriculture and food production from the products and services of the agro-ecological systems.

The first area of concern for the CPF derives from results of the 2007 Agriculture Census. The data indicate that sustainability of agriculture is under threat as agricultural and forest lands are disappearing under pressures from the pace of economic development. The second is that as this happens the agro-ecological systems have been deteriorating, undermining capacity to secure food production from both land-based and marine food production systems. Already there are concerns over water productivity, loss of soil fertility and erosion including the negative impacts on the coastal marine sites. Coupled with these is the impact of hurricanes and evidence of extended droughts and increasingly intense periods of rainfall as climate change happens. The experiences from the passage of Hurricane Tomas (2010) proved that such weather patterns can be even more devastating when there is poor land management.

Against this background opportunities exist for FAO's competences in natural resources management to be brought to bear in a wide range of actions. These would include two major areas. The first area would be to support sustainable management of the forests, land, water and genetic resources and improve response to climate change (variability in rainfall) through capacity building in (i) data management to update the inventory of water catchments and (ii) rainwater harvesting and conservation measures, documentation, adoption and promotion and (iii) training for crop and livestock farmers in the efficient application of available water. This will require the preparation of a strategic forest and water resources management plan and the associated action plans.

Comment [JP15]: CB

The second major area where opportunities for FAO competences exist is in the support to manage the marine fisheries resources through the implementation of the CCRF. The 2008 data revealed that some important fish species were showing signs of depletion while others were being heavily fished. Furthermore the assessment of the impact of Hurricane Tomas recorded serious and long term impact from the devastation to the coastal marine habitats. The requirement would be to build capacity to reassess the marine

fisheries and fisherfolks and other stakeholders in order to prepare a marine fisheries management and development plan. This would be further supported by measures to improve capacities within the industry to reduce the pressure on the fisheries by increasing productivity through value added to selected species catch, through application of quality assurance systems. In respect of both measures FAO's expertise in fisheries legislation would also be necessary.

3.1.2.2 Food and Nutrition Security: The food and nutrition security situation in Saint Lucia is characterized by growing food import bill, household poverty levels of close to 29% and another 40% vulnerable to poverty, 5% undernourished and high levels of NCDs in particular diabetes in children. With the current uncertainties of global food prices, more than one third of the population could be at risk for household food insecurity. In 2008 the food import bill increased by 5.3% to reach EC\$219, 053 million. Proteins primarily meats accounted for 47%, cereals 25% and vegetables and fruits 22%.

In 2007 FAO in collaboration with the MALFF, Ministry of Health and Wellness and CFNI established National Food-based Dietary Guidelines for Saint Lucia. The Ministry has been promoting these guidelines under the GOSL/FAO/SFA2006 program, within a broader program to promote locally grown foods in the local diet with emphasis on fruits and vegetables. In view of the significant levels of NCDs the MALFF and the Ministry of Health signed a memorandum of understanding in 2010 with the objective to increase consumption of locally produced agricultural products. This will serve to reinforce the on-going process of promoting the food based dietary guidelines.

Based on the 2008 food import data there is the opportunity for local producers to increase domestic market share in crops, and livestock through increased production and productivity for import substitution and import replacement. In this respect the CPF identifies technical assistance in capacity building to select indicators for commodities for import replacement and or substitution of protein, vegetables, fruits and cereals. The crops identified in Annex 2, should be carefully examined for their potential role in improving national and household food and nutrition security.

The strategy used will be to embrace the comprehensive approach to food security including (i) availability from all the food subsectors and covering production, productivity and product differentiation (ii) access through value chains that create investment opportunities, and increase rural employment and farm family incomes (iii), stability through risk mitigation in particular access to water for irrigation and (iv) consumption/utilization through agriculture information and communication policy guidelines that link the food based dietary guide lines to the food production systems.

3.1.2.3 Technical and institutional capacity building: The need for better attention to technical and institutional capacity building is supported by findings emerging from four recent reports.

The first is that ¹⁵agriculture continues to show declines or unevenness, except for the marine fisheries sub-sector. On the other hand the marine fisheries sub-sector is showing signs of depletion of some of the important species.

The second is that the first strategic objective of the 2010 policy recognizes the need for actions to achieve higher levels of effectiveness and efficiency in the delivery of agriculture programs for sustainable changes.

The third is that in general the ¹⁶list of capital projects from the MALFF to the MOF does not reflect any prioritization of the projects at the Departmental Units and neither does it have a strong relation to the strategic goals of the MALFF suggesting weak capacities in programming, strategic planning and intra-Ministerial coordination. Furthermore there is a tendency for budget allocation not to reflect availability and it is often higher than the actual allocation while the actual expenditure is often lower than both.

The fourth is that there is ¹⁷no system in the MALFF for effective results based management. In fact even though program budgeting was introduced in the MALFF as early as 1998; there has never been a review or assessment of the process.

In addition to the above, during the consultations with the Senior Technical Officers in the four subsectors (forestry, fisheries, crops and livestock), consistently there was a general concern about the need to enhance capacities and to reorient the functional operations of the institutions to effect strategic management plans at the subsector levels. Furthermore the officers felt that plans should be supported by effective monitoring, assessments, and communication systems. Emphasis should focus on a system that communicates data and information on changes in the state of stakeholders, their productivity, and the resources available as a basis for policy revision, new opportunities and targeting.

Comment [JP16]: Imp role for OEKM or OEKC

Opportunities exist for the CPF to benefit from FAO competences in capacity building in areas such as institutional strengthening, monitoring and assessment of short

¹⁵ Saint Lucia Annual Agricultural Review 2008

¹⁶ Bodhram Document 2007

¹⁷ Bodhram Document

and medium term trends and perspectives, assembly of information, knowledge and statistics for communication and for policy and legislative advice.

Against this background the FAO assistance required would be of the type to build capacities in agriculture policy formulation and planning to strengthen management and coordination in the MALFF, through (a) improved data management, information and communication (b) results- based program management (c) promotion of information to increase private sector/stakeholders knowledge-base on the sustainability of the agriculture (d) development priorities in the crops, livestock, fisheries and forestry subsectors (indicators for locally produced food commodities for household and national food security, commercialization, and small-scale processing).

Comment [JP17]: Again potential role w/ OEKC/M and with our new AIS framework

3.1.2.4 Outputs of the intra-ministerial consultative process: The Sub-regional and Regional Results were also found to be coherent with the actions highlighted during the FAO/GOSL consultations conducted in 2011 and are as follows: (a) Strategies for crop intensification and diversification through better data capture, information and communication to drive technology application, commercialization and value-added and to reduce risks. (b) Improvement in the contribution of the livestock sector to national food and nutrition security with attention to quality standards and codes of practice, and higher levels of productivity through improved blood lines and higher levels of private sector investment in the sector (c) Sustainable management of the marine fisheries resources and aquaculture inland fish farming in line with the implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fishing (CCRF), (d) Strengthening of the forestry institutional capacity to develop and implement strategic forest management planning that result in better integration of forestry decisions into national priorities and (e) Sustainable management of land, water, genetic resources and the responses to environmental factors that affect food and agriculture production, with special attention to land tenure and administration.

The in-country consultations also highlighted some of the core functions of FAO to which the CPF should pay attention. These included strengthening capacities for policy analysis, monitoring and assessment systems and communication. Moreover the consultations agreed that among the international partners with interest in agriculture FAO has a competitive edge both in terms of the global reach of the competencies of the Organization and a comparative advantage in experiences in the areas of natural resource management and food security in the Caribbean sub-region.

3.2 Regional results FAO/GOSL/CPF. The regional priorities and results which best embrace the important and urgent concerns of Saint Lucia are as follows:

(a) Climate change and sustainability of agriculture and natural resources, including biodiversity. The focus would be on (i) management of forest and watersheds including strategies to reduce the emerging competition for water in general and in

particular for water for agriculture and food production and (ii) management of the marine resources for the implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fishing (CCRF).

(b) Food and nutrition security with a focus on improved nutrition at household and national levels, through enhanced productivity in the livestock sector and increased production through higher levels of private sector investment.

(c) Support to training and technology transfer to small producers and to impact rural development with a focus on crop production diversification intensification and product differentiation with a view to expanding livelihood chains, small-scale agri-enterprises and employment in rural areas.

Comment [JP18]: OEKR AIS focus, AGS support too

(d) Enhanced institutional capacities, policy formulation and investment with a focus on capacities for agriculture policy analysis that can add value to national policy objectives and agriculture private sector decision-making in activities for food and nutrition security, rural livelihoods in farming communities and sustainable management of the natural resource base for agriculture.

4. Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation.

The CPF is owned by the Government of Saint Lucia and FAO. Accordingly, implementation of the CPF will be pursued in close consultation with the concerned Ministries and national institutions in partnership with the MALFF. However the leadership for the implementation of the programs will be shared between the Permanent Secretary of MALFF and the FAO Sub- Regional Coordinator in the Caribbean in her/his capacity as FAOR for Saint Lucia. In this manner accountability for implementation to the Government and to FAO will be assured. The FAOR will receive the full support of the technical officers at the FAO Sub-regional Office for the Caribbean as well as facilitate access to FAO regional and international competences and expertise necessary for satisfactory implementation, but which do not reside in the Sub- regional team.

As for monitoring and evaluation, the outputs of the FAO intervention and its integration in the results of the MALFF program framework will be reported on at the regular quarterly/biennial technical meetings of the MALFF. The value-added of FAO technical assistance to national development particularly to food and nutrition security will also be assessed during meetings of a proposed Special Advisory Committee on Agriculture and Food Security. Three other Task Force bodies are proposed as follows: Task Force on Natural Resources management for Sustainability of Agriculture; Task Force on Food Security and Task Force on Technical and Human Institutional Capacities for Agriculture. The latter will be a short to medium term body that will monitor the process of rebuilding the MALFF technical team in view of the several staff members who

will retire in the next 12-24 months. These bodies will report to the current Senior Management Committee.

FAO and the MALFF will also jointly prepare an annual report on the implementation and results of the actions taken as outlined in the CPF Implementation Matrix. This annual report and attendant recommendations will be discussed in an annual CPF Implementation Review Workshop. Following the annual review the CPF may be adjusted as necessary to keep it focused and relevant to the needs of the country. Field monitoring of the agreed activities will be carried out by MALFF and by the regular missions of FAO technical officers in SLC.

5. Resource Mobilization

The main donor to agriculture in Saint Lucia is the European Union. The Republic of China (Taiwan Technical Mission) in Saint Lucia is also an important donor to agriculture in the country. At this time the resources foreseen for implementation of the CPF will be from the Government of Saint Lucia with counterpart support under the FAO Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP and TCP Facility). Where FAO Trust Fund Facility is available, the relevant FAO technical officer will assist the MALFF to prepare project proposals to access such funding.

During the consultations in country the Department of Fisheries identified possible partners for development financing of the rehabilitation associated with Hurricane Tomas. These partners included GEF, USA, EU, Taiwan, French and Canada. In this regard it is expected that during implementation of the CPF, FAO and MALFF will explore and pursue areas for FAO technical assistance in project preparation using TCP and TCP Facility. As appropriate and based on the competences and expertise required it is also expected that FAO will provide technical support within the framework of extra-budgetary funding.

