

ST. KITTS AND NEVIS

**NATIONAL MEDIUM TERM PRIORITY FRAMEWORK
FOR FAO ASSISTANCE**

PREPARED FOR

REGIONAL MEETING ON FRAMEWORKS FOR
GOVERNMENT/FAO COLLABORATION IN THE
CARICOM-CARIFORUM COUNTRIES

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|------------|---|
| CB | Capacity building |
| CCA | Common Country Assistance |
| CDB | Caribbean Development Bank |
| ER | Assistance in Emergency and Rehabilitation contexts |
| EC | European Community |
| EU | European Union |
| FAO | Food and Agriculture Organization |
| FAOR | Food and Agriculture Organization Representative |
| FMG | Frequent Monitoring Group |
| GDP | Gross Domestic Product |
| GOSKN | Government of St Kitts and Nevis |
| HQ | Headquarters |
| LMARF | Line Ministries involved in agriculture, rural development and food security policies |
| MDGs | Millennium Development Goals |
| MBOP | management by priority objectives (MBPO) |
| NMTPF | National Medium Term Priority Framework |
| PA | Policy Advice |
| PB | Partnership Building |
| RM | Resource Mobilization |
| RO | Regional Office |
| RP | Regular Programme |
| SK | Applying and Sharing Knowledge |
| SRO | Sub-regional Office |
| TCP | Technical Cooperation Programme |
| UNDAF | United Nations Development Assistance Framework |
| UNSA | United Nations Specialised Agencies |
| WFS | World Food Summit |
| WHO | World Health Organization |
| World Bank | WB |

**ST. KITTS AND NEVIS
NATIONAL MEDIUM TERM PRIORITY FRAMEWORK
FOR FAO ASSISTANCE**

A. Introduction

Background

1. Over 60 years of its existence, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is one of the United Nations Specialised Agencies (UNSA) representing 187 member countries and the European Community (EC).

2. FAO acts as a neutral forum where all nations meet as equals to negotiate agreements and debate policy. The FAO is governed by the Conference of member nations which meets every two years to review and approve programme of work and budget for the next biennium. The Conference elects a General Council of 49 member nations to act as an interim governing body of FAO activities for three-year rotating terms. The Conference also elects the Director General for a renewable six-year term. FAO has, among others, committees on commodity problems, agriculture, and world food security. It is active in land and water development, plant and animal production, forestry and fisheries. Specifically, FAO strives to improve its effectiveness and efficiency and increase production from farms, forests, and primary forest products, fisheries and marine products and food security; improve food distribution, marketing, nutrition, and the living conditions and livelihoods of rural people in member countries.

3. In terms of values, FAO is committed to maintaining high standards of integrity and responsibility. Sharing knowledge and experiences openly within and across stakeholders is of paramount importance. In striving for excellence, FAO has qualified technical staff and focuses resources on performance initiatives that deliver desired results to member countries, St Kitts and Nevis included.

The FAO Strategic Intent and Cooperation Areas

4. FAO's aims, as set out in the preamble to its constitution, are: (i) raising levels of nutrition and standards of living of the peoples of member states; (ii) securing improvements in the efficiency of the production of all food and agricultural products; (c) bettering the condition of rural populations; and (d) in this way contributing towards an expanding world economy and ensuring humanity's freedom from hunger.

5. A core area for FAO is knowledge and information networking. Its main activities include putting information within reach, sharing policy expertise, providing a meeting place for nations, and bringing knowledge to the field level. In this regard, FAO and its members have identified key areas of cooperation. They include:

- Capacity building (CB);
- Applying and Sharing Knowledge (SK);
- Policy Advice and Advocacy (PA);
- Assistance in Emergency and Rehabilitation contexts (ER);

- Partnership Building (PB);
- Resource Mobilization (RM)...

Capacity Building for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries:

6. FAO will contribute to the strengthening of line ministries and its decentralized entities on agriculture, food security, and forestry and fisheries issues. In this regard, it will assist the Government of St Kitts and Nevis (GOSKN) in formulation of food security, agriculture, forestry, and fishery policies and assist in their implementation. It will also contribute to strengthen the capacity of the principal line ministries involved in agriculture, rural development and food security policies (LMARF) for aid coordination in the area of agriculture, food security, forestry, and fisheries.

