



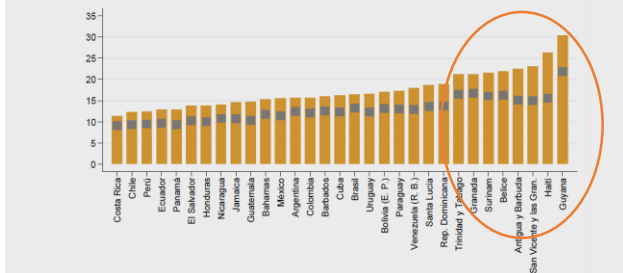
SUPPORTING THE ZERO HUNGER CHALLENGE IN ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA, GRENADA AND SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

Antigua and Barbuda, Grenada and St. Vincent and the Grenadines are experiencing drastic changes in their agro-food systems, which stem from high demand for, and dependency on, imported food and food products. Although the food and agriculture sector was traditionally a main contributor to economic development, agricultural production has significantly declined over the past two decades. Growing consumption of commercial food comes at the expense of local and traditional staples, such as fruits, vegetables and legumes, which has been linked to declining agricultural production in and around homes. Imported foods are heavily processed and high in salt, sugar and fat. Moreover, correlations between increasing imports of processed food and nutrition-related diseases in the Caribbean have been observed. The region also has the highest mortality rates caused by non-communicable disease and the highest obesity rate in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) region.



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TASA DE MORTALIDAD ATRIBUIDA A ENFERMEDADES CRÓNICAS NO TRANSMISIBLE (ENT) EN PAÍSES DE AMÉRICA LATINA Y EL CARIBE, PROBABILIDAD DE MORIR ENTRE LOS 30 Y 70 AÑOS (%), 2016



In response, this project aimed to establish special programmes for small-scale, backyard and school gardens to improve food availability and healthy eating habits and empower women and youth.

WHAT DID THE PROJECT DO?

This project contributed to improving food and nutrition security in Antigua and Barbuda, Grenada and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. Approximately 550 backyard gardens were established and strengthened, and school gardens were created in 33 primary schools. Capacity building helped extend technical guidance and urban and peri-urban agriculture techniques to beneficiaries. New sustainable school feeding models were piloted in seven schools (reaching 1 546 students), including revised menus and meal standards, and small equipment and materials were provided for school cafeterias. Furthermore, the project supported public policy development and governance for national food and nutrition security policies, including the establishment of the Parliamentary Front against Hunger and the Zero Hunger Trust Fund Act (2016) in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the establishment of a national school feeding committee in Grenada and an evaluation of the Zero Hunger Challenge in Antigua and Barbuda.

KEY FACTS

Contribution
USD 370 000

Duration
November 2014 – June 2017

Resource Partner
FAO

Beneficiaries
Women; Youth; Poor and vulnerable households; Ministries of health, agriculture, education, social protection and finance and planning

IMPACT

The agenda for food and nutrition security at national and regional levels was strengthened, which helped establish governance mechanisms, align policies, programmes and investments and reinforce political commitments to addressing the root causes of hunger, food security and malnutrition. Governance structures to attain food and nutrition security at national levels were enhanced by improving communication and information sharing among key stakeholders and empowering civil society and non-state actors to strengthen their collaboration. National food-based dietary guidelines were updated and materials on nutrition education were widely disseminated. Moreover, the right of all children for universal access to healthy food was supported, and the dietary consumption of vulnerable families improved.

ACTIVITIES

- Capacities strengthened for the production and consumption of health food, including nutrition education and urban and peri-urban production techniques, and backyard, school and small farm gardens were established.
- School meal programmes developed and existing actions aligned with food-based dietary guidelines.
- Training workshops organized for stakeholders, civil society, non-state actors, farmers and schoolchildren.
- Communication and training tools created and disseminated to support the development and implementation of the Zero Hunger Initiative.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Project Code
TCP/SLC/3502

Project Title
Support for the development and implementation the Zero Hunger Challenge (ZHC) initiative in selected OECs countries

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