MALFF will be expected to provide the necessary number of qualified human resources, office space, in- country contribution, access to information and statistics and import duty exemption for equipment and supplies procured in support of FAO/MALFF executed projects.

6.0 Partnerships: The CPF will be implemented in partnerships with national institutions identified by MALFF as well as regional and international institutions as necessary. The main national institutions foreseen at this time are the Saint Lucia Bureau of Standards, Producer Organizations, Saint Lucia Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture. The intra-regional and extra regional partners would include CARDI, CEHI, CIMH, CDEMA, OECS, CFNI and IICA.

Annexes

Annex 1. Implementation Matrix of FAO/GOSL/ CPF

Priority /Regional Result

Sustainability of agriculture and natural resources and the potential impact of climate variation.

In Saint Lucia acreages under forests are on the decline, land-based activities are negatively affecting biodiversity habitats, ground water and soil fertility. Water runoff carrying soil and pollutants from agriculture practices are destroying the coastal marine resources. These manmade situations are being exacerbated by the intensity of rainfall from hurricanes resulting in devastating land movements in forests and watersheds, flooding on the lowlands including agriculture lands and severe damages to marine fish habitats and infrastructure. On the other hand extended periods of droughts are creating challenges for access to water to maintain crops and livestock production systems when necessary.

In respect of forests several recent studies on sustainable development and natural resources and a green paper on land policy provide many recommendations to conserve and manage the forest. Analysis of these documents needs to be conducted in order to prioritize and to develop a strategic forest management and water resources management plan. Successful implementation will require data collection and information management in several aspects of forest and watershed management, including an inventory of the watersheds.

In respect of the marine resources, the primary concern is the impact of the land-based activities on the coastal fisheries. Fish catch data is also showing that some of the priority fish species are on the decline. In pursuit of sustainable management and conservation, measures such as assessment of marine fisheries sites and actions to reduce the exploitation of selected fish species have been identified as urgent actions to be undertaken. The latter has implications for quality assurance and associated revision of fish marketing and processing legislation. These will be pursued in line with the implementation of the CCRF.

FAO Strategic Objective	GOSL Policy Objective	Regional Results	FAO/GOSL Expected Results	FAO Inputs	Outputs of FAO assistance	Means of Verification	Partners
E. Sustainable Management of forests and watersheds.	Protect, conserve and ensure sustainable use of the natural resource base.	E03 Institutional and human resources capacity strengthened in formulation and implementation of forest policies, laws and governance.	1. Adequate capacity in the Department of Forestry and Water Resources Management Agency to formulate and implement a five year strategic forest management plan and an action plan for water resources management	1.1 Assistance in technical leadership and advisory services to the MALFF in forest planning and to update inventory of water catchments in order to prepare a five year strategic forest management plan including an action plan for managing the water resources.	E03. Endorsed strategic forest management plan and an action plan for the water resources.	Document available and disseminated	MALFF, Ministry of Physical Planning, CEHI, WASCO, Water Resources Management Agency

FAO Strategic Objectives	GOSL Policy Objectives	Regional Results	FAO/GOSL Expected results	FAO Inputs	Output of FAO assistance	Means of verification	Partners
F--Sustainable management of land, water and genetic resources and improved responses to global environmental challenges affecting food and agriculture	Protect, conserve and ensure sustainable use of the natural resource base.	F-01 Countries in the region that share information and implement good agricultural practices on rain water harvesting for small scale agricultural production.	.MALFF providing technical information to assure adequate considerations for water for agricultural production in the drafting/finalization of GOSL policy and legislative framework for rainwater harvesting.	Training and capacity building among extension officers and crop/livestock farmers on rain water harvesting and in establishing criteria for mapping agricultural zones for the development of support systems and infrastructure for rain water harvesting.	FAO Report of Training including aspects such as collection, storage and management of harvested water and the documented criteria for selecting sites for development of support systems for rain water harvesting.	Numbers of extension officers and farmers trained and access to the training material and to documented criteria for site selection.	WASCO, Ministry of Physical Planning, CEHI, Water Resources Management Agency, Farmers Organizations
C. Sustainable management and use of fisheries, aquaculture and marine resources.	Protect, conserve and ensure sustainable use of the natural resource base.	C-01 Improved policy standards that facilitate the implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and other international instruments	1.Revised legislation for fish processing and marketing	Technical assistance to review the current standards and codes of practice for fish marketing and processing and to draft appropriate amendments to the legislation in support of value-added and reduce exploitation of the fisheries.	FAO Revised Draft legislation on fish marketing and processing.	Draft of amended /revised legislation available and disseminated	Saint Lucia Bureau of Standards, National Association of Fisherfolks, Fish Marketing Boards, Hoteliers, Fish Importers/Exporters, Ministry of Health and Wellness

Comment [JP19]: OEKR role

FAO Strategic Objectives	GOSL Policy Objectives 2010-14	Regional Results	FAO/GOSL Expectations	FAO Inputs	Outputs of FAO Assistance	Means of verification	Partners
C Sustainable management and use of fisheries, aquaculture and marine resources.	Protect, conserve and ensure sustainable use of the natural resource base.	C-01 Improved policy standards that facilitate the implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and international instruments	3. Access to a Plan of Action to adequately guide sustained exploitation of the marine fisheries.	3.1 Expertise to reassess the marine fisheries sites and their potential for longer term contribution to livelihoods in coastal areas and to national food and nutrition security and to prepare a Plan of Action in line with the CCRF.	A Report on the status of the marine fisheries sites and a Plan of Action for sustainable exploitation of the marine resources for livelihoods and nutrition over the long term.	Report available and disseminated Plan of Action available	CRFM, National Fisherfolks Association, Central Statistics

Priority/Regional Result-

Food and nutrition Security.

Food and nutrition security is characterized by a growing food importation bill, household poverty levels of over 28% and another 40% vulnerable to poverty, 5% undernourished and high level of NCDs including among children. Fruits, vegetables and cereals accounted for 47% of the food importation bill in 2008. Proteins accounted for another 47%. In view of the significant levels of NCDs the MALFF and the Ministry of Health and Wellness, signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the objective to increase consumption of domestically produced fresh products. This will be done through a national program to raise awareness of the value of eating fresh produce as part of a healthy life style, This initiative is complementary to the Food based dietary guidelines developed for Saint Lucia, with FAO/CFNI support in 2007. Promotion of the guidelines will provide one of the launching pads for the activities under the program.

In view of the relatively low contribution of local food production to national food security and in particularly the high content, of proteins, fruits and vegetables, the CPF will seek to improve production and productivity of livestock and crops through appropriate technology transfer. This is in line with the regional results and the agriculture policy objectives of Saint Lucia.

In respect of livestock the focus will be on higher levels of productivity through the introduction of improved blood lines and the promotion of investment opportunities in the sector. Production technology transfer will also be the strategy used to achieve increase crop production, diversification and product differentiation. The process will involve the development of selection criteria to identify crops for different dimensions of food security: a special basket of crops for farm family/ household food security as well strategic niche groups for commercialization with a focus on crop substitution and crop replacement in the list of food imported. Attention will also be given to product differentiation through value-added in *fresh brands* or small scale processing enterprises. Collectively these actions are expected to impact national food security, and expand rural livelihoods and employment. Some crops have already been identified but a more rigorous assessment needs to be done to secure longer term growth and development and to agree on appropriate production technologies. .

The GOSL is committed to national food and nutrition security and has collaborated with FAO under the Regional Food Security Project Phase 1 and Phase 11 as well as under the TCP to provide Input Supplies for Most Vulnerable Populations. In addition the GOSL has allocated substantive funding under the SFA2006 Programs to promote and support agriculture diversification. Against this background the FAO/GOSL CPF also recognizes the activities in the MALFF in fisheries¹⁸ as important contributors to national food security both in terms of access and availability.

¹⁸¹⁸ The activities for the marine fisheries appear under the priority area for climate change, and natural resources management.

Strategic Objectives	FAO	GOSL Policy Objectives	Regional Results	FAO/GOSL Expectations	FAO Inputs	Outputs of FAO Assistance	Means of Verification	Partners
B Increased sustainable livestock production		To promote the generation, adaptation and adoption of improved appropriate technology	B01 The livestock sector enabled to increase productivity, efficiency, and food security contribution of commercial and family livestock production systems supported by FAO-advised policies and strategies.	A livestock investment guide for stakeholders and prospective investors published and is regularly updated and disseminated.	Technical assistance to conduct epidemiology mapping, production area mapping and hazard/disaster mitigation mapping for livestock production and subsequent preparation of a project document to secure development financing for the infrastructure to support sustainable data collection.	A livestock investment guide for Saint Lucia based on epidemiology mapping, production area mapping and hazard mapping and a project document to secure financing for the necessary infrastructure to support on-going data collection and management for updates/revisions.	First livestock investment guide for Saint Lucia available and disseminated and the project document submitted to the GOSL.	CAREC, Ministry of Health and Wellness, Livestock Farmers, Ministry of Physical Planning, CDEMA, NEMA

FAO Strategic Objectives	GOSL Policy Objectives	Regional Results	FAO/GOSL Expectations	FAO Inputs	Outputs of FAO Assistance	Means of Verification	Partners
B Increased sustainable livestock production	To promote the generation, adaptation and adoption of improved appropriate technology	B01 The livestock sector enabled to increase productivity, efficiency and food security contribution of commercial and family livestock production systems supported by FAO-advised policies and strategies.	2.3 Improved nutrition security through better access to animal protein by the local populations resulting from higher levels of production and productivity in selected animal.	2.3.1 Training in artificial insemination and technical leadership and advice to develop a program for small ruminants, pigs and beef cattle at the National Livestock Station to boost local production of animal protein.	A capacity at the National Livestock Station to carry out artificial insemination in livestock supported by a documented development program to increase local production of animal protein at commercial and farm family levels.	Numbers of technicians trained in artificial insemination in livestock and a copy of the development program.	Ministry of Agriculture in Jamaica/Belize, Ministry of Health, CAHFSA

FAO Strategic Objectives	GOSL Policy Objectives	Regional Results	FAO/GOSL Expectations	FAO Inputs	Outputs of FAO Assistance	Means of verification	Partners
A Sustainable intensification of crop production	To promote the generation, adaptation and adoption of improved appropriate technology	A 01 Countries improve their capacities on sustainable crop production, intensification and diversification at national level	Prioritization of a set of crops to guide public/private sector decision-making on crops with good development potential and the recommended crop technologies for their enhanced production intensification and product differentiation shared and promoted. .	Training in the FAO/ITC Methodology to select a discreet set of crops for targeted development priorities (food security, export, small-scale processing commercialization) and technical guidance to develop a Strategy and Plan of Action to implement a crop technology transfer program for enhanced diversification crop production intensification and product differentiation.	Extension and Research staff in MALFF trained in the FAO/ITC Methodology for priority setting for targeting crops for development; a discreet set of crops selected for the household food security basket and set of niche crops for commercialization and enterprise development and a Strategy and Plan of Action for appropriate technology transfer. .	Numbers of technicians trained and copy of Technology Transfer Strategy and Plan of Action available and disseminated. .	CARDI,IICA, National framers Associations, Ministry of Health, Mims try of Trade and Commerce, Food Importers/Exporters

Priority/ Regional Results

Enhanced institutional capacities, policy formulation and investment promotion.