Applying and sharing knowledge:

7. FAO will provide technical advice and assistance, and monitoring and evaluation of projects, and understanding of issues related to food security, agriculture, water, forestry, and fishery in St Kitts and Nevis. In doing so, FAO will employ techniques such as piloting management methods and approaches through direct missions or projects. In addition, the FAO will continue to provide assistance in global monitoring of the achievements of World Food Summit (WFS) and Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Policy Advice and Advocacy:

8. FAO will continue to advocate for maintaining food security, agriculture, forestry, and fisheries issues on the national development agenda. It will actively participate in relevant discussion fora and will organize, when appropriate, events, which promote investments in agriculture, forestry, and fisheries sub sector, and provide empirical analysis on food security for decision-making. FAO, through its Investment Centre, will continue to support investment through formulation of projects and may provide technical assistance in the context of the interventions of other development partners (such as World Bank and the CDB).

Partnership Building:

9. In assisting the GOSKN in pursuing its agriculture, food security, forestry and fishery development objectives, including the MDGs, FAO will seek to expand its strategic alliances, so as to create the greatest possible synergy between its programmes and those of its partners and to ensure national capacity building of national capacities. If resources permit, it will set up technical resource advisory panels for scientific and policy matters with development partners. FAO work with the general guidance provided by the United Nations Development Group and pro-actively support joint assessments and programming (such as CCA, UNDAF). In addition, it will also build a network of partner institutions, which will participate in the implementation of the NMTPF.

10. Together with the World Health Organization (WHO), the FAO administers the *Codex Alimentarius Commission*¹, intended to promote harmonisation of standards for food and thereby facilitates international trade. In addition, FAO devotes regular programme (RP) and Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) resources to St Kitts and Nevis and where possible collaborates with international donor and financial agencies in providing various types of technical assistance to the GOSKN.

Resource mobilization:

11. The FAOR will build on the Strategic Partnership between FAO and other development partners in the field of food security, agriculture, forestry and fisheries development. In addition, the FAOR has access to funds under the TCP facility in order to react quickly on specific priority issues at the country level. The FAOR will consult with the GOSKN on the use of TCP funds. The FAOR will quickly mobilize either national partners or international FAO-targeted support from HQ /RO/SRO to implement activities.

Assistance in Emergency and Rehabilitation contexts (ER):

12. FAO recognises that there are small and vulnerable economies, including countries in post-natural disaster situations, whose vulnerability and lack of resilience to external shocks expose them to a high risk of food insecurity and threatened livelihoods, among others. FAO will provide technical assistance to address the rehabilitation requirements in its areas of technical competency.

The Preparation of the NMTPF

13. FAO sets frameworks that enable it to anticipate and respond to challenges brought about by change in a more proactive manner. The five-year FAO NMTPF for the period 2006-2010 is developed with focus on St Kitts and Nevis' specific requirement in the areas in which FAO's effectiveness and impact will be greatest. This is a departure from the centrally determined, Rome-based plans/ frameworks in terms of formulation, breadth, and depth of coverage. The FAO has resolved to adopt a decentralised and strategic approach in identifying and setting objectives, strategies, benchmarks, and standards for each function. The NMTPF will be designed to be consistent with UN system instruments such as UNDAF and CCA, as well as the national priorities and processes. Therefore, the NMTPF is designed to be a dynamic and living framework, which guides the achievement of FAO objectives and targets.

14. The FAO NMTPF is a rolling framework designed to respond to new realities resulting from national regional and global developments. In this regard, the NMTPF will be revised at the end of the third year and each three years thereafter; as the remaining two years are added to a new period of three years to make a subsequent five-year NMTPF.

¹ A programme managed jointly by the FAO and WHO for initiating, preparing publishing and revising international food standards established since 1962.

15. The joint identification of medium-term priorities by the GOSKN and FAO is particularly important to ensure that the GOSKN, as “owner” and “leader” of external assistance to its development efforts, gets the best out of FAO’s assistance. The identification of such priorities for FAO’s assistance is carried out in a way that effectively complements activities of other donor agencies. The NMTPF identifies and agrees with the Government of St Kitts and Nevis a set of medium-term priorities for FAO’s assistance. The intended assistance will address national agricultural, forestry, fisheries, rural development and food security needs, as expressed and jointly prioritized by both the FAO and the Government.