Ministers of Agriculture in the Caribbean identified technical and institutional capacities as among the critical vulnerabilities that plague domestic and export agriculture in the region. Specific references were made to inadequacy in capacities necessary to formulate and implement policies that effectively engage the resources available to the sector and increase production and productivity. The result is that by and large agriculture and food policies and the associated strategies have failed to attract sufficient private sector investments to establish modernized and competitive agri-food businesses. Entrepreneurial and enterprising spirits are not sustainable among the key producers as the sector tends towards low production and a narrow production base. This is partly due to the absence of a promotional strategy that engages the private sector in discussions on target consolidate gains within the sector.

Policy makers seem to be still searching for stratification of programs and the mix of resources to use public sector services and goods effectively and efficiently in order to alleviate the binding constraints associated with agriculture. In the meantime high food import bills, weak resilience to risk management and poor coordination of efforts within the sector and among the other relevant sectors are well recorded weaknesses in Caribbean agriculture. Saint Lucia shares in this description of regional agriculture and for the same reasons. In the meantime in Saint Lucia and many of the other member states in the OECS and wider CARICOM, agriculture lands in production are on the decline, as even some producers with access to maintain production capacities are moving away from the land, resulting in fragmented and non-viable holdings. In this manner agriculture is losing its competitiveness in the development process in Saint Lucia as well as elsewhere.

Against this background opportunities exist for the CPF to contribute to positive changes through interventions that strengthen technical capacities at the level of the Planning Unit with a focus on policy analysis and formulation, project management and results based performance monitoring. The Planning Unit represents a good point of departure as it includes the functional areas with responsibility for data collection and management, marketing services, as well as information and communication services. The expectation is that these roles and functions will become more fully engaged as the policy environment improves. An important outcome will be the ability to communicate knowledge-based options for investment of available resources for agriculture to the public and the private as well as the international community with interest in agriculture.

FAO Strategic Objectives	GOSL Policy Objectives	Regional Results	FAO/GOSL Expectations	FAO Inputs	Outputs of FAO Assistance	Means of verification	Partners
L Increased and more effective public and private investment in agriculture and rural development	Increase the efficiency and competitiveness of Saint Lucia's agriculture	L02 Capacity of national counterparts strengthened in policy analysis, investment and project management through FAO-led interdisciplinary assistance and mentoring. .	An improved policy, planning and, programming environment fostering and promoting commercialization and an agri-entrepreneurial approach to agriculture.	Training and capacity building in policy analysis, project management and performance based management for staff of the Planning Unit and selected farmer organizations.	Report of Workshops in policy analysis and project management including numbers of workshops and persons trained	Numbers of person trained and copy of training material.	CDB

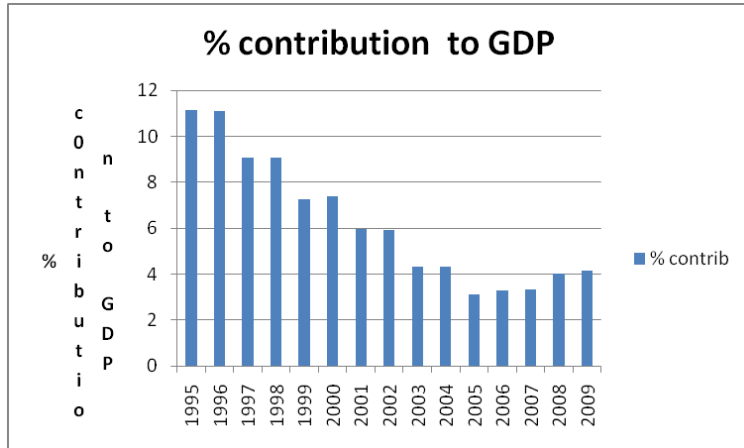
Annex 2

2.1 Situational Analysis

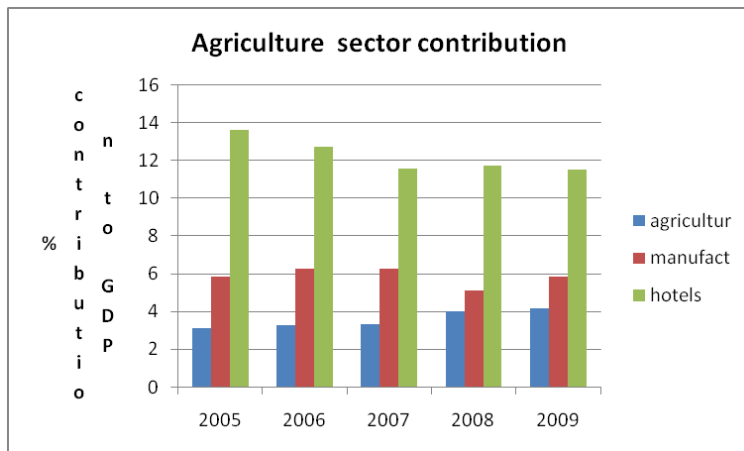
2.1.1. Social and economic: Saint Lucia is the largest country in terms of population in the OECS political and economic union. Currently the member states enjoy free movement requiring only the presentation of an identification card for a stay of six months. Saint Lucia also belongs to the CARICOM economic union. It is also a signatory to a range of conventions of the International Society, and is well recognized for its commitment to the goals set for the international community in respect of such areas as the MDGs, the CBD, and the Kyoto Protocol in respect of Global Climate Change, Agenda 21 and the World Food Summits on Food Security.

The country is linked to the international community by services primarily tourism and by agriculture primarily banana exports to the UK. In this regard the economy is vulnerable to economic changes in the international community in particular those of North America and the United Kingdom, as well as to global and regional environmental hazards especially hurricanes and other unfavorable weather related conditions.

Between the years 1960-2004 damage from 12 hurricane related events was in the region of EC\$2,958,521. In the mid nineties successful challenges before WTO on banana regimes started a deterioration of market access for Saint Lucia along with other banana growing CARICOM countries to the UK. The impact of the loss of the banana market was felt on the economy as contribution to GDP moved from EC\$ 97.20 million in 1998 to EC\$ 58.07 million in 2008. The dramatic declines evidenced in the chart below have been such that an aggressive attempt at crop diversification with the support of the EU has not been able to secure the desired effect of arresting the impact on the economy. Based on the two charts below it is clear that agriculture needs to rationalize and rebuild its competitiveness among the productive sectors.



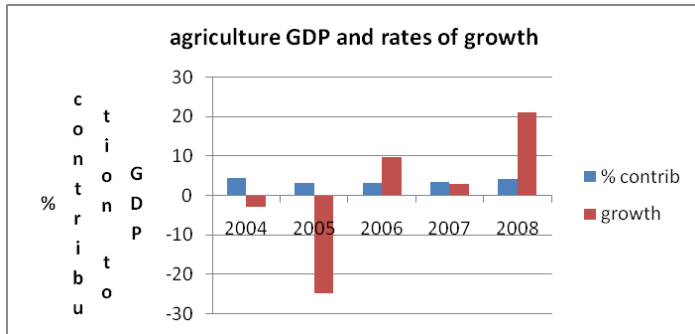
Data Source: Integrated Poverty Reduction Strategy 2003 and Saint Lucia Annual Agriculture Review 2008



Data source: MALFF -2010

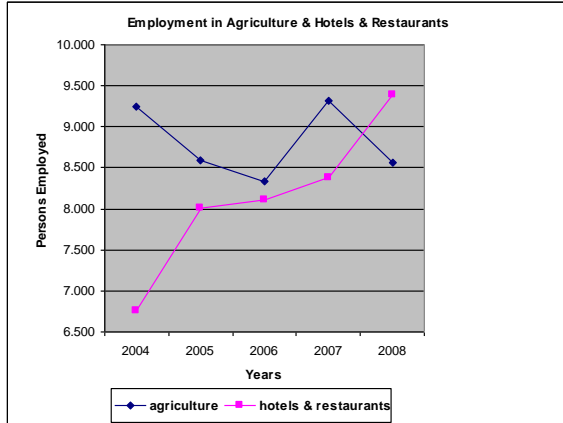
The chart below shows that there will need to be a rigorous approach to the implementation of the 21010 policy to achieve the levels of growth necessary for agriculture to make meaningful contribution to national development. As shown

below as even after almost doubling its growth rate in 2008 the contribution to total GDP was very marginal compared to 2007. Over this same period there has been significant



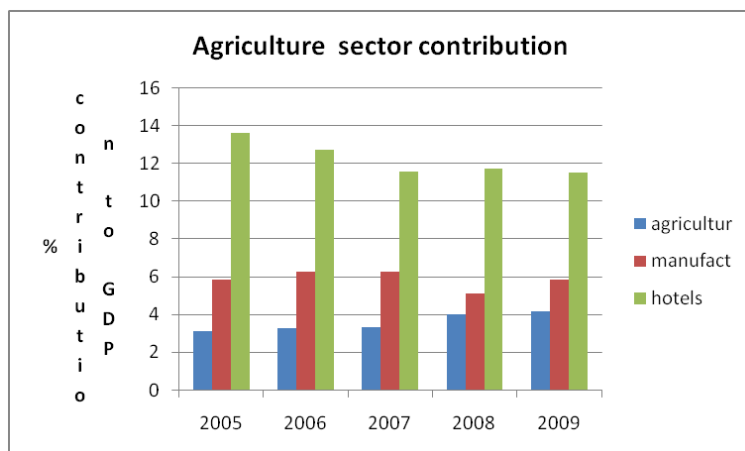
Data Source: Saint Lucia Annual Agricultural Review -2008

growth in services with hotels and restaurant sectors, surpassing agriculture in employment.



Source: Saint Lucia Annual Agricultural Review -2008.

Against this background and coupled with a low tax base, the country now has an official debt to GDP rate which moved from 52.7 % in 2000 to 79.3% in 2010. In this situation Saint Lucia continues to display heavy reliance on external sources of funds to undertake social and economic infrastructure.



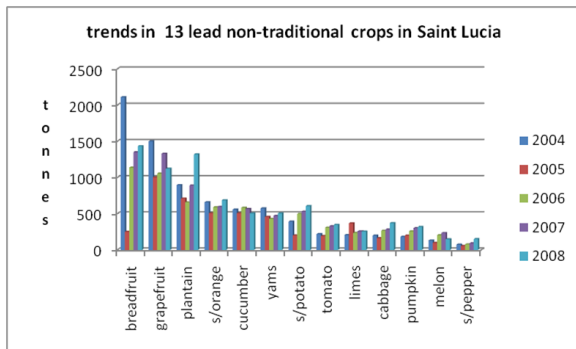
Data source: 2008 Saint Lucia Annual Agricultural Review

2.1.2. Agriculture: Changes affecting the banana industry and the longer term impact on food production and rural employment are the main concerns of the Ministry of Agriculture. In the late 1990's the Ministry responded with several large scale programs aimed at modernizing and diversification in the agricultural economy. These included major externally funded projects in rural economic diversification, rural enterprise and rural development. In respect of bananas, the more recent programs implemented included establishment of a Banana Emergency Recovery Unit (BERU), to provide social services and technical assistance to banana farmers. Recently several programs undertaken under EU/SFA2006 are supporting both banana and non-banana diversification in the sector.

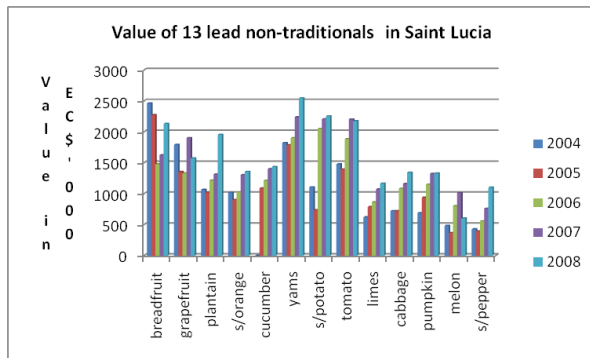
2.1.2.1 The crop subsector: The crop sub-sector is primarily bananas which provides 23.56 % of agriculture GDP in 2008. In this respect the banana sector is still a significant source of income in rural areas specifically because of the better organization of markets. There was a 25.6% increase in exports in 2008 resulting from the reconfiguration of the private banana marketing associations to establish Saint Lucia National Fair Trade Organization (SLNFTO) enabling the marketing of fair-trade bananas through the OECS regional marketing company WINFRESH.

In terms of the non-banana crops, data provided by the MALFF indicate the trends in 13 crops selected for consistency in yields of above five tonnes annually. The trends in volume and comparative indicative unit value of these crops are shown below and reflect the higher levels of profitability in vegetables and rootcrops in the domestic market. In terms of commercialization and food security vegetables and rootcrops could best be

considered good prospects particular in the light of the high incidence of NCDs and the increasing demand for both types of commodities by the hotel and restaurant sectors. On the other hand producers of these crops are challenged by low production and marketing technologies including the poor application of grades and standards and the frequency of the impact of the passage of hurricanes.



Trends in production in selected crops 2004-2005
Data source- statistics unit -MALFF



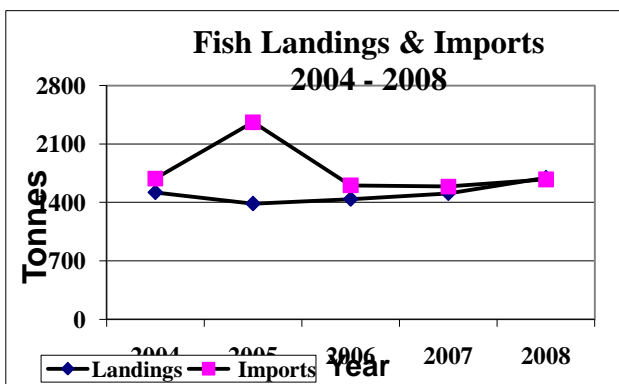
Indicative comparative unit value of crops
Data source –statistics unit-MALFF

2.1.2.2. Fisheries: Central to the policies of the Ministry of Agriculture and its Department of Fisheries is the maintenance of a productive small- scale fishery. This sector is important, providing direct employment to over 3,000 of the reportedly 8,000 people,

directly employed in agriculture and contributing significantly to food production. The artisanal nature of the fishery maximizes its contribution to social development and employment.

Other marine resources, such as the sea urchin and the conch, also contribute to the livelihoods of coastal communities. Meanwhile, a number of efforts have been made towards diversification, including tilapia fish farming, mariculture and seaweed farming. These efforts are placed within the broader context of marine resource management, with an emphasis on community participation and sustainable use.

In 2008 increases in marine fish landings equaled quantities of imports following a dramatic decline in fish importation in 2005. However there are some concerns about possible over exploitation of some species and the likely impact on livelihoods of persons directly engaged in activities associated with the fisheries.



Source: Saint Lucia Annual Agricultural Review 2008

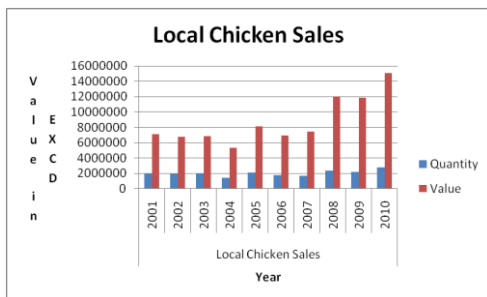
2.1.2.3. Livestock: In general the livestock sector is small and not well developed. Poultry and pigs are the most important contributors to food production. Both face challenges from increasingly high cost of feed and medicines.

Both poultry and pigs have some administrative protection and this probably accounts for relatively significant investment in poultry and though to a much lesser extent in pigs, compared to the other livestock. Since 2007 investment in livestock has only been marginally less than crops with the greatest share going to the poultry industry. There are

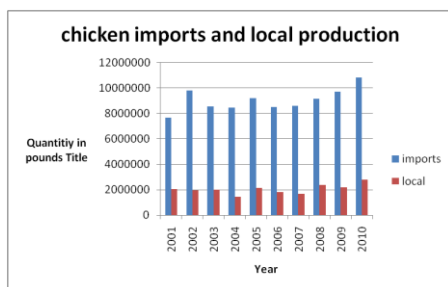
also plans under implementation to raise the guaranteed local share in the domestic market for poultry from 20% to 30% in 2011.

The country is self-sufficient in eggs and there are plans to increase egg production and promote eggs as part of a healthy life style diet.

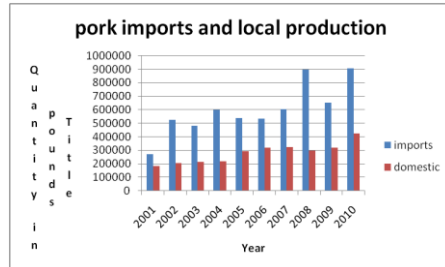
Reportedly slaughterhouse quality standards are low, but should improve with the completion of a central slaughter facility in the South of the country and with proposed support from FAO in capacity building in quality standards. Due to low livestock production meat imports especially poultry is a significant component of the food import bill. The charts below provide insight on the performance and contribution of poultry and pork.



Data Source: Livestock Division- MALFF



Data Source: Livestock Division-MALFF



Data Source: Livestock Division-MALFF

2.2.3 Natural resources management: Saint Lucia has a range of instruments being used to conserve land resources and include, planning instruments and regulations, mandatory EIA, the establishment and management of protected areas such as Forest Reserves, Marine Reserves and Wildlife Sanctuaries. Despite the many sophisticated management systems and procedures there is a lack of enforcement of existing legislation and frequent disregard for procedures. There is also an overlap of institutional responsibilities and insufficient collaboration among public sector agencies and some fragmentation of land management authority, all of which present obstacles to the effective and efficient management of land resources.

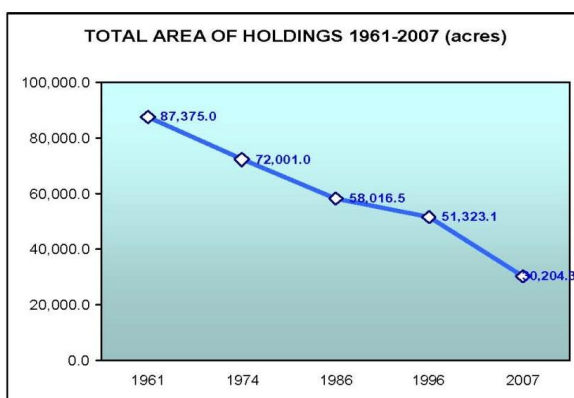
A National Land Policy –Green Paper prepared in December 2003 further confirms serious limitations on land-use as 90% of terrestrial areas occur on slopes of more than 5%. In addition the natural environment is fragile and ecosystems are of small size and there is a high level of connectivity between the ecosystems and their natural functions. Deforestation has resulted in reductions in productivity of watersheds, coupled with erosion, sedimentation in lower river channels and increases in flood risks. Inappropriate use of agrochemical pollutants is responsible for water pollution and contamination of coastal marine resources.

There are major concerns for longer term access to land for agriculture and for the impact of land- based activities on agricultural biodiversity, water resources and the quality of the marine fisheries resources. The Table and chart below provide good evidence that the concerns are well founded as they clearly show the serious declines in agriculture holdings.

Land Use Structure with FAO Classification expressed in acres

Type OF LAND USE (acres)	CENSUS YEAR				
	1974	1986	1996	2007	% (2007/1974)
1. Agricultural land	49,028	48,849	42,88	24,53	50
1.1 Cropland & permanent meadows and pastures	20,492	9,68	8,447	7,525	37
1.2. Permanent/medium term crops	28,536	39,169	34,433	17,005	60
2. Forest and woodland	19,002	8,322	6,81	3,713	20
3. Other land	3,971	1,754	1,638	1,961	49
Total	72,001	58,925	51,328	30,204	42

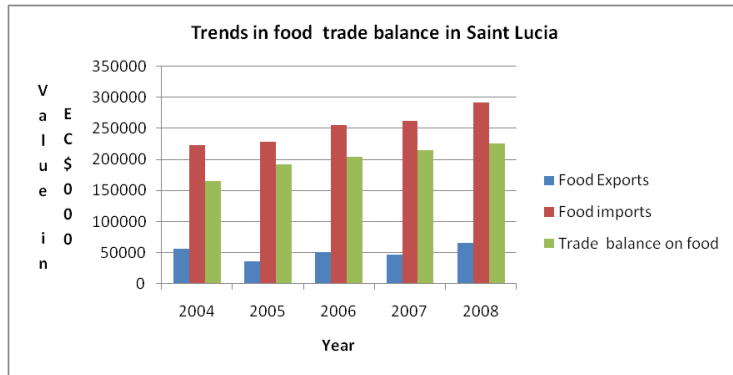
Source: 2007 Census of Agriculture, 1 acre= 0.4046 ha



Source: 2007 Census of Agriculture

2.1.4. Food and nutrition security: Based on the information provided so far it is clear that food and nutrition security would be of concern to the MALFF and the GOSL. There are discreet projects such as those under the FAO/Italy/CARICOM Regional Food Security Program as well as other indirect projects in partnership with the EU, OXFAM, IICA, CIDA and the Taiwanese Technical Mission. Around 5% of the population is described as undernourished which is well within the MDGs and the goals of the WFS.

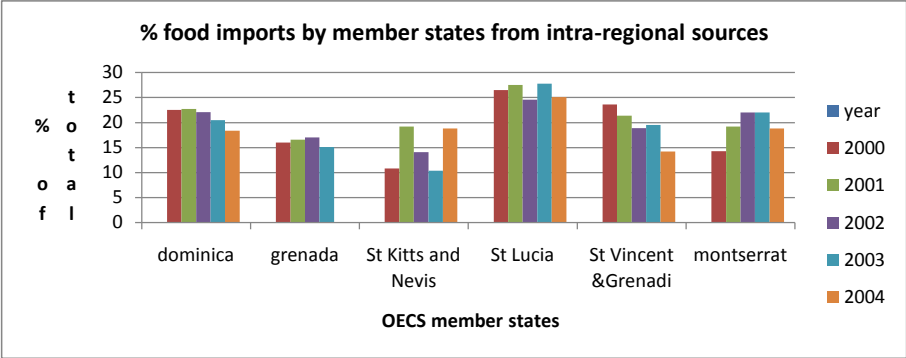
However the chart below reveals that increasingly food and nutrition security is being met by higher levels of food importation. As earlier indicated 47 % of this food bill is made up of fruits, vegetables and cereals and another 30% of food protein. It is therefore important to note here the high incidences of NCDs among the Saint Lucia population.