16. Guiding principles for preparation of the NMTPF are:-

- **Driven** by country needs and government’s priorities as expressed by the medium term socio-economic framework, poverty eradication programmes, the various policies strategy documents and programmes and projects under implementation by line ministries, departments, agencies and local governments relevant to the agriculture, forestry and fisheries sectors, and food security processes;
- **based on** the nationally-owned development agenda and **aligned with** national programming process to the maximum extent possible;
- **agreed upon** with governments to ensure full ownership of development processes, and assistance in agriculture, food security and rural development in general and FAO’s assistance in particular;
- **harmonized**, to the maximum extent practical, with the assistance provided by other development partners in general, and that provided by other UN partners in particular;
- **complementary** with the assistance provided by other national and international development partners - rather than competing with development partners FAO seeks to fill critical gaps and build partnerships to stimulate and re-enforce the efforts of partners;
- **focused** on a limited set of priorities where FAO’s assistance would have the greatest impact and for which there is funding potential;
- **accompanied** by a short-term action plan (6 to 12 months) in order to ensure effective implementation.

The NMTPF Outline

17. The NMTPF document consists of eight sections. Section one provides background information relating to the FAO Governance and strategic intents, NMTPF preparation and Outline. Section two provides detailed objectives, status, national and agricultural policies and strategies, programmes and projects. Section three discusses challenges and opportunities for agricultural development. Section four focuses on main interventions by financial and donor agencies in the field of agricultural and rural sector development. Section five covers the FAO-Government Priority Framework. Section six

refers to the implementation management, monitoring and evaluation of the NMTPF. Section seven provides a list of current FAO assistance. Section seven provides a matrix outline of the draft NMTPF (see appendix 1).

B. Objectives, Status and Trends in National Policies

18. In December 2004, the Government of St. Kitts and Nevis announced its decision to discontinue the production of sugar for export after the end of the 2005 sugarcane crop. The economy of St. Kitts and Nevis was traditionally dominated by sugar production on St. Kitts which was introduced over three centuries ago. However for the past three decades, the sugar industry experienced financial difficulties as a result of falling sugar prices, high operating costs, aging equipment and low production efficiencies.

19. The Government has seen the decision to cease the production of sugar for export under the EU/ACP Sugar Protocol Agreement as among the most momentous decision ever made in the country. The immediate concern following the end of the 2005 crop in July was to ensure that the affected workers were paid their severance package based on previous agreements. The Government also introduced a package of assistance for former sugar industry workers including access to medical care, securing of pension for retired workers, training and job attachments as well as duty and tax concessions to facilitate entry into farming, fishing and taxi or bus operations. The Government also promised to provide irrigation and farm equipment and to make land available for farming.

20. Exiting from the sugar industry has been seen by the Government to provide significant opportunities to reconfigure the economy to become more productive, responsive and competitive. The creation of backward and forward linkages by tourism with other sectors of the economy and also expanded opportunities for non-sugar agriculture with more land becoming available have been identified as areas for growth. Consideration is also being given to the use of sugarcane for other purposes including the generation of energy and the production of ethanol. The historical assets of the sugar industry have also been seen as an invaluable cultural resource that can be preserved while also being used to enrich the tourism product.

21. Following the closure of the sugar industry and the escalation of the national debt, the Government has developed a strategy for the structural adjustment of the economy. One area of focus is the development and implementation of a non-sugar agricultural diversification programme that would assist in the up scaling of the current production for the domestic market and the development of selected products for the export market. Attention is also being placed on the potential utilization of sugarcane in various economic and value added processes for energy production (co-generation of electricity and ethanol), rum distillation and livestock feed. The investment in new enterprises aligned with tourism and agriculture including heritage, cultural and industrial activities are also being considered.

22. Agriculture is considered as one of the key areas of growth in the national economy. The policy of the Government is to significantly increase non-sugar agriculture production in a competitive and sustainable manner through the development of farmers. Production will be market led and the penetration of new markets will be an

area of focus. An integrated production and marketing system is expected to contribute to the economic diversification programme. Special emphasis will be placed on the commercialization of farmers in an attempt to transform the sector into one that is internationally competitive.

23. Separate programmes have been developed for crop and livestock development. The general objective of the crops programme is to facilitate commercial production of crops to ensure food security, foreign exchange savings and sustainable development. Focus is being placed on the introduction and use of improved technologies as well as good agricultural practices to ensure food safety and quality control at all levels of production. The crops programme has targeted the expansion of commercial and semi-commercial fruit tree orchards, increasing pineapple production to meet the domestic demand and expanding the period of vegetable production from 6 to 12 months. Limited access to water for supplemental irrigation has been seen as a major constraint to expanding the cropping activities. The need for strengthening of farmer organizations as well as improving farmer training and extension visits has also been identified as being critical. Special attention is also being placed on improving and expanding agro-processing activities and the use of appropriate packaging.