Source: Annual Regional Agriculture Review -2008 - OECS

In addition, the chart below shows that Saint Lucia is the most consistent most consistent among the OECS Sub-grouping in terms of CARICOM regional food importation and also the highest in levels of regional food importation. With the on-going uncertainties in global food markets and prices the MALFF is pursuing urgent steps to promote stability in food and nutrition security as a priority and to ensure that the MOU signed with the Ministry of Health and Wellness for improvements in consumption is properly executed.

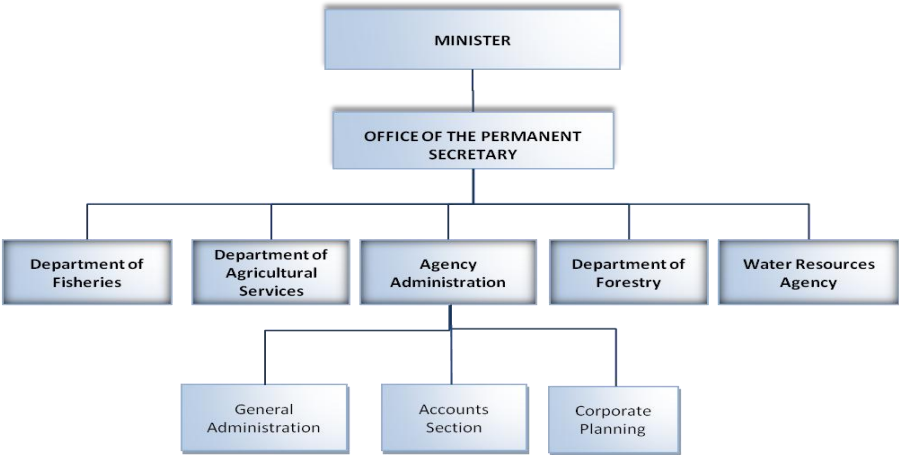
The National Agricultural Policy 2010 includes food security as a policy objective and targets higher levels of production in a basket of selected foods and measures to increase access to food. Taking into consideration all the initiatives on-going it would seem appropriate for the MALFF and FAO consider it important to formulate a discreet national food security project/program with clear medium term targets in the four dimensions of food security: access, availability, stability and consumption.



Source: Annual Regional Agriculture Review OECS 2008

2.1.4. Organizational Structure of the MALFF: The chart below shows the current organizational structure of the MALFF, which is the traditional structure found in Ministries with responsibilities for agriculture in the OECS and the Caribbean in general. The policy objectives of the respective Divisions and Units are given below.

FIGURE 2.1 ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE MINISTRY



Source: Five year strategic management and action plan for the Ministry of MAFF

The policy objectives of the Technical Divisions are as follows:

(a) Department of Agriculture Services: Contribute to the development of Saint Lucia's agricultural sector through the efficient delivery of technical support and services to its clients and stakeholders. Primarily to assist the development and implementation of the Agriculture policy, develop and manage programs targeted at agricultural commodities with high impact potential, establish and coordinate mechanisms for inter-agency collaboration for livestock and crops and effective delivery of regulatory and support services to agriculture.

(b) Department of fisheries; Foster sustainable fisheries development through enhance management of marine fisheries and aquaculture and related resources; promote the use of appropriate methods and technologies and increase stakeholders participation.

© Department of Forestry: Develop and implement conservation strategies for sustainable management and protection of biodiversity and biological resources; develop and implement sustainable stewardship and use of forest resources to maintain the integrity and productive capacity of the forest resource base, and to develop and adopt a framework and mechanism for the implementation of sustainable land and water management strategies.

The major programs carried out by the Department include wildlife management, watershed management, sensitization on these of watersheds resources for sustainable livelihoods, guidance to forest management and programs to maintain biodiversity. In this regard the Department works in close collaboration with the Water Resources Management Agency and the Biodiversity Conservation Unit. According to the Department of Forestry poor or weak forestry planning and weak enforcement of the forest legislation is largely responsible for the deterioration and degradation of the forests.

(d) Water resources management agency: The Water Resources Management Agency was created with the purpose of managing water resources and has wider ranging responsibilities. Some of these include considerations for the applications for abstraction licenses and permits for use of water in water control areas and to maintain a database of information for water resources management to ensure sustainability. In this respect the Agency also has the responsibility to develop watershed management plans and to advice on water related emergencies in areas of land from which water is collected.

Annex 3.

3.0 Major Policies, Programs and Laws affecting agriculture

3.1. Policies: The major policies of relevance to the agriculture sector are (i) National Agriculture Policy (2010- 2014) of which much has already been said, (ii) the National Land Policy (2003) which is still a Green Paper and (iii) the OECS Agriculture Policy Framework and Strategic Plan (2003).

3.1.1 National land policy: The following is a brief description of the background to the policy and the proposed actions to arrest degradation and improve the state of the natural resources for longer term sustainable development.

The policy recognizes land management and development as critical to food security, water management, the growth and sustainability of agriculture, fisheries and tourism sectors, and the general quality of life of the population. According to the policy the impact of the shift from agriculture to services is driving the urgency for the adoption of an integrated and comprehensive policy framework in order to arrest negative trends, address current and emerging issues and guide relevant sectoral policies and programs.

While there is a range of instruments being used to conserve land resources poor land use practices coupled with natural causes such as hurricanes are resulting in worrying degradation. For example the Soufriere Marine Management Area sustained damages from Hurricane Lenny is estimated at EC\$ 500,000 and the damages from Hurricane Tomas in 2010 to the coastal areas and marine resources have been described as severe with effects that will be felt over the medium to long term.

There are extensive details on the sustainable development of crops and livestock and marine and aquaculture subsector, environment and natural resources management including disaster management. Policy objectives foreseen for these economic activities are to mitigate the impacts of agriculture developments on natural and environmental resources, preserve the ecosystems, and preserve land use options including resources use in the coastal zones and the protection of watersheds. In respect of the legal framework, support will be provided to improve information systems, facilitate access to information and integrate spatial GIS, as well as their use in land management policy and procedure.

3.1.2 The OECS Agriculture Policy Framework and Strategic Plan (2003) proposes four broad areas including policies in institutional and legal reform; strategic

action in natural resources management; financial options, incentive regimes and insurance and product development and marketing. Briefly, the expected results and indicators of achievements in the four broad areas may be summarized as follows:

(a) **Legislation and institutions:** The enactment of legislation to secure land for agriculture over the longer –term and to facilitate intra-regional trade and cross border business, strengthened institutional frameworks reviews of the agriculture sector, availability and accessibility of timely and relevant agriculture trade data; strengthened capacities in farmer/fisher commodity organizations and agri-business service providers, strengthened planning capacities in the Ministries of Agriculture and established and harmonized agriculture and related standards.

(a) **Natural resources management:** Identifies actions at the level of member state to include an update of the inventory of water catchments and water legislation; improvement in production as a result of improved irrigation systems and other water harvesting and conservation measures; capacity building among farmers including livestock farmers in the efficient application of available water; protection and sustainable use of plant biodiversity; development of land capability maps and training in GIS and integrated plant nutrition systems resulting in increased land productivity; fisheries management and development plans including fisher and boat registration, improved quality assurance systems and harmonization of same and sustainable exploitation of the fishery resources.

©**Financial options, incentive regimes and insurance:** The member states to be involved in dialogue on risk mitigation through agriculture insurance facility resulting in increased lending for agriculture and increased investment in agriculture ventures.

(d) **Production, product development and marketing:** The member states to individually determine the usefulness of agriculture research in enhancing productivity and collectively prioritize the research and development needs of the region; production organized to meet market demands at all levels, national, regional and international and a marketing model for the OECS non traditional; improved production system of small livestock; commercial oriented approach to non-trationals and classification of farmers and fishers by use of technology and level of investment to engender greater commercial orientation and technology transfer and utilization.

The key results foreseen are (i) increased sector contribution to GDP (ii), increased production and improved marketing, (iii) reduced food imports, (iv) higher value-added in fisheries and (v) improved marketing infrastructure including regional services available for product testing and certification.

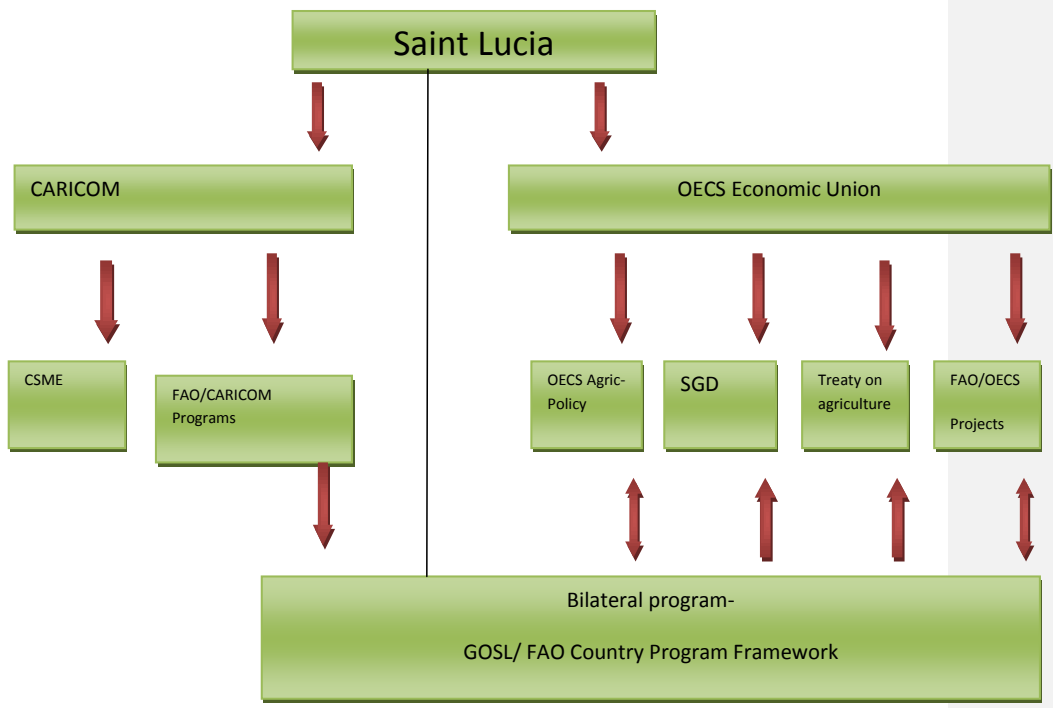
Saint Lucia like all protocol members to the OECS Economic Union also pays attention to the 2010 request of the OECS Authority that programme priorities should be given consideration in the following areas:

- a) Identification of a set of agriculture products in which the OECS region has a competitive production and trading advantage
- b) Identification and targeting of appropriate private sector operators, including financial institutions for the establishment of partnerships,
- c) Reduction of the high cost of inputs, in particular fertilizers and feeds, through joint procurement;
- d) Risk management, including introducing and strengthening insurance arrangements for crops, livestock and fisheries; and
- e) The cross-cutting need to put measures in place to ensure preservation of environmental integrity.