24. The aim of the livestock programme is to transform livestock production in St. Kitts and Nevis into a modern industry. The main objective is to further expand the market share for beef, pork, mutton and goat meat. It is proposed that mechanized harvesting of forages would be introduced so as to improve the efficiency of pasture management and to reduce the drudgery of farming. Mechanical harvesting of forages would be critical for increasing small ruminant production and goats would be raised in dog proof areas. The strategy will focus on the development of a core group of full-time commercial farmers to be the main suppliers for meat. The penetration of supermarkets with pork products would be a pre-requisite for expansion of pig production.

25. The development of the livestock programme will be based on several elements that will ensure improved services, availability of processed products, sustainable systems and a positive impact on the agricultural sector. The efficient operation of the abattoirs is a critical link in the chain to increase livestock output. The abattoirs would therefore be expanded and upgraded to meet the anticipated increased demand for the facilities services.

26. Fisheries development has remained mainly artisanal in nature with most of the fishing being done from small wooden open boats with outboard motors. Fishers general spend a few hours at sea at any one time and work for a few days per week. Many of the fishers are part-time and during the past 15 years there has been a decline in the number of boats involved with fishing. However within recent years an increase in the fish landings has been recorded.

27. Most of the traditional fishing methods continue today. However within the past 10 years a few of the fishers have started using more modern methods such as scuba diving for conch and lobster and trolling for pelagics. Trolling for pelagics is encouraged since this fishery is under utilized. The use of scuba allows a fisher to take as many animals as he wishes form its habitat and this poses a threat to its sustainability. The Government has given support to the fisheries sector through the development of major fish landing sites on St. Kitts with improved facilities for handling, storage and marketing of fish. On Nevis the concentration has been on improving the fishery product. Focus

has been on conservation measures, education programmes, safety at sea, modernization of the fishing fleet and monitoring of compliance with fisheries regulations.

28. Forest covers over 33% of St. Kitts and about 20% of Nevis. Most of the forest is owned by Government and occurs anywhere above the 1000-foot contour. Forestry is viewed similarly on both islands as an important natural feature intrinsically linked to water supplies. The measured contribution of the forestry sector to national output is extremely small although the unmeasured outputs are significant. Outputs of goods and services such as watershed protection, erosion control, scenic and other services are not tangible and consequently difficult to measure.

29. In Nevis the forest is mostly humid rain forest while on St. Kitts it is characterized by rain and dry forests. The forests perform both protective and productive functions. Significant watersheds exist in the rain forest and these contribute to the water distribution systems. Added to this important function is that of protection of the biodiversity. St. Kitts and Nevis boast a wide range of biological diversity much of it associated with the natural forest vegetation and some of it unique on account of geographic isolation. There is minimal commercial exploitation of the forest and the main focus of the Government is on conservation.

C. Challenges and Opportunities

C.1 Macro-economic

30. The most serious challenge that faced the agricultural sector was the adverse financial status of the sugar industry that worsened with time until its closure in 2005. The financial situation of the sugar industry exacerbated the national debt as Government's support for it increased annually. The dominance of the sugar industry resulted in limited resources been made available to non-sugar agriculture as primary attention was paid to sugar production.

31. The debt of the sugar industry has increased the pressure on the Government's fiscal position resulting in decreased cash flow and budgetary funding for capital projects being adversely affected. The closure of the sugar industry is expected to restrict its contribution to the national debt but the challenge remains as to how to liquidate the existing debt.

C.2 Policy issues

32. A number of policy related issues are currently challenging the development of non-sugar agriculture. One issue relates to the lack of freehold title for most farms. The Government is the main landowner and farmers are able to rent land on an annual basis or lease for up to 35 years. However the current land rental/lease certificate has minimal commercial value and cannot be used as collateral for credit. Also, since most of the farmers do not own farmlands, they do not appear inclined to undertake long-term investment in land improvement.

33. Another policy issue relates to land distribution to the various economic sectors. There are currently several competing economic interests for limited land particularly on St. Kitts and farmers are uncertain regarding the priority being given to land for

agricultural activity. This has limited farmer development particularly those who wish to expand their operations.

C.3 Access to credit

34. Limited access to credit as a result of high interest rates and the need for collateral adversely affects farmers' ability to invest substantially in their farms. Small farmers generally lack financial resources and are unable to develop commercial enterprises. This results in low investment levels that limit modernization and the use of new technologies. Absence of farm insurance also restricts the level of farm investment particularly given the frequency of natural disasters.

C.4 Natural disasters

35. The increasing frequency of natural disasters is a major challenge to expanding agricultural production. The risk of destruction by hurricanes, soil erosion, wind damage, flooding and damage to feeder roads are major concerns to farmers. As a result many farmers restrict their crop planting during the hurricane season resulting in shortages of local produce.

C.5 Water for irrigation

36. Limited access to water for supplemental irrigation has been identified as one of the major constraints for expanding the period of vegetable production. As a result vegetable production is mainly rain fed and crops are normally established during the final quarter of each year resulting in surplus production during the first four to five months of the following year. The majority of the farmers have limited understanding of irrigation management resulting in inefficient use of water when it is available.

C.6 Production practices

37. Crop farmers generally exhibit limited technical knowledge regarding production including pest and disease control, soil fertility and plant nutrition management, soil and water conservation, farm planning and land use management. As a result, management practices are generally not done on a timely basis and crop yields are low.

38. The longstanding tradition of raising livestock as a part-time activity mainly to supplement income from other sources has resulted in a production led approach to livestock rearing with little regard to the market requirements. The keeping of livestock beyond their optimum market weight has resulted in the build up of flock/herd sizes beyond the carrying capacity of pastures and severe overgrazing. This invariably results in loss of pastures and destruction of the natural beauty of the immediate vicinity.

C.7 Roaming animals

39. A major challenge to crop farmers is the destruction of their crops by an increasing number of roaming livestock and also damage caused by monkeys. On Nevis crop farmers face an additional problem of destruction by feral donkeys. Livestock farmers, mainly sheep and goat producers, frequently experience high levels of attacks by dogs on their animals.

C.8 Praedial larceny

40. Increasing levels of praedial larceny being experienced by crop farmers and to a lesser extent small ruminant farmers, is becoming a major disincentive to many producers. This activity is reducing the profitability of the farms and creating frustration among farmers.

C.9 Marketing and processing

41. Weak marketing infrastructure and support adversely affects provision of marketing intelligence to both producers and buyers thereby often creating a mismatch between supply and demand. Farmers frequently complain of the inability to market their products while major buyers report inability to source local products on a timely basis and in a form that is acceptable.

42. Poor post-harvest handling of fresh produce often results in high losses of crop products after an excellent crop has been produced. This often results in poor quality reaching the market place and high level of rejection particularly for supermarket outlets and the export markets.

43. The absence of significant agro-processing capability often results in high losses of local crop produce particularly during periods of over production. This limits opportunities for the development of value-added products and the extension of product shelf life.

C.10 Fisheries

44. Fisheries development faces a number of challenges that adversely affect the performance of the sector. The lack of natural protection for fishing boats as well as limited berthing and beaches facilities limit the size of boat that fishers are willing to invest in particularly given the frequency of hurricanes. The absence of larger boats results in over fishing of the inshore areas and under exploitation of the ocean pelagics. The sector also suffers from inadequate docking facilities and limited fisheries infrastructure.

C.11 Opportunities

45. Considerable opportunities exist for the development of non-sugar agriculture in St. Kitts and Nevis. The closure of the sugar industry provides the opportunity for farmers to access fertile agricultural land that is currently occupied by sugarcane. Environmental conditions including soil and climate are favourable for the production of a wide range of crops and livestock on a continuous basis. There is also scope for improving productivity through the introduction of improved technology and cultural practices. The closure of the sugar industry also provides an opportunity for recruiting former sugar workers as full-time commercial farmers.

46. St. Kitts and Nevis is a net importer of food and a significant portion of the food that is imported can be grown locally. Opportunities exist for local produce to become competitive with imported products and to displace them on the supermarket shelves.

47. Export market opportunities also exist in the nearby sub-regional markets that currently depend on the importation of local vegetables and fruits from extra-regional sources. Opportunities also exist to supply the expanding tourism sector with fresh local produce on a regular basis.

D. Country Programme Framework

48. **CARDI** provides research and development support to crop development on St. Kitts and Nevis. The institute is pursuing a work programme that is designed to address constraints to on-farm productivity and rural life. A key area of support relates to crop pest management including integrated pest management.

49. **CARDI** is also providing support that is geared towards the expansion of the period of onion production and the further development of sweet potato production. General support has also been given to the diversification thrust and in particular a strategic marketing plan was recently developed. Likely areas of assistance include design, construction and management of a packinghouse and marketing.