3.2. Major programs affecting agriculture in Saint Lucia. Saint Lucia by virtue of being a member of CARICOM and the OECS Economic Union is a beneficiary of many programs in agriculture under multilateral arrangements. This includes the programs of FAO under direct arrangements with CARICOM and with the OECS Secretariat.

The chart below shows the context of Saint Lucia agriculture and the organic relationships with the FAO/OECS programs including those under the UNDAF 2012-2016. Saint Lucia agriculture programs must also reflect obligations and commitments of protocol members to the SGD and the OECS ¹⁹Treaty on Agriculture. As earlier indicated the real significance of these relationships is that the FAO/GOSL/CPF is afforded the opportunity to contribute to or influence these other frameworks by carefully facilitating access to the international expertise and competence of the FAO in OECS sub-regional programs on agriculture. In this respect the FAO/GOSL/CPF already identifies sustainable development of marine fisheries in its bilateral program as one area with improved benefits from OECS sub-regional approach.

¹⁹ Modernization of the sector through adoption of best practices and standards; benchmarks for joint strategic frameworks; national policies to compliment regional initiatives; mechanisms for private/public sector partnerships and investments for competitive agriculture sector.



Context of Saint Lucia FAO/GOSL/CPF 2012-2015

The Table below represents the projects implemented in collaboration with FAO under the bilateral program over the period 2006-2008. Over the same period Saint Lucia benefitted from CARICOM regional projects in food and nutrition security, assistance to establish food –based dietary guidelines, in plant protection and production and in marine eco-system-based management in the Lesser Antilles.

FAO Projects in Saint Lucia 2006-2008

Project Title	Project Objectives	Total Budget	Start Date	Completion Date	Outputs
Technical Assistance in Support of the Regional Special Programme for Food Security (RSFPS) at Country Level	The project will support the implementation of the national component of the RSPFS dealing with smallholder production and marketing enhancement as well as any other complementary project in support of food security in the country.	\$72,817	2006-06	2007-12	Laboratory equipment was purchased.
Assistance to develop a national Agricultural Water Resources Information System	The objectives of the project were to assist the Government in developing a properly functioning water resources information system; and to strengthen national capacities in data collection and management in support of decision making.	\$104,263	2005-02	2007-07	An assessment study of the performance and effectiveness of the existing water monitoring networks with a view to network improvement and rationalization was done; A fully functioning database of data and information on key hydrological variables, supported by adequately performing water data processing was established. A functioning data exchange network between agencies involved in hydrological data collection, analysis, interpretation, publication and dissemination of reports of summary data and an institutional framework for data collection developed. Staff members of the Water Resources Management Unit and the Ministry of Agriculture were trained.
TCP Facility	(1) The preparation of projects with respect to the St. Lucia SFA 2006 programme; (2) the preparation of a project for livelihoods restoration and mainstreaming of Disaster Risk Management among small farmers in St. Lucia	\$57,921	2006-03	2008-12	Four project documents "Preparation of an Annual Agricultural Review as part of a Regional Annual Review for the Windward Islands"; "Agro-Enterprise Development"; "Assistance to improve agricultural production and productivity by promoting technology adaptation" and "Promotion of Domestic Agricultural Products"; and a TCP project document entitled "Enhanced capacities for disaster risk mitigation in agriculture, fisheries and forestry" were prepared.
Assistance to agriculture census and statistics	The long-term development objective of the project is to establish a flow of relevant, reliable and timely data on agriculture and livestock in support of the national agricultural development strategy and for the effective planning and monitoring of the agriculture sector and for food security planning.	\$170,595	2006-07	2008-09	The Census of Agriculture 2007 was completed. The main findings are available online.

Input supply to vulnerable populations under ISFP	To provide inputs to non-banana crop and livestock producers. To source and procure planting material, livestock and germplasm. To conduct a rapid assessment of the school feeding programme. To identify idle private lands and provide for provision to needy households.	\$250,000	2008-07	2009-06	Livestock feed, broiler chicks, seeds/seedlings and fertilizers were distributed.
Enhanced capacities for disaster risk mitigation in agriculture, fisheries and forestry	Improved service delivery capacities of agriculture, fishery and forestry line departments, and enhanced know how of farmers and fishermen organizations to implement natural hazard risk mitigation and preparedness measures, with particular emphasis on primary and secondary impacts of hurricanes and tropical storms.	\$387,804	2009-07	2011-06	The project is ongoing. Backstopping missions were undertaken by the Lead Technical Officer, Fisheries, Micro Finance and Insurance, Communication Officers. Training workshops were conducted in planning for community based DRR and CCA; and Planning community based adaptation to climate change. A number of livestock best practice demonstrations were completed.
Diversification into Vegetable Production in the Mabouya Valley	1. To assist members of MVVPA to increase the production of vegetables for sale and for the consumption by their families through the establishment of a seedling nursery; and to establish a direct marketing arrangement with the tourism sector, supermarkets and public markets for agricultural produce, in order to secure and increase the incomes of farmers as well as improve the level of food security of those farm families participating in the project.	\$10,000	2006-05	2007-05	Various materials identified were presented.

The listing below of projects implemented by other Agencies is as it appears in the Five Year Strategic Management and Action Plan 2010-2014.

Agricultural Projects implemented by other Agencies

Project	Total Project Cost (euros)	Source Funds Grants	Activities/ Implementing Agency
Agricultural Diversification Project	6.824.587	EC SFA 2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Digital Land Resource Information Management System ▪ Rural Constabulary Pilot Project ▪ Pack House for fresh produce and cut flowers ▪ Rehabilitation of farm access Roads ▪ Technical Assistance to agro-processors
Agricultural Diversification Project	7.941.418	EC SFA 2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land tenure study • Strategic management plan for MAFF • Procurement of incinerator • Procurement of diagnostic equipment • Development and implementation of quality standards and certification system for major agricultural products <p>Construction of two human resource dev. centers</p>
Rehabilitation of Major Drains in the Valley	1000.000	IDA (BS)	
Promotion of Domestic Agricultural Produce	5.000.000	EC SFA 2006	FAO/EU
- Agro-enterprise Dev.			
-Technology			

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Adaptation - Annual Agricultural Review			
Competitiveness through Linkages Project	1.350.000	EC SFA 2006	St Lucia Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture
Banana Commercialization and Agricultural Diversification in St Lucia	In process	EC SFA 2005	BIT and IICA
Banana Commercialization and Agricultural Diversification in St Lucia	1.500.000	EC SFA 2004	Hamburg University of Applied Sciences, Research and Transfer Centre (AGIL) and Sir Arthur Lewis Community College

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3.3 Major laws affecting agriculture: The major laws represent those governing the sustainable use of the forests, promotion and regulation of fishing and fisheries in the fishery waters of Saint Lucia and related areas, and the Sale of Produce Act which governs praedial larceny prevention.

Annex 4

Consultative Process

4.0 Introduction: The priorities and proposed outputs of the CPF emerge from a consultative process in Saint Lucia. These consultations were conducted in two phases; consultations between the UN System for Barbados and the OECS and the Government of Saint Lucia and subsequent consultations between FAO/MALFF and the relevant institutions in Saint Lucia. The latter were discussed within the framework of the National Agriculture Policy and Strategic Plan 2010, and several other official reports on agriculture and food production in Saint Lucia in the last five years.

4.1. UNDAF Process: The proposed approach to deliver development cooperation assistance in the six priority areas outlined in the UNDAF 2012 to 2016 is through a sub regional mechanism, which will see UN organizations programme jointly, drawing on the breadth and depth of agency expertise and experience, across six development priorities at the sub regional level. At the same time, individual UN agencies will continue to address development challenges at the national level, based on national needs and their specific agency mandates. This new approach seeks to address the complexities of joint UN programs versus individual cooperative frameworks that respond directly to a country's needs or request within a sub regional, multi-country context.

Based on the above, the six sub-regional priorities identified by the by the 10 programme countries and territories will be addressed through UN joint programs²⁰, have direct linkages to individual agency support for achievement of related national development targets. Guaranteeing this synergy the Executive Boards of the UN Funds and Programs (UNICEF, UNDP and UNFPA) will approve the individual agency programs, within the framework of the UNDAF.

²⁰ Joint programming is the collective effort through which the UN organisations and national partners work together to prepare, implement, monitor and evaluate the activities aimed at effectively and efficiently achieving the MDGs and other international commitments.

The six thematic priorities, also referred to as UNDAF Outcomes, to which the UN will contribute its resources collectively based on its comparative advantage and in collaboration with strategic partners are outlined hereunder:

- Outcome 1: Environment, Energy, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction
- Outcome 2: Enabling environment of effective economic and social governance and enhanced security
- Outcome 3: Social protection and poverty reduction with a focus on vulnerable groups
- Outcome 4: Food and Nutrition Security
- Outcome 5: Public Health within context of the development agenda using rights based approach, maintaining focus on HIV/AIDS and non-communicable diseases
- Outcome 6: Capacity building and institutional strengthening.

The matrix reflecting the Outcomes for the agency and cooperative actions in Food and Nutrition Security is shown below.

Priority Area: Food and Nutrition Security						
Outcomes	Indicators/Baseline/Target	Means of Verification	Risks and Assumptions	Role of Partners	Implementing Partners	Indicative Resources
<p>Outcome: Strengthened policy and legislative frameworks and increased production, productivity, product diversification and access to food within an environment of resilience to hazards towards higher levels of food and nutrition security</p>	<p># of countries with food and nutrition strategies prepared</p> <p>Baseline :1 Target : 5</p> <p>% in increase production of selected vegetables, fruits, fish and animal products increased by</p> <p>Baseline:</p> <p>Target: 10% increase in 6 countries</p> <p>% increase in per capita consumption of targeted foods increased</p> <p>Baseline: Target: 1% by 2016 in 5 countries.</p>	<p>Completed documents available.</p> <p>National and sub-regional sector reviews. International agencies data-bases.</p> <p>Based on production, imports and population data</p>	<p>Assumption: Food and nutrition security remains a priority of the governments</p> <p>Targeted stakeholders are ready to accept change and to buy-in to proposed changes</p> <p>Risks: Legal and policy officers in the Ministries are not available</p>	<p>FAO to lead on outcome focus on agro-business value chains. UNDP to focus on livelihoods. PAHO to focus on nutrition and food safety</p>	<p>FAO, UNDP, PAHO UNAIDS, UN WOMEN,</p>	<p>FAO: US\$1,180,000 UNDP: US\$50,000</p> <p>PAHO: UNWOMEN UNAIDS:</p>
<p>Output 1.1 Improved production techniques and technologies to support climate resilient</p>	<p>Target: 7 countries with DRM plans for agriculture and at least 5% increase in productive capacity.</p>	<p>National DRM plans and sector plans</p> <p>National Statistics</p>	<p>Assumption: Technologies are affordable and appropriate to the production</p>	<p>FAO provides technical assistance in production techniques and</p>	<p>FAO, UNDP, UNICEF, UNWOMEN</p>	<p>US\$750,000 UNDP: \$50,000</p>

<p><i>agricultural related livelihoods within rural and urban communities</i></p>	<p>Baseline: Only 2 countries with DRM plans for agriculture.</p> <p>Indicators: % increase in productive capacity of small, medium farms</p> <p># countries with DRM plans for agriculture, including at the community level</p> <p>% increase in urban farm plots/community gardens</p> <p>% agriculture employments disaggregated by sex and age.</p>	<p>Departments</p>	<p>systems in use.</p> <p>Risk: Key institutions are unable to cope with improved situation.</p>	<p>technologies.</p> <p>UNDP provides financial support for livelihoods projects.</p> <p>UN WOMEN and UNICEF support demonstrations for target groups and schools</p>		
<p>Output 1.2 <i>Strengthened programmes and institutional framework at the national and sub-regional levels for the involvement of young persons in agriculture</i></p>	<p>Target: Sub regional programme defined for youth involvement in agriculture and 4 country pilot programmes implemented by 2016 and youth employment in agriculture increase by at least 2%</p> <p>Baseline: No programme geared at youth in agriculture in place and no pilot</p>	<p>Completed document.</p> <p>Reports on pilot programmes</p>	<p>Assumptions: All countries will fully participate in the study. The involvement of youth in agriculture is a priority of governments</p> <p>Risk: Inadequate funding to support the pilot programmes.</p>	<p>UNICEF will provide technical assistance as well as support the sub-regional programme.</p> <p>FAO will finance pilot projects. UNDP will support sub-regional programme and pilot projects.</p>	<p>FAO, UNICEF, UNDP, UNWOMEN</p>	<p>US\$300,000</p>

	<p>programmes for youth under implementation</p> <p>Indicators: # of country pilot programmes</p> <p>% of agriculture employment disaggregated by sex and age.</p>			UNWOMEN will ensure gender sensitivity.		
<p>Output 1.3 <i>Capacities for the preparation and implementation of food and nutrition security policies at the national level strengthened.</i></p>	<p># of regional training programmes linked to food and nutrition planning with positive evaluations conducted.</p> <p>Baseline = 0 Target = 2</p>	Reports of the training programmes	Government counterparts are not available to participate in the training.	<p>FAO and PAHO to provide technical assistance and training on policy analysis and formulation with respect to food and nutrition security.</p> <p>UNAIDS to ensure that adequate attention to interest groups.</p>	FAO, PAHO, UNAIDS	FAO: US\$80,000

4.2 FAO/MALFF consultative process

4.2.1 Introduction: The discussions between FAO and MALFF revealed that a series of consultations had been undertaken on the agriculture sector over the period 2009-2010. These consultations were in fulfillment of the participatory approach established by the leadership of the Ministry. The primary objective of the consultations was to generate stakeholder reaction to the deliverables in the 2004-2009 policy implementation process and to inform the new policy objectives and strategic actions. As will be seen later the New Agricultural Policy and Five Year Strategic Management and Action Plan 2010-2014 was endorsed as the official framework for CPF. It was therefore felt there was no need for further broad based stakeholder consultations to prepare the Draft CPF.

In view of the above, the processes facilitated by the MALFF on behalf of FAO were as follows: (a) a briefing meeting with the Minister of Agriculture, Lands, Forestry and Fisheries (b) meeting with Permanent Secretary to receive approval on the process of information gathering, (c) bibliographic review of documents since 2003 (d) a meeting with Heads of Department and other selected technical officers and a number of smaller meetings with the various Technical Departments of the Ministry for information and clarification. A first and second draft document was presented to Senior Technical staff in meetings chaired by the Permanent Secretary; comments received were incorporated in preparation for a national consultation of a wide range of stakeholders and agencies organized by MALFF/FAO. These final comments were then incorporated in CPF which was subsequently endorsed by the Minister of Agriculture and the FAOR.

4.2.2 Outcomes of consultations: The outcomes of these consultations are presented primarily in the form of the opportunities which emerged for FAO interventions in support of the 2010-2014 policy and strategic framework.

4.2.2.1 Session 1. - Heads of Planning Unit and Fisheries Division

Planning Unit: Head of the Planning Unit confirmed to the meeting that the agriculture policy objectives (2010 -2014) and associated strategic plans would serve as the official framework for the FAO/MALFF/CPF. Furthermore that it was not foreseen that there would be any major adjustments to said policy as a result of the impact of Hurricane Tomas. The one exception would be the strategic actions on natural resources management and mitigation would be strengthened to focus on productive issues as well as issues of climate change adaptations and mitigation and early warning systems.

The recommendations to address weaknesses in planning, programming and monitoring identified in the two recent assessments conducted by external ²¹agencies would be given attention. Specifically the CPF would provide technical assistance to strengthen and build capacities in the Planning Unit. To be effective this would include

²¹ Bodhram Report 2007 and Five Year Strategic Management and Action Plan 2010-2014.

capacity for monitoring, assessment and information sharing. As this has implications for results-based performance the Human Resource functionaries of the Ministry would need to be involved to ensure accountability at the level of the personnel involved.

Fisheries: The Head of Fisheries recognized that this subsector was not making use of partnership agreements for responsible fishing to respond to the potential that existed in strategic linkages for sustainability of the marine fisheries and competitiveness of the local fishing industry in general. Specifically there was need to access support to amend legislation or to enforce compliance to existing legislation to facilitate a focus on diversification rather than increased production in marine fisheries supply as important species are declining. In this respect Saint Lucia must compete on product and quality as the challenge in the domestic market was from countries with larger EEZs. Saint Lucia therefore needs to improve its attractiveness to local investors on the basis of capacity to facilitate, promote and sustain quality and product differentiation in the local fisheries product.

Preconditions which emerged as necessary to achieve the level of competitiveness foreseen in the domestic fish market and which respond to FAO strategic objectives and competencies were as follows:

(a) Review of the current standards and codes of practices which inform or guide amendment to the fisheries to facilitate a fishing industry regulated to satisfy the promotion of stakeholder investment in chill and fresh fish for the hospitality and restaurants sector.

(b) An assessment of the future role of the Fish Marketing Facility in Castries in order to make a determination on the best investment options. This information would also inform decisions on the planned Vieux Forte Fish Marketing Facility.

(c) Priority fish species need to be assessed. Several recent reports had observed the depletion in snapper, lobster, conch and Wahoo and increase in fish landings of other species such as tuna, flying fish and shark. The recommendation for immediate action was for a lobster stock assessment. This could either be undertaken as a Saint Lucia initiative or for better outcomes an OECS initiative which would lay the basis for an inevitable forum to discuss management options for this resource within the marine waters of the OECS. This proposal comes against the background that the OECS Annual Regional Agriculture Review 2008 makes reference to depletion/reduction of some important species observed in St. Vincent and the Grenadines and to significant increases in fish landings in some species in Grenada.

(d) The negative impact of land-based activities on the fishing sites around Saint Lucia and the observed changes in the species landed in recent years are strong justification for the conduct of a census of the fisheries industry and subsequent development of a Plan of Action inclusive of the measures for its operationalization. The objective would be to determine to what extent the fisheries might have changed in terms of their longer term contribution to the Saint Lucia economy, in particular for income generation and food and nutrition security.

Should the census be undertaken as a national activity, Saint Lucia already has adequate expertise in the FAO methodology for census. However should this be a sub-regional undertaken as was also considered then FAO technical assistance is foreseen. It was agreed by FAO and Heads present at the meeting that Saint Lucia would solicit the role of the OECS in order for the initiative to be an OECS sub-region action using technical assistance from FAO supported by development/ financing from external donor.

(e) In respect of aquaculture revised legislation (2009) makes provision for aquaculture development. Current actions for aquaculture include a new *tilapia* hatchery at Union Research Station. Additional requirements for the establishment of a *tilapia* industry would include the following priority actions; water quality and soil suitability tests to agree on sites, type of incentives, management capability strengthening, and processing and value-added that would encourage large scale operations. *Tilapia* freshwater species is being considered because of its potential for food security and livelihoods, and also a preferred species by restaurants and intra-regional export markets. In this regard a market study will need to be conducted to assess the size of the domestic market and the potential and requirements for exports within the OECS sub-region.

(f) Mariculture was identified as an option for diversification in the efforts to reduce exploitation of the marine fisheries. A feasibility (pilot studies) to identify and determine the size of the mariculture market in the tourism sector was considered necessary. This study should include an assessment of the size and type of species most in demand and the suitability to the conditions of the Saint Lucia marine sites.

4.2.2.2.1. Post Hurricane considerations for Fisheries

Based on the conclusions of the Department of Fisheries there are likely to be a range of short and medium term negative economic impacts of the passage of the 2010 hurricane on the fisheries sector. Particular attention will need to be paid to developments in reef fisheries, (jack, sardine, ballyhoo) and pelagic fisheries (conch, sea urchin and lobster) particularly juveniles where their breeding and nursery grounds have been affected.

It is projected that impacts on coastal marine environments critical to coastal fisheries productivity will be affected for years to come. Much of the damages were caused by poor practices in a number of areas such as land use, coastal marine conservation, development controls and waste disposal. Against this assessment the meeting identified as critical the following medium to longer term technical assistance.

(a) Strengthening development guidelines and controls to minimize watershed and marine impacts from urban, agricultural and tourism developments and activities. Specifically this would require the establishment or strengthening of policies, technical guidelines, legal instruments and enforcement to reduce environmental degradation and vulnerabilities from inappropriate urban and rural development practices and activities.

The broad details would cover institutional arrangements, incentives and penalty regimes to strengthen development and livelihood controls that can minimize problems from siltation, watershed and coastal pollution, degradation and associated livelihood vulnerabilities. Considerations include the establishment of an environmental trust fund and other suitable financing mechanisms to facilitate enhanced enforcement, education and on the management of vulnerable and sensitive areas (watersheds, marine reserves and critical marine habitats) and enforcement and compliance of sustainable land-based practices. These interventions have implications for development financing. Possible sources of financing identified included GEF, USA, EU and the French.

(b) Assistance for medium to long term assistance to fishers and aquaculture farmers to enhance livelihood resilience through diversification of marine fishing and aquaculture activities. Main interventions identified include the training of fishers in offshore fishing technology to reduce dependency on near shore resources, training for aquaculture (fish, shrimp and seamoss) farmers in improved production and practices, product development and marketing. Possible sources of funding EU, Taiwanese, French, Canada and USA.

4.2 .2.2 Session 11 Heads of the Forestry Department and the Water Resources Management Agency

Technical staff recognized the importance of improvements in programs in sustainable management of land, water and genetic resources as well as urgency in actions to mitigate the impact of climate change on the natural resource base including early warning systems. The discussions with the Department of Fisheries had highlighted the intersectoral issues of poor land-based managed activities on the coastal and marine resources. In this light clarity was brought to the full implications of hazards from climate change and the longer term negative impact on agriculture and food production from land-based and marine resources.

The technical officers identified challenges from climate events as flooding, dry season or extended droughts, and water scarcity. Several interventions were identified as necessary to reduce these challenges and included the following:

(a) Access to data for projections of flooding and drought through early warning systems that facilitate planning and adaptation for rainfall variability. These data would

also include data from stream flow monitoring in the eleven watersheds than can support a real time information system.