50. **IICA** is a hemispherical agency with a vision to promote sustainable development, food security and prosperity with a special focus on trade and agribusiness development, agricultural health and food safety, sustainable rural development, information and communication as well as education and training. **IICA** has been providing support in agricultural development through technical assistance, training and funding support.

51. **IICA** has been providing support in trade related issues by facilitating participation in regional and international meetings as well as workshops at the national level. The promotion of food safety and agricultural health as well as providing technical assistance in pest and disease management have also been areas of involvement for the institute. **IICA** has provided assistance in the strengthening of rural communities by targeting rural women in agriculture and youth. Assistance has also been provided for the transition from the sugar industry and the strengthening of agro-tourism linkages.

52. The **FAO** provides significant support to agricultural development primarily through technical assistance. The areas of support include water harvesting, small ruminant development, strengthening of extension, trade facilitation, plant protection and forestry. The **FAO** also assists small farmer development by the funding of small scale projects through the TeleFood project and assists with emergency assistance following natural disasters.

53. The Republic of China on Taiwan Agricultural Technical Mission (**ROC ATM**) provides significant technical support to agricultural development in St. Kitts and Nevis. The main focus of the **ROC ATM** for the past 23 years has been the introduction of highly production varieties mainly fruit trees and new crops to the agricultural diversification programme. The agricultural projects and activities include vegetable production, exotic tropical fruit tree project, small farm holdings financing scheme and extension support. The **ROC ATM** is currently intensifying its support for horticulture development and is constructing an agro-processing laboratory. The **ROC ATM** also provides opportunities for training in Taiwan.

54. The Japanese International Co-operation Agency (**JICA**) has been giving significant fisheries infrastructure support to St. Kitts and Nevis. A new fisheries complex was recently constructed in the capital city while a second is being constructed at another site and several other sites are being considered. JICA also provides training at a regional level.

55. The European Community (**EU**) is a major donor and development partner for St. Kitts and Nevis. Currently EU funding is primarily focused on the education sector with special emphasis on skills development for the informatics industry. The EU is currently assisting St. Kitts and Nevis to formulate a national adaptation action plan following the closure of the sugar industry. Financial support from the EU for the implementation of the national adaptation plan is likely to include accelerating the development of non-sugar agriculture.

E. Areas for FAO Intervention

E.1 Post Sugar Industry Activities

56. Urgent assistance is required to further develop and implement a transition management process of the former sugar industry so as to minimize adverse fiscal effects on the national economy and providing alternative employment opportunities for the severed workers. Assistance is required in the following areas to support the transition efforts.

- Development of options for the utilization of sugarcane in various economic and value added processes.
- Identification of employment options for former sugar industry workers.
- Development of a land use plan and a land management unit.
- Development of bankable projects for private sector financing.

E.2 Crop Production

57. Technical assistance is required to accelerate the development of food crop production to supply the domestic and export markets in a competitive and sustainable manner. The required actions are summarized as follows:

- Identification of water harvesting options and development of on-farm irrigation.
- Evaluation of greenhouse technology.
- Support for the development of fruit crop production.
- Support for the development of root and tuber crop production.
- Support for the strengthening of the extension service.
- Strengthening of farmer organizations.
- Development of mechanisms to reduce praedial larceny.
- Technical support for the development of floriculture.
- Support for the development of integrated pest management capability.
- Facilitating the development of farmers as entrepreneurs.

E.3 Livestock Production

58. Transforming the livestock sub-sector from a traditional one to being commercially viable is an area for major support from the FAO. Specific areas that have been identified for support are as follows.

- Development of commercial livestock farmers.
- Introduction of intensive and semi-intensive livestock farming systems.
- Improved pasture management and the introduction of mechanized forage harvesting.
- Development of dog control measures particularly for small ruminant farmers.
- Identification and introduction of new breeds.
- Upgrading of the abattoirs.
- Technical assistance for the management of the Tropical Bont Tick and other livestock pests and diseases.

E.4 Fisheries Development

59. The main focus for support is in the evaluation of the supply potential for marine resources in the territorial waters and an analysis of the market demand. The specific areas of assistance have been identified as follows:

- Determination of marine resources within territorial waters and development of action plan to exploit such resources.
- Evaluation of the potential for aquaculture and technical assistance for establishment of a demonstration and training unit.
- Estimation of domestic market requirements for fish products and export market opportunities.
- Development of sustainable fisheries management.
- Improving fish handling and processing capabilities among fishers.

E.5 Marketing and Agro-Processing

60. Strengthening the development of marketing and agro-processing is critical for expanding the range and value of local agricultural products as well as the penetration of domestic and export markets. Specific areas of assistance will include the following:

- Development of appropriate marketing system.
- Upgrade to packing house facilities.
- Development of an action plan for agro-processing.
- Upgrading and expansion of agro-processing capabilities.
- Development of minimal processing for crop produce.
- Training of technical staff and farmers.

E.6 Agro Tourism Linkages

61. Strengthening of the linkages between agriculture and tourism is essential for expansion of non-sugar agriculture and the retention of foreign exchange in the hospitality sector. Assistance is required in the following areas.

- Identification of the marketing opportunities in the tourism sector for local agricultural produce.
- Development of the production and post harvest systems required for local crop produce to penetrate the hospitality sector.

- Studies to determine the development of on-farm visits as part of the visitor experience.
- Further development of rainforest tours.

E.7 Trade Facilitation

62. Trade liberalization is having significant impact on the country's ability to export agricultural produce and even for farmers to compete on the domestic market. Improving of the country's capacity to understanding and react to international trade is critical for the success of the sector. Assistance is required in the following areas.

- Strengthening of national capacity in trade policy analysis.
- Development of capability to conduct competitiveness studies of local produce.

F. Implementation, monitoring and evaluation

63. Following the derivation and formulation of NMTPF implementation management and monitoring and evaluation deserve high priority. The following mechanisms are necessary for the realisation of this NMTPF.

Implementation Management

64. The FAO NMTPF sets an operational framework that facilitates the application of management by priority objectives (MBPO) system in its implementation. Its development follows the key steps of the process that included identification of strategic priorities, formulation of performance indicators and development of action plans. Following adoption of the NMTPF, the next steps include its implementation, periodic monitoring and performance reviews culminating in a formal review after every three years.

65. Through the MBPO process, FAO will be able to relate its performance objectives to those of other stakeholders including donors and GOSKN. In this regard, FAO's results oriented staff performance appraisal scheme is designed to facilitate the practical application of MBPO. Further, the participative approach to the formulation of the performance objectives, as built in the MBO process, assists in increasing employees' commitment to implementing their plans and promoting accountability.

Monitoring and Evaluation

66. The NMTPF puts emphasis on monitoring and evaluation to make the framework relevant at all times - hence its rolling nature. In this regard, the responsibility for monitoring and evaluating the NMTPF has to be vested in the Frequent Monitoring Group (FMG) comprising representatives from FAO, GOSKN and the private sector. Accordingly, the FMG with FAOR as secretariat, will monitor and evaluate implementation of the NMTPF by:-

- i. Ensuring strict adherence to participatory planning cycles activities, especially during the periodic reviews;

- ii. Coordinating periodic reviews of the NMTPF and issuing review reports. For instance, the FMG will meet annually to discuss progress report on NMTPF implementation. The progress reports would provide inputs to the NMTPF review report;
- iii. Coordinating timely preparation of future 5 year NMTPF's;
- iv. Carrying out evaluations of the NMTPF.

67. Further, the Sub-Regional FAOR will carry out periodic performance audits to verify adherence to the NMTPF and its effective co-ordination. Above all, the FAO governing bodies will play a crucial role in overseeing, guiding, and directing implementation of the NMTPF in St Kitts and Nevis.

H. FAO Technical Assistance

FAO's Regular programme budget is funded by its members through contributions set by the FAO Conference. The portfolio of FAO national programmes in St Kitts and Nevis as at March 2006 was US\$120 425. In addition, St Kitts and Nevis benefited from the FAO umbrella programme of regional assistance valued at US\$10 million.

On going projects in St Kitts and Nevis are:

TCP

- TCP/STK/3001 – Technical Assistance in Support of the Regional Special Programme for Food Security (RSPFS) at the Country Level – US\$80,825

Telefood

- TFD-01/STK/002 – Improved vegetable production through improved irrigation
- TFD-01/STK/003 - Acquisition of beekeeping equipment
- TFD-03/STK/001- Procurement of inputs for the expansion of pineapple production in St Kitts
- TFD-03/STK/002 - Supplies to the Beekeepers Cooperative Society

| ST KITTS AND NEVIS: Country Identified Priority Areas Proposed for FAO Intervention 2006 - 2010 | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Identified National Priority Areas for assistance | Key area of support | Type of priority action ² | Objective of the assistance | Description of the main activities | Expected results/output | Beneficiaries target group | Type of donor eligibility | Lead FAO Technical Unit |
| Post-sugar industry development | Assistance to the process of post-sugar adjustment and development | PA, CB, RM | Establishment and implementation of a transition management process to minimise the adverse financial effects from the closure of the industry Provide alternative employment opportunities | Development of options for the utilisation of sugarcane in various economic and value added processes Development of a land use plan and a land management unit Development of bankable projects for private sector planning Identification of employment options for | Sustainable agricultural activities Employment creation | Former-sugar workers Farmers in general Rural population | | TCA TCI |

² Six types of Priority Actions categorized: 1. **SK** = Applying and Sharing Knowledge; 2. **PA** = Policy Advice and Advocacy; 3. **CB** = Capacity Building; 4. **RM** = Resource Mobilization; 5. **PB** = Partnership Building; 6. **ER** = Assistance in Emergency and Rehabilitation

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| | | | | former sugar workers | | | | |
| Crop Production | Agricultural production and productivity enhancement | SK, CB, PA | Accelerate the development of food crop production | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Identification of water harvesting options and development of on-farm irrigation. -Evaluation of greenhouse technology. -Support for the development of fruit crop production. -Support for the development of root and tuber crop production. -Support for the strengthening of the extension service. Strengthening | <p>Agricultural diversification</p> <p>Strengthening of farm sector</p> | Farmers, consumers, economy at large. | | AGA TCA SDR |

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| | | | | <p>of farmer organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Development of mechanisms to reduce praedial larceny. - Technical support for the development of floriculture. - Support for the development of integrated pest management capability. - Facilitating the development of farmers as entrepreneurs. | | | | |
| Livestock Production | Development of livestock sector | SK, PA, CB,RS | Increase livestock production | -Development of commercial livestock | Sustainable basis for livestock | Farmers, butchers, consumers | | AGAL TCA |

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|---|---------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|-------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
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| | | | | farmers. -Introduction of intensive and semi-intensive livestock farming systems. -Improved pasture management and the introduction of mechanized forage harvesting. -Development of dog control measures particularly for small ruminant farmers. -Identification and introduction of new breeds. -Upgrading of | development | | | |

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| | | | | the abattoirs. -Technical assistance for the management of the Tropical Bont Tick and other livestock pests and diseases. | | | | |
| Fisheries development | Determine the supply potential for marine resources | SK, CB | Improved management of marine resources | Determination of marine resources within territorial waters and development of action plan to exploit such resources. -Evaluation of the potential for aquaculture and technical assistance for | More effective use of fisheries resource | Fisher-folk | | FI |

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| | | | | <p>establishment of a demonstration and training unit.</p> <p>-Estimation of domestic market requirements for fish products and export market opportunities.</p> <p>-Development of sustainable fisheries management.</p> <p>-Improving fish handling and processing capabilities among fishers.</p> | | | | |
| Marketing and agro-processing | Strengthening the development of marketing | SK, PA, CB, PB | Penetration of the domestic and export market with | -Development of appropriate marketing system | Increased market opportunities and product | Farmers and agro-processors | | TCA AGA AGST SDR |

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|---|---|--------------------------------------|---|---|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
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| | and agro-processing | | local produce | -Upgrade to packing house facilities -Development of an action plan for agro-processing -Upgrading and expansion of agro-processing capabilities -Development of minimal processing -Training for technical staff and farmers | transformation | | | |
| Agro-Tourism Linkages | Strengthening of linkages between agriculture and tourism | SK, PA, CB, PB. | Link agriculture more closely to the tourism industry | -Identification of the marketing opportunities in the tourism sector for local agricultural produce. -Development | Increased market opportunities and source of income. | Farmers and rural people in general | | TCA AGA AGST SDR |

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| | | | | of the production and post harvest systems required for local crop produce to penetrate the hospitality sector. -Studies to determine the development of on-farm visits as part of the visitor experience. -Further development of rainforest tours. | | | | |
| Trade facilitation | Strengthening of research and analysis capacity in trade matters | CB | Increase capacity within MoA | -Strengthening of national capacity in trade policy analysis. | Improved research and analysis capacity; Competitiveness | MoA Staff | | ESC TCA |

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| | | | | -Development of capability to conduct competitiveness studies of local produce. | studies conducted. | | | |