(b) Draft Water and Sewage Act for extraction supported by hydrological study to determine the status of ground water and the necessary training to assess ground water status. The meeting cited the role and mandate of the Water Resources Authority in Jamaica as an example of the role and capacities required in the Water Resources Management Agency in Saint Lucia.

There were other challenges identified including weak capacity for objective management of the many partnership agreements and how to rationalize the use of resources available to comply with these agreements. Some of the international conventions to which Saint Lucia is a signatory are important and include the Global Water Partnership, Convention on Biological Biodiversity (CBD), and United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). In terms of regional partnerships Saint Lucia participates in initiatives with GEF under the Integrated Watershed and Coastal Management project (IWCAM/GEF), the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC), CIMH, CDEMA and the CDB. Nonetheless there may still be room for a process to determine and select how to target those actions which will generate the most cost effective benefits.

It was agreed that implementation issues existed. For example Saint Lucia has in place the infrastructure for a web-based water resources information system established under FAO /TCP, but this has not been operationalized. This is in spite of the pressures on fresh water for economic development (agriculture, tourism and for health) and for the maintenance of the ecosystems.

It was also recognized that the pervasive nature of sustainable development issues in island systems usually result in a number of agencies with various roles that overlap with the work of the Department of Forestry, an experience Saint Lucia now faces. As a result there are several recent and well documented studies, national action plans, watershed management plans as well as the detailed green paper on land use policy all of which incorporate recommendations for forestry and watersheds. However there is no strategic approach to the incorporation of recommendations into a time bound action plan for management of the forests. In the meantime the agriculture census of 2007 reveals that the land use under forest and wood lands are on the decline. In view of the foregoing some of the interventions identified for FAO/MALFF technical assistance include the following:

(a) The development of a five year strategic forest management plan and a ground water resources management plan with technical assistance in leadership and advisory services.

(b) Develop and establish a Forest Management and Information System under the biophysical program including how to operationalize the system using performance – based management and linking to the web-based water information system infrastructure

already established with the support of FAO. The focus should be on training and capacity building within the Department of Forestry and the Water Resources Management Agency.

(c) Capacity building in rainwater harvesting including role of legislation and information sharing.

(d) Advisory services in the issuance of water abstraction licenses, zoning for integrated and sustainable water resource management including the necessary legislation.

4.2.2.3. Section 111 Head of the Livestock Division

The information gathered is that outlook for the sector is promising despite the increasingly high level of importation of meats. The main livestock products are poultry and pork. The Ministry expects to move market shares for poultry from the current 20% of domestic sales as a basis for importation of poultry meat to 30% during 2011. Currently the importation of both products is high. In 2008 the local poultry producers supplied in excess of the 20% quota, but in that year importation of poultry products increased slightly by 4%. The Ministry is injecting some 30,000 birds as well as feed into the sector. Currently the producers are satisfied with the favourable price received.

The country is already self-sufficient in eggs and there is a drive on to promote/increase the consumption and increase demand. Efforts are also on-going to improve quality standards in the industry through certification of the meats produced as well as the codes of practice of livestock farmers. The objective is to satisfy standards for cruise ship and tourism industry. Training is planned in processing, particular cuts in breast, backs and wings. There will be a focus on branding.

Production in pork, goat mutton and beef and rabbit products are also set to be increased. Local pork production has maintained steady increases in the last 10 years. As in the case of poultry there are administrative arrangements to guarantee pork producers 40% of the domestic market.

In respect of goats a program has been developed around forage production to reduce the high cost of feeds and AI to increase productivity through improved bloodlines. Goats will be marketed to the supermarkets and hospitality sector through Consolidated Foods Ltd. one of the major food distributors. The AI program will also be extended to include cattle and pigs. A Facility has already been identified at the Beusajour Livestock Station to conduct the artificial insemination program. The plan includes the training of young people to provide livestock services to farm owners. However young persons who have access to land with tenure that facilitates long term investment will be encouraged to manage their own livestock farms. Collectively these initiatives are expected to reduce the high meat imports as well as to generate jobs for rural areas and young people.

Based on the discussion the areas identified for support under an FAO program focused on achieving higher levels of production and productivity and were as follows:

(a) Certification of livestock product quality standards and codes of practice for livestock farmers, (b) Artificial insemination program for goats, pigs and beef cattle to improve bloodlines for higher levels of productivity; © Development of a national strategic action plan for livestock development and marketing and a discreet program for youth entrepreneurship/participation in livestock, (d) Phase II to the FAO/TCP disaster mitigation project focusing on water storage and conservation and (e) Documented state of challenges and opportunities for livestock development in Saint Lucia (livestock investment guide) covering baseline data on farm management, disease prevalence status-epidemiological map of Saint Lucia, production area maps including hazard/ disaster mitigation mapping. Considerations for the infrastructure/system to support on-going data collection for regular update and improvement in information and dissemination would complete the package of assistance.

4.2.2.4 Session 1V Head of Department of Agriculture Services (marketing, extension, research and development):

Senior technical staff participated in a discussion which covered primarily the crop subsector. There was a clear preoccupation with the challenges presented by the weaknesses associated with poor data management for decision- making.

Poor production planning and scheduling was resulting in gluts and scarcity with the accompanying negative effect on farm gate prices and production. Furthermore production planning and scheduling was not based on market needs as the production and market information was not forthcoming. Some of the challenges in the production and marketing system were the absence of farmer registration even though farmer profiles existed, data entry was weak as was crop monitoring. In general there is adequate system for data capture and feedback. The weak area was in packaging information and communicating same to the market and to the producers in a manner that impact decisions at the farm level.

In addition to the constraints listed above, there is no strategy for crop research and development nor any mechanism or formal process to develop such a program. For example there are no agreed upon indicators for crop selection for the different development objectives for agriculture and food production. Such a situation presents serious constraints to the provision of a sound basis for promotion and investment for value addition and commercialization. Hence while the 2010 policy brief speaks of selection of crops for niche markets and for value-addition there is no clarity on how these selections will be made.

Emerging from this discussion it was agreed that the most important areas to be addressed in the short to medium term would be those that could generate growth or add value in the non- traditional crop subsector and are as follows:

(a) A system or mechanism to facilitate communication across the many actors in the agri-food chain (develop and establish a monitoring, evaluation and communication strategy). Considerations for a data capture system that is sustainable and the necessary training for farmers and extension officers must be included. This should include the application of indicators for information sharing on crop selection for commodity development.

(b) A medium-term crop research program with the associated Plan of Action and the expected results prepared in collaboration with CARDI and any other agriculture research institution. This program must identify the source of the resources- human, financial and physical resources and how the information generated will be communicated to the sector and what role will the private sector in Saint Lucia play.

The foregoing should include integration of the collaboration between CARDI and CIMH, CDEMA and CDB to identify and access technologies to build resilience against the vagaries of the weather. This includes adaptations of production systems to variability in rainfall and in soil conservation and fertility measures. It will also include the creation of a balance between primary products and value-added in agri-business. Overall a CARDI Medium Term Plan or Strategy needs to be developed and implemented with technical assistance from FAO.

(c) In terms of value-added and commercialization, a strategic plan for improved management of the greenhouses for the hospitality/hotel sector and upscale supermarkets. Current low productivity and poor management of the investment in these greenhouses need to be urgently addressed.

(d) Weaknesses in human resource capacity from farm through to technical officers emerged as an area to be addressed. Performance appraisal and accountability was less than desirable in the extension services. Farmer capacity building needs exist in areas such as agri-business, understanding market trends for decision making including how to assess market and the capacity in the market.

Strategic Objectives of the National Policy Brief 2110 -2014 Saint Lucia- Source- National Policy Brief

Strategic Objective	Brief description of the intended Strategies for each objective
1. Increase the efficiency and competitiveness of the agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Fostering commercialized agri-entrepreneurial approach to farming b) Create environment to Non State Actors to effectively participate in the decision making process c) Facilitate credit and agricultural finance d) Finding solutions to farm labour problem e) Eliminating and minimizing the impact of praedial larceny f) Assist farming community to mitigate and manage risk, promote gender equality g) Encourage succession planning and youth involvement in agribusiness
2. Promote the generation, adaptation and adoption of improved appropriate technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Product differentiation / Research / Producing and supplying strategic niche crop b) Science and innovation scientific investment/National, and international research and information sharing c) Reform extension services
3. Expand and diversify production, value-added goods and services and the market base	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Trade strategy enhancing market access for non-traditional products/ Protection of SL traders b) Facilitate adjustment to new trade regulations and liberalization / Adjustment Tariffs to WTO obligations c) Promote export competitiveness standards and certification for crops and animal products d) Reform domestic market to reduce role in direct trading e) Improve Plant & animal health services quality standards and food safety sanitary and phytosanitary
4. To rationalize the land use in the country	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Legal instruments, institutional arrangements and programs to rationalizing land through coordination
5. Enhance the national food security status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Developing a basket of crops fisheries and livestock production to meet food requirements b) Physical and economic access to food c) Investment in: postharvest handling, storage, preservation and distribution to reduce loss d) Strengthening local leadership, participation and community involvement e) Incentives to processing at local level f) Strategies to promote consumption of local goods
6. Generate new opportunities for income and employment in the rural areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Diversification of rural income base b) Creation of rural enterprise to link rural with hospitality industry
7. To protect, conserve and ensure sustainable use of natural resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) achieve effective management and use of natural resources, minimizing risk, enhance soil and water quality, planning of forestry areas

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Documents Reviewed

Annual Agriculture Review- Saint Lucia 2008
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A Review of Agriculture Policies: CASE STUDY OF SAINT LUCIA; Dept. of Agriculture Economics and Extension – UWI, St Augustine 2005
Budget Address for Financial Year 2009/2010
Budhram Report 2007 - IICA/MALFF
Budget Address for Financial Year 2010/2011
Conference Report- 31st Regional Conference of FAO for LAC
Country Program Framework- a tool for more effective FAO assistance to member countries
Draft OECS Treaty on Agriculture 2009
Draft UN Sub-regional Analysis: Barbados and the OECS 2009
FAO Strategic Framework 2012-2015
Five Year Strategic Management and Action Plan 2010-2014 MALFF/SLU
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Fisheries Act Saint Lucia –Revised 2009
Fisheries Regulations Saint Lucia, Statutory Instrument 2009
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Guide for Policy and Programmatic Actions at Country Level to address high food prices
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Land Bank Project Proposal 2009- MALFF/FAO
National Land Policy- Green Paper 2003- GOSL
Preliminary Report Saint Lucia- Macro socio economic and environmental assessment of the damage and losses caused by Hurricane Tomas: A geo –Environmental Disaster 2010 UN/ECLAC/OECS Secretariat
OECS Agriculture Policy and Action Plan 2003
Policy Brief- National Agriculture Policy 2010-2014 MALFF/SLU
Policy guide for countries hit hard by high food prices 2011- FAO
Population and Housing Census 2010- Saint Lucia- Central Statistics
Saint Lucia Country Poverty Assessment 2005/2006 Vol. 1. Main Report
UNDAF for Barbados and the OECS 2012-2016
Water and Sewage Act , –Saint Lucia No. 14 of 2